

Opolo 2022 RHAPSODY

WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT | PASO ROBLES

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

VINEYARDS

The 2022 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. These sites are naturally amenable to all of the companion Bordeaux varieties that were blended into the 2022 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. All of the lots for this vintage of Rhapsody were saignéed for enhanced fruit concentration. After gentle pressing, the free-run juice was settled and racked to French oak barrels, inclusive of 44 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 eight-month mark, winemakers James Schreiner and Skye Bruce evaluated each lot and assembled the final blend, after which the wine was returned to barrels for an additional 11 months of integration prior to bottling.

WINEMAKERS' TASTING NOTES

The 2022 Rhapsody displays generous blue fruit aromas with notes of violet, plum, toasted oak and spice. A broad, juicy mouthfeel explodes with flavors of cherry, cranberry, black currant and earthy black olive, with underlying suggestions of blueberry and vanilla. Fine-grained tannins and balanced acidity expand into a vibrantly layered finish.

Composition

Cabernet Sauvignon 70%, Malbec 18%, Cabernet Franc 9%, Merlot 2%, Petit Verdot 1%

Appellation

Willow Creek District, Paso Robles

Aging

19 Months in French Oak Barrels (44% new)

Anaylsis

TA .60 pH 3.60 Alcohol 14.9% Cases Produced 1,730