

JONATA

FENIX 2012

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

69% merlot, 22% cabernet sauvignon, 6% cabernet franc, 3% petit verdot
80% new French oak, 20% neutral French oak | 173 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINEYARD RUMINATIONS

2012 was one of those rare vintages when both quantity and quality were very high. In a year where Mother Nature gave us a beneficially stacked deck with basically uninterrupted sunshine and warm days, I believe we played our hand perfectly at Jonata.

What appeared to be three tons per acre turned out to be six+ tons at harvest in some other vineyards. At Jonata, we decided early in the growing season to make a move toward continued quality and thus went about a very vigorous yield-thinning followed by an equally aggressive green drop at veraison. The resulting small yields gave us wines that are densely packed with fruit, but also alive with an invigorating tension. Even at an early stage, many of them were already mesmerizing.

ON THE WINE

A deft balancing act between luscious black fruit and herbal notes of black olive and fresh mint—the two sides of merlot. Currently the softest and most expansive on the palate with loads of blackberry leading the way. Velvet. Remarkably long finish that echoes the depth of fruit. Textured for immediate drinking pleasure, but structured also to reward a decade in the cellar. Such a pleasure to be able to offer this special wine after a long absence. At this point it is obvious that 2012 offered absolutely perfect conditions for this often finicky grape.

ACCOLADES

95+ POINTS Jeb Dunnuck *The Wine Advocate* #220 August 2015

94 POINTS Antonio Galloni's *Vinous* August 2015