

# SCULPTERRA 2018 STATUESQUE

WINERY & SCULPTURE GARDEN



## THE FACTS

**Varietal Composition:** 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Syrah, & 27% Petite Sirah

**Appellation:** Paso Robles

**Vineyard:** Frankel Family Estate & Eugene Alonso Vineyard

**Blocks:** Autopista, Lago De Los Patos, & Gene From the Village

**Finished Alcohol:** 15.0%

**Residual Sugar(G/F):** 0.10 g/100ml

**Total Acid:** 0.66 g/100ml

**pH:** 3.68

**Bottling Date:** February 19, 2020

**Release Date:** September 1, 2021

**Total Production:** 720 Cases

## THE VINEYARD

2018 Statuesque, a big bold wine, shows off the very best of Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and Petite Sirah. Statuesque features dark, rich, fruity flavors, ample bouquets of smoke and oak, while finishing with peppered dry tannins. Yet somehow it ends smooth and soft. 2018 was a remarkable growing season as everything fell into place during the drawn-out harvest. The Cabernet Sauvignon, grown on Frankel Family Estate's "Autopista" block, features a steep terrain with intense slopes, giving the berries extended hangtime in the summer days and impeccably clean black-berry jam taste. Syrah, grown in Eugene Alonso's neighboring vineyard, property, is planted in a cool valley and creates flavors of ripe berries with good acidity and overall blueberry flavors. Finally, Petite Sirah, grown in Frankel Family Estate Vineyard's, "Lago De Los Patos" block, is an outstanding vineyard oriented directly north-south, giving the western side of the canopy extreme heat in summer and fall, and ripening the crop with ease.

## THE WINEMAKING

All three varieties were whole-berry destemmed and fermented at Sculpterra's onsite winery. The destemmed berries cold soak for 36 hours at a cool 50-degree F. The three varieties fermented for 10 days before extraction of the free-run juice and pressing of the skins. The wine settled for 3 days in stainless tanks before racking clean into oak barrels, totally over 50% new oak barrels. Each barrel was tasted and evaluated monthly as well as being topped. Right away it was easy to see that these three varietals would pair amazingly well when combined together. The Autopista Cabernet Sauvignon brings spice, pepper and a nice taste of cherry fruit. Syrah is earthy. Savory notes of bacon and smoke exude from these barrels. Finally, Petite Sirah increases the tannins, intensifying the mouthfeel and centering the aromas to chocolate-covered plums and subtle notes of lavender flower. The wine was bottled in February 2020, giving it a total of 16 months barrel age.

## THE TASTE

2018 Statuesque is an intense wine with layered dark fruits, oaky flavors, and chalky tannins. I love the amount of dark fruits expressed in this wine. It combines the taste of roasted coffee flavors and charred oak barrels. These oak flavors shine through, presenting the wine with a myriad of textures and giving it a prolonged finish. It's very dark in the glass, opaque in color and overall dry and tannic. This bottling combines three intense fruits together offering blackberry, cappuccino and chocolate aromas. The palate is also compact with impeccably polished tannins that show cohesive aromas of blackcherry jam, black-peppered meats and violet flowers. Above all, I taste heaps of roasted coffee, ripe raspberry and even a touch of rose petal. At 720 cases, this 2018 Statuesque bottling is our biggest production yet and will certainly stand the test of time.

-Paul Frankel, Winemaker