**2020 FIGURINE** 

CULPTERRA WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



## THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 48% Primitivo, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot Appellation: Paso Robles Vineyard: 8-Acre Ridgeline, Bentley Ironworks, Bomba Vieja, Hillside Finished Alcohol: 14.6% Residual Sugar(G/F): 0.05 g/100ml Total Acid: 0.63 g/100ml pH: 3.65 Bottling Date: February 16, 2022 Release Date: April 1, 2022 Total Production: 660 Cases

## THE VINEYARD

Sculpterra's Figurine blend continues to be a crowd pleaser with high scores and amazing taste! This vintage is very reminiscent of the 2018 Figurine which was awarded 93 points by Wine Enthusiast Magazine. The fruit was primarily grown on the Frankel Family Vineyard, with just one Primitivo lot from the small town of Creston off Camp-8 road. 2020 was a good growing season, where moderate off-season rains lead to early budbreak and full bloom before April 15th. The summer was filled with 2 dramatic heat waves that pushed the grapes into early ripeness, in fact Paso Robles recorded a record setting 119 degree day in August! The grapes were hand harvested at night and delivered to the winery at first light for processing to begin.

## THE WINEMAKING

Each lot was picked, crushed, fermented and aged in individual lots at Sculpterra. Blending was done right before bottling, giving each grape variety ample type to age separately before being combined together. Primitivo, made in 2 lots was fermented using 2 unique yeast strains; 3001 and Premium Zinfandel. Also, our second lot of Primitivo fermented and aged in new 500L puncheon barrels, greatly aiding in the rich color and heavy textures of the wine. Next up the Cabernet Sauvignon was also made in two lots from two different vineyard sites. "Bomba Vieja" Cabernet block aged in new American and Hungarian hybrid barrels and offers a wealth of smoky spice and herbal qualities. "Autopista" Cabernet, located on the hilltop contains upfront cherry tones with black pepper taste on the finish. Finally, our Merlot crop was harvested in just one lot and shows off great balance of fresh fruits with classic earthy character. In total the wine aged for 16 months in barrel before being bottled in February 2022.

## THE TASTE

2020 Figurine is a fantastic complex red wine blend, driven by amazing high-quality fruit and winemaking. Figurine, always a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Primitivo and Merlot, and this 2020 vintage leads with Primitivo as the dominant player in the blend. This energetic and fruit driven wine overflows with raspberry and cherry flavors on the front palate. Then the mid and back palate provide lush and smooth textures with an abundance of toasty accents. Though full bodied, it's equally soft in feel and leaves a dry tannic impression on the finish. Black olive and licorice candy with baking-spice bouquets float around, then a subtle sense BBQ meat and smoked sausage take over. Dark chocolate and roasted coffee flavors show up and lead to a note of lavender flower with a touch of dried pepper and herbs. This wine shows an excellent promise for long-term cellaring. It should reach its peak by the year 2028.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker