



LA MUSE  
SONOMA COUNTY  
VINTAGE 2017

*Merlot-dominant La Muse delivers incredible depth and texture using the finest grape sources from the top micro-crus of eastern Sonoma County. La Muse was first produced in 1998 and was inspired by the finest wines of Pomerol. Vigneron Pierre Seillan tends to a mosaic of more than fifty micro-crus to produce the complex signature of La Muse.*

TASTING NOTES

The 2017 vintage La Muse is deep purple in color with garnet hues. It displays concentrated aromas of boysenberries, black raspberries, dark chocolate, coffee, cinnamon, and forest floor. These flavors of black fruit carry through to the palate, accompanied by subtle notes of baking spices. The tannins are ripe yet elegant and the finish is lingering and fresh. *Tasting Date: May 2020*

BARREL AGING: Aged 17 months in French oak with majority new oak

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN: 100% Merlot

APPELLATIONS: Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL: 14.2%

ACCLAIM

99 Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*, May 2020

98 Points - Jeb Dunnuck, *JebDunnuck.com*, May 2020

98 Points - James Suckling, *JamesSuckling.com*, May 2020

96 Points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, April 2020

VIGNERON NOTES

2017 marked my 20<sup>th</sup> vintage crafting Vérité wines and my 50<sup>th</sup> vintage as a vigneron. In my opinion, this vintage is one of the five greatest Vérité releases to date.

The growing season began without incident – months of winter rains replenished groundwater and invigorated the vines, followed by mild spring and summer conditions. After a brief heat wave in early September, the weather cooled again allowing for ideal harvest conditions.

Picking began on September 2 and finished on October 2, one week before the disastrous Tubbs fire swept across Northern Sonoma County on October 8. Although this fire was one of the worst in California's history, both the Vérité estate and wines thankfully emerged unscathed. As such, our 2017 vintage lots were either resting in barrel or completing fermentation, avoiding any concerns of smoke taint.

*Pierre Seillan, Vigneron*