SIJNN WINE OF MALGAS

Free Reign 2nd EDITION

2013 was the most exceptional vintage we'd had to date at Malgas. The grapes were in perfect condition with great intensity, complexity and balance. The vines showing they're really settling into their extraordinary site after 6 years of delving their roots into their stony depths.

Syrah and Touriga Nacional were once again the stars of the vintage. I selected the best 2 or 3 barrels of each and played around with various blends of the two. In the end I settled on a high percentage Syrah, but the 15% Touriga Nacional does make a huge difference. I looked at what else we could add to improve the wine and when the 2014 vintage was ready to be assessed, again I looked at what options we had to make improvements along the lines of the multi vintage 1st Edition, but what we had was just right! After the initial blending the wine remained in a single 700L old French oak barrel for a total of 32 months.

One of Rita Trafford's beautiful eco-printed silk scarves looked like our famous pudding stones in the vineyard (although they're actually leaves) and that was it – inspiration found and label done.

This is a highly personal, handcrafted wine which has taken a lot of thought and effort over quite a few years. We sincerely hope you enjoy every nuance that it has to offer. We recommend sipping slowly over many hours in front of a crackling fire with some charcuterie or biltong to nibble on.

Tasting Note

Deep ruby red colour. A complex, dense blackberry fruit and beguiling exotic spices on the nose with some liquorice and black olive tapenade notes, a touch of balsamic soaked rosemary and eucalyptus leaves. The nose seamlessly carries through to the palate with all the flavours vying for attention with an intense, firm palate, a long smooth texture and a brilliant saline quality to the fine finish. The wine evolves beautifully in the glass and will no doubt reward judicious cellaring and last 30+ years.

Recommended glassware: Spiegelau Vino Grande Bordeaux

85% Syrah, 15% Touriga Nacional. Warning: the 3rd Edition will be totally different!

A total of 817 bottles produced, plus 50 magnums

DAVID TRAFFORD