

Opolo

2021 RHAPSODY

WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT | PASO ROBLES, CA

Rhapsody is Opolo's signature Left Bank-style cuvée, driven by Cabernet Sauvignon and blended with four classic Bordeaux varieties: Petit Verdot, Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. This wine ultimately represents our deepening commitment to Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon as a centerpiece of our portfolio.

VINEYARDS

The 2021 Rhapsody comes from our original Quinn West estate as well as the contiguous To the Moon Vineyard, a newer planting that we are excited to enfold into the Opolo portfolio. Quinn West is planted to calcareous creekbed slopes that retain cooler temperatures, while To the Moon unfolds along hilltop slopes with enhanced sun exposure and powdery calcareous soils. While the Cabernet Sauvignon blocks featured in this wine are both planted to Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 337, To the Moon was picked a full 30 days before Quinn West in 2021—a testament to the contrasting micro-terroirs of these two adjacent sites. These sites are naturally amenable to all of the companion Bordeaux varieties that were blended into the 2021 Rhapsody.

WINEMAKING

After harvesting, the fruit was cold soaked for three to four days for a gentle extraction of color and flavor. The majority of the lots were fermented in stainless steel over an average period of 14 days, while the Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc were fermented in small open-top tanks. The Merlot and Malbec lots were saignée for enhanced fruit concentration. After gentle pressing, the free-run juice was settled and racked to French oak barrels, inclusive of 40 percent new oak for enhanced structure and complexity. Exclusive use of free-run juice ensured the highest phenolic quality for color and mouthfeel. At the six-month mark, winemakers James Schreiner and Chris Rougeot evaluated each lot and assembled the final blend, after which the wine was returned to barrels for an additional 12 months of integration prior to bottling.

WINEMAKERS' TASTING NOTES

The 2021 Rhapsody is flush with aromas of sumptuous dark fruits, violets, minerals, eucalyptus and black olive. The mouthfeel is pure luxury: deep, dense, layered and integrated. Flavors of fresh black cherry, black plum and currant anticipate hints of cacao, vanilla spice and cured meat. Chewy tannins, seamless acidity and bold structure promise a favorable evolution for years to come



Composition

Cabernet Sauvignon 75%, Malbec 13%, Merlot 6%, Petit Verdot 4%, Cabernet Franc 2%

Appellation

Paso Robles

Sub AVAs

Willow Creek District

Aging

18 Months in French Oak (40% New)

Analysis

TA 6.1 pH 3.56 Alcohol 14.7% Cases Produced 1,536