



2006 Pirouette
Columbia Valley, Red Wine
Agustin Huneus, Sr. & Philippe Melka

Philippe Melka and Agustin Huneus, Sr. teamed to combine the traditions of old world winemaking, the advancements of new world technology, and small lots from Washington State's finest vineyards to craft this enticing red blend.

Tasting Notes: Deep and dark in color, this unfiltered and unfined wine offers a generous spectrum of aromas and flavors including black cherry, sweet spices and a hint of earth. The mouthfeel is silky and refined with a rich core of ripe fruit that provides a lengthy finish.

Vintage: The 2006 Pirouette is a powerful, hedonistic wine that reflects the quality of the vintage. The growing season started warm and stayed that way through August, creating concern that the grapes would ripen too quickly. Fortunately, temperatures cooled just enough in September and October to slow ripening and allow the grapes to reach full physiological maturity under sunny autumn skies.

Winemaking: Long Shadows partners Agustin Huneus, Sr. and Philippe Melka craft Pirouette in the vineyard, working with a select group of growers to keep yields low and ensure grapes are picked at the perfect time. Once at the winery, grapes are hand-sorted and only the highest quality clusters undergo a controlled fermentation on the skins to produce optimal color and tannin extraction before aging 22 months in 70% new French oak. Bottled in early August 2008, the wine was allowed extra bottle age to enhance concentration and complexity before release.

Vineyards: After working with a diverse collection of Columbia Valley vineyards over the last four vintages, Philippe now has a handful of preferred sites that yield rich, ripe grapes that support the wine style he and Agustin set out to produce. Nearly a quarter of the Cabernet Sauvignon in this wine is from the Wahluke Slope, selected for its tannin structure and ripe fruit character; Cabernet from Sagemoor's old vines planted in 1972 adds another layer of structure and depth. Merlot from Wallula Vineyard gives the wine beautiful red fruit flavor, freshness and balance. Petit Verdot from Dionysus Vineyard, dark and lively with pleasant tannins, provides backbone and an added layer of complexity.

Blend: 54% Cabernet Sauvignon
20% Merlot
15% Petit Verdot
6% Cabernet Franc
5% Syrah

Alcohol: 14.6
pH: 3.93
TA: .53
Release Date: May 2009
Production: 1,733 cases