



### **2003 Pirouette**

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

Philippe Melka and Agustin Huneus, Sr. teamed to combine the lore of old world winemaking, the advancements of new world technology, and small lots from Washington State's finest vineyards to craft this unique blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot.

**Tasting Notes:** Pirouette is a richly concentrated red blend, offering a seamless balance of power and elegance. Layers of ripe plum, black cherry and wild berry flavors are highlighted by hints of mocha and spice across a long, silky finish.

**Vintage:** Collectors who enjoy big, rich, fruit-forward wines will find Columbia Valley's 2003 vintage to their liking. This was one of Washington's warmest seasons on record with overall heat accumulation rivaling the high numbers posted in 1998. Temperatures were warm from June to August, allowing grapes to reach an exceptional level of maturity – a wonderful vintage from start to finish.

**Winemaking:** Napa Valley legends Philippe Melka and Agustin Huneus came to Washington to craft a stylish, concentrated wine showcasing the best of the Columbia Valley. To achieve their goal, whole berries were gently fermented in small lots with gentle pumpovers to give the wine its ripe, lush fruit character and avoid harsh tannins. The final blend was aged 20 months in 100% French oak (70% new; 30% one-year-old) barrels.

**Vineyards:** Creating complexity and layers in a wine is due in part to vineyard selection. To that end, the winemakers chose a diverse selection of Columbia Valley vineyard sites, each contributing a unique character to the blend. Grapes from the Wahluke Slope (31%) provided richness, concentration and dark fruit; Horse Heaven Hills vineyards (32%) contributed depth; Walla Walla (25%) added ripe fruit character; the Yakima Valley (9%) gave the wine its balance and acidity; Petit Verdot from Ciel du Cheval on Red Mountain (3%) further enhanced balance and complexity.

**Alcohol:** 14.6%

**pH:** 3.83

**TA:** .58

**Blend:** 56% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
22% Merlot, 10% Syrah  
9% Cabernet Franc,  
3% Petit Verdot

**Release date:** October 2005

**Production:** 500 cases