



LAUGHING STOCK VINEYARDS Syrah 2008



This is our first release of Syrah, one of the new grape varieties that we are working with at our East Bench – Osoyoos vineyard. The style we have developed is aligned with the classic Cote Rotie, blending 92% Syrah with 8% Viognier. By combining the strong masculinity of Syrah with the more delicate femininity of Viognier, the result is a classic example of how the whole is greater than the individual parts.

Winemaking Notes: The Syrah was destemmed and left as whole berries. We then added the juice from the crushed Viognier, which had been picked earlier that day. These two varietals were co-fermented to stabilize the abundant colour of Syrah and to temper tannin extraction and develop softness.

The combination of these Rhone-style varietals creates a wine of intense purple colour, a black currant and caramelized nose with an added dimension of aromatic notes from the Viognier. On the palate, the wine has intense black cherry, plum, clove and tobacco and the Viognier addition brings a mouthfeel with a long supple finish.

Vintage Notes: Winter damage from a November cold snap damaged many of the red varieties, thus crop loads on big reds, particularly Merlot, were way down. However, small crops are easier to ripen and provide greater intensity. The 2008 vintage was slow to start with a cool spring that delayed bud break. After reasonable summer heat, we were rewarded with an incredibly warm September, we reached target sugar levels with balanced fruit and acidity by the end of the season.

Harvest Date: September 24, 2008

Release Date: June 2010

Blend: 92% Syrah, 8% Viognier

Aging: 16 months in 40% new French oak barrels

Cases Produced: 302 cases

Alcohol: 14.3%

Price: \$34.00

CPSC: +123646

* GOLD Medal Winner, Northwest Wine Summit 2010

** SILVER Medal Winner Canadian Wine Awards 2010

*** 88-90 Points – John Schreiner - This is a big, juicy wine with spice and black cherry aromas and juicy flavours of plum and blackberries. The ripe tannins give this wine a generous texture.