

JONATA

2017 TIERRA SANGIOVESE BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

100% Sangiovese | 75 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINTAGE RUMINATIONS

A wet winter finally broke the drought in 2017. The rain was a blessing as it refreshed our soils and water quality. Conditions were peaceful and warm during budbreak and early spring. However, the cool conditions during flowering prolonged the process, led to very small clusters and resulted in miniscule yields. In many cases, we saw roughly 50% of our normal yields. It was certainly a year with some of the smallest yields and earliest harvest dates for us (with a few of the first picks coming in mid-August).

We experienced great growing conditions in June and July before a suddenly cool August. The weather changed radically again in late August and early September with heat spikes and rain events starting Labor Day and continuing to September 10th. There were also unusually humid conditions for the first half of September, but miraculously the rain skipped over our vineyards. We were able to harvest some fruit prior to the warm periods that graced our blends with freshness and structural integrity. We also harvest selected blocks after the heat had passed, giving wines with density and power. The combination of these characteristics resulted in wines of purity, balance and complexity. — Matt Dees Winemaker

ON THE WINE

A refreshingly earthy and old school version of Tierra. Packed with dried sage, blackberry, black licorice and cranberry. Driven by black plum and black cherry. Salty and briney and so savory. Classic Tierra notes of fennel sausage. Defined by darkness and mystery today as it is still tight. Shows signs of future supple and generous fruit. Ready for grilled tomahawk steak and crispy smashed potatoes. — Matt Dees Winemaker