

ABEJA



2017 MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

92 POINTS - VINOUS

“Sexy aromas of dark raspberry, mocha, red licorice, tobacco, minerals, and cocoa nibs reminded me of a Right Bank wine. Plush, ripe and serious, with dusty herbs and spices enlivening the raspberry and plum fruit flavors; more red fruits than black here. . .”

92 POINTS - JAMES SUCKLING

“Aromas of currants, cedar and violets follow through to a medium body and fine tannins with a lovely, light velvety texture and a fresh, vivid finish.”

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

The 2017 growing season got off to slow start due to a cool spring that delayed budbreak, but temperatures warmed nicely for bloom, and July and August were marked by warm weather that allowed the grapes to catch up. Conditions moderated in September, extending hang time and allowing the grapes to develop good natural acidity without excessive sugar resulting in elegant wines with intense flavor.

HARVEST DATES & VINEYARDS

September 11 – October 5, 2017

Sagemoor Farms: Bacchus, Dionysus, Weinbau; Kiona Heart of the Hill; Heather Hill Estate; Ciel du Cheval, Mill Creek Estate

BARREL FERMENTATION & AGING

Aged 19 months in 100% French oak
48% new, 52% experienced

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Merlot

APPELLATION

Columbia Valley

CHEMISTRY

Alcohol 14.3%, pH 3.77, TA 5.50 g/L

CASE PRODUCTION

659 cases

WINEMAKERS

Daniel Wampfler & Amy Alvarez-Wampfler