EROE 2022 CABERNET SAUVIGNON EL PASO DE ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

I am so proud of Héroe Cab, its consistent track record has earned it a remarkable following. It continues to win high scores and gold medals; it's a great value wine with lovely aromas and bouquets. Héroe wines are made to honor the unsung heroes in our vineyard and winery.

THE VINEYARD

2022 is one of my favorite vintages of Cabernet Sauvignon! The year was perfect for Cabernet, the weather was extreme with severe heat in the summer and early fall. Our Cabernet loves the heat. The vineyard is located on the south-east end of the Frankel Vineyards Estate. The vines overlook the "Huero-Huero" riverbed below and three different soil profiles are located in this vineyard. These soils; San Ysidro Loam, Arbuckle – Positas, and Arbuckle – San Ysidro add to the complexity of the wine.

THE WINEMAKING

This vineyard was the last harvested block at Frankel Vineyards for the 2022 growing season. The BRIX was a perfect 25.5 at harvest and the natural acidity and tannins in the grapes were also at optimal levels. The grapes were mechanically harvested using the newest model OXBO select harvester. This machine sorts the grapes and eliminates leaves and canes. The fruit harvested grapes were beautiful, very consistent intact berries with little to no leaf material. The grapes are delivered at sunrise, lightly crushed and then pumped to a large fermentation tank. We cold soaked the crushed grapes for 2 days before adding yeast ICV-D254. Fermentation took 3 weeks to finish; we conducted 2 pump overs (tank circulations) each day. From there we sent the wine to a settling tank before racking into wood. In total seventy - 240L barrels were filled for aging, eighteen of these barrels were new extra fine grain American Oak barrels with various toast levels.

THE TASTE

Héroe Cabernet Sauvignon is a dependable wine year after year, showcasing the very best of Paso Robles Cabernet. Sourced from the Frankel Family Estate "Puerta Electrica" block, this wine is balanced, lively, and overall easy drinking. The vineyard has a track record of excellence; these vines have aged gracefully and give forth very consistent taste and dense structure. It's rich, concentrated, and relaxed with super soft tannins wrapped around plump plums, black cherries, raspberries, and blueberries, and finishes with bittersweet chocolate. It is packed with red fruit and delicate oak spices that taste complex and lavish. This wine is made to be drank upon release.

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate

pH: 3.63 TA: 0.64 RS: 0.75 ALC: 13.7%

Total Production: 1,800 cases (750ml Bottles)

Bottling Date: August 18, 2023

