

PRESENTS:

2019 VIOGNIER
EL PASO DE ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

THE VINEYARD

Strong flavors of white peach, orange zest, and fragrant flowers dominate the palate. Héroe wines have been produced commercially at Sculpterra Winery and Sculpture Garden since 2012. Héroe celebrates the vineyard and winery workers; more specifically, the vineyard workers who are responsible for every operation at Sculpterra! 2019 was a tremendous growing season for our vineyards. We received over 20 inches of rain, which greatly added in the cleansing of our soils and replenished the ground water basin in our area. The vines are hand manicured from pruning, leaf-pulling, shoot thinning and even cluster dropping. Only the best fruit makes the cut! Harvest was later than usual in 2019, making more complex and dense flavors in the resulting wine.

THE WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested in 2 lots, and picked overnight, hand sorted in the vineyard and transported with minimal movement. The fresh hand-picked grapes were brought to the winery in the early hours of the morning for immediate processing, keeping the grapes cold and fresh during the entire process. The fruit was whole berry bladder pressed at a low psi, pressing the fresh flavors of the clear juice. The juice cold settled for 2 days before eventually racking off lees and inculcation of yeast for fermentation to begin. The wine fermented in two portions: Frankel vineyards in one tank and Sukhy Suran vineyards in the other. This way the individuality of the vineyards shines through the wine, only improved when the wines were blended together post fermentation. The wine was blended in December 2019 and bottled in March 2020.

THE TASTE

This 2019 Héroe Viognier is layered with stone fruits, wrapped in puckering acidity and ending with a brilliant and lingering finish. A wine dedicated to the Sculpterra vineyard team and winery workers, this vintage shows particularly strong notes of white peach, ripe cantaloupe, and an underlying taste of guava and tangerine. It also offers a unique taste of crisp honeydew along with floral accents. The palate is also firm with notes of minerality. Aromas show off white melon and key lime as well as pear nectar and honey. I even taste a subtle note of almond heightened by the wine's rich textures. This wine will only get better with proper aeration and a few years of ageing. Best when enjoyed upon release and through 2022.

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Viognier
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate & Sukhy's Home Ranch
pH: 3.60
TA: 0.69
RS: 0.75
ALC: 15.4%
Case Production: 480 Cases (750ml bottles)
Bottling Date: March 18, 2020

