

## LA MUSE SONOMA COUNTY VINTAGE 2018

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

2018 La Muse radiates a deep ruby-violet color, which gives rise to perfumed aromas of ripe red and black plum, new leather, violet blossom, and freshly turned clay, framed by sweet baking spices and subtle toast. The palate mirrors the nose, along with a cornucopia of crunchy red and black fruits, dark baking cocoa, and sanguine iron elements. All of this complexity is supported by powdery tannins and bright acidity, driving to a very long, rich, and complex finish. — *Tasting Date: February 2021* 

BARREL AGING

Aged 16 months in French oak, 95% new

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN

90% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc, 4% Malbec

APPELLATIONS

Alexander Valley, Bennett Valley, Chalk Hill, Knights Valley

ALCOHOL

14.3%

## ACCLAIM

100 Points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker Wine Advocate, July 2021

99 Points - J.D., JebDunnuck.com, July 2021

98 Points - J.S., James Suckling.com, Mar. 2021

## VIGNERON NOTES

2018 surely belongs in the ranks of top California vintages from the past two decades. The vintage was marked by ideal weather conditions from budbreak to harvest, which yielded balanced, layered, and structured wines, that will age for decades.

Replenishing winter rains and mild spring temperatures produced a late budbreak, followed by flawless flowering and fruit-set. The growing season that followed was long and relatively cool, encouraging slow and even ripening, allowing tannins to mature while retaining moderate sugar levels, and all-important acidity.

Harvest began early on the morning of September 12 under cool conditions, and concluded on October 5, with our oldest block of 40-year-old mountainside Cabernet Sauvignon.

- Pierre Seillan, Vigneron

– Hélène Seillan, Assistant Winemaker