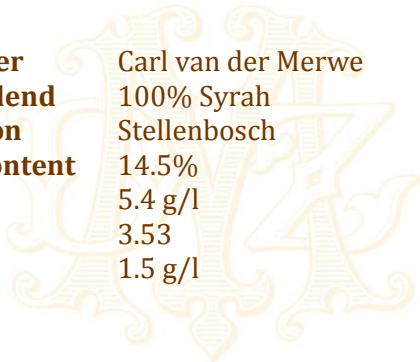




DeMorgenzon DMZ Syrah 2012



Winemaker	Carl van der Merwe
Varietal blend	100% Syrah
Appellation	Stellenbosch
Alcohol content	14.5%
TA	5.4 g/l
pH	3.53
RS	1.5 g/l



VINEYARDS

These vineyards are situated on the farm DeMorgenzon in the Stellenboschkloof. Soils are mostly weathered granite which gives the resultant wines a natural exuberance and youthful vigour. Planted in 2004 the trellised vineyard is managed to ensure natural high acidity and full flavour concentration. The yield was 8 tons per hectare.

VINTAGE

2012 was an outstanding year for Syrah at DeMorgenzon. Vines entered the growing season with excellent potential for growth following good winter rains. Weather conditions during the ripening season were hot and dry, resulting in concentrated wines with depth and complexity.

VINIFICATION AND MATURATION

The Syrah was manually harvested and destalked into stainless steel fermentation tanks. A small percentage of bunches were fermented without destalking. Natural fermentation followed with a slight extended maceration on the skins to stabilize the colour and give the wine palate length. Fermentation temperatures were managed between 22°C and 27°C with a combination of punch downs and gentle pump overs to extract colour and flavour from the skins. After fermentation the wine was pressed off the skins and malolactic fermentation was completed in barrel. The wine spent a further 12 months in small French oak barrels, 3000L Fourdré barrels and cement tanks (total 10% new wood).

A small percent of Mourvèdre (7%) and Grenache (5%) were included in the final blend to give the wine a rounded mouth feel.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

2012:

Gold *International Wine Challenge 2014*
Gold *International Wine & Spirits Competition 2014*
91 points *Wine & Spirits 90 points Tim Atkin MW South Africa Report 2014*
Silver *Decanter 2014*
Silver *Veritas 2014*
88 points *Stephen Tanzer's Wine Cellar*

2011:

89 points *Stephen Tanzer's Wine Cellar*
87 points *Wine Spectator*
88 points *Wine & Spirits*
4 stars *Platter's Guide*

TASTING NOTES

Deep, purple core. Rich, berry fruit nose with lots of ripe, red plum and whiffs of white pepper. Some floral notes in the background, including violets, lavender and spring blossoms. Full in the mouth with tremendous youthful vigour. Layers of berry fruit with developing spices of pepper, cinnamon, clove and vanilla. Gentle oak integration shows and supports the elegance and roundness at this early age.



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