



## MONTICELLO VINEYARDS

# *Cabernet Franc*

ESTATE GROWN IN THE NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE 2007

### TASTING NOTES

Our Cabernet Franc displays the hallmarks that I look for from our Cabernet Franc. It has a nice spicy aroma profile, accented by rich ripe fruit and a hint of toasty dark chocolate from the oak. The texture is rich with just a slight grip of tannin on the finish that helps to frame the wine on the palate - a result of patience and letting the fruit develop to full ripeness. We suggest drinking it now through 2014.

Cabernet Franc has been the predominant varietal in all but one of our highly acclaimed CORLEY Proprietary Red Wines and we consider it extremely important to the success of that wine.

- Chris Corley, Winemaker

### VINEYARDS, VINTAGE AND VINIFICATION

Home Ranch Vineyard    *Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley*

Knollwood Vineyard    *Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley*

We grow four distinct clones of Cabernet Franc on our properties. Each year, these clones are typically harvested separately so we can evaluate the performance of each. The separate lots are blended together after about 9-12 months of barrel aging and evaluation. Cabernet Franc is an important varietal for us as the grape plays a major role in many of our wines, both as a foundation and an accent for blending.

Our 2007 Vintage Cabernet Franc marks a slight departure from the last few vintages. In the past we have bottled blends of our 4 different clones, although the resulting wine has remained close to or at 100% varietal as Cabernet Franc. This year, we have incorporated a small amount of our estate grown Merlot and Syrah. While I've played around with incorporating other varietals into the Cabernet Franc in past vintages, I've gravitated towards the pure varietal blends. This year, I was really struck by the positive impact that the Merlot and Syrah made in the blend, while still allowing the Cabernet Franc to maintain its full varietal expression.

*Oak - 12 Months in French Oak, 30% New*

*Alcohol - 14.2%*

**SMALL WINERY; BIG REPUTATION.** The CORLEY FAMILY grows and produces 15,000 cases of exclusively Napa Valley wines designated as MONTICELLO VINEYARDS, CORLEY RESERVE and our CORLEY Proprietary Red Wine. We grow Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah on five small vineyard sites in the Oak Knoll, Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena appellations of Napa Valley.