

JONATA

EL ALMA DE JONATA 2013

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

81% cabernet franc, 16% cabernet sauvignon, 2% merlot, 1% petit verdot
80% new French oak, 20% neutral French oak | 428 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINEYARD RUMINATIONS

A vintage I'll always remember for the endless summer conditions; warm and dry day after day. In a dry vintage that was often defined by large yields, Jonata was an exception. Taking a cue from the drought conditions, we entered the vineyard blocks early and often to drop fruit from the thirsty vines. After dropping the initial yields 50% from 2 clusters/shoot to 1 cluster/shoot, we made another pass cutting the remaining cluster in half. With a mere 25% of our original yield hanging, the vines were able to ripen to a concentrated and supremely intense level without added water stress. The wines show this intensity in spades. Expansive and focused, savory and chewy. These blends represent the perfect lens through which to view the confluence of the Santa Barbara sun and the Jonata sandy soils. A perfect match.

ON THE WINE

Coy and reserved at first, then ripe and musky on the nose with rosemary, mint, dark chocolate and perfumed incense. Black cherry, cassis and pine needles. Such a sensual nose. Supple dark chocolate and sweet black raspberries on the palate. Creamy and generous. Clove and pipe tobacco. Chalky and tight tannins reminiscent of cacao nibs. Reticent; showing voluptuousness then covering up. Fascinating Alma displaying the poetic side of Franc.

ACCOLADES

92-94 POINTS Jeb Dunnuck *The Wine Advocate* #220 June 2015