

JONATA

TIERRA 2010

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

95% sangiovese, 5% syrah

30% new French oak, 70% neutral French oak | 240 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO

Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES

Winemaker

DREW PICKERING

Assistant Winemaker

VINEYARD RUMINATIONS

In tasting these wines and recalling the vintage of 2010, one word comes to mind: tension. I'm not only thinking of the tension we felt in the vineyard and winery as we watched the wet winter give way to a cold late spring that continued into a cloudy, non-existent summer; the summer that never was. Then, a series of odd weather patterns moved in and drove away the heat. What followed was a cycle of rain showers every five days that would be our constant companion through the end of harvest.

Instead, I'm speaking of the miraculous way that these potentially adverse conditions combined to produce perhaps the greatest vintage (sadly also the smallest) we've yet seen at Jonata. To my taste, what makes a wine great is the existence of tension within it. This is a combination of balance, vibrancy, and an energetic interplay between all of the components that give a wine its character. The wine can pull you in different ways moving from taut to generous, from delicate to massive, but it should always come back to a cohesive whole. It is a magical balancing act from a vineyard firing on all cylinders.

ON THE WINE

Classy and elegant. A Tierra that shows off the increasing maturity of the vines. Less overt toast from oak, more purity of fruit and perfume. More Tierra on every level. Mid weight with brambly, peppery, smoky and gamey notes. Bay leaf and sweet tobacco. Darker fruit than previous vintages. Sweet and savory. The wine shows the warmth of September in richness of black cherry fruit and increased density on mid-palate, while the cool summer weather promoted higher acidity and charmingly rustic and lingering tannins lend. These rugged yet mouthwatering tannins start early and grip the entire tongue. Though still very young and concealing a part of its fruit potential, this Tierra shows incredible length. A young sangiovese that strikes me as the most tightly coiled vintage to date with the most upside potential in the cellar.

ACCOLADES

92 POINTS *The Wine Advocate* #208, August 30, 2013

92 POINTS *Antonio Galloni's Vinous*, July 2013