

Chateau Ste Michelle

2019 Artist Series Red Blend COLUMBIA VALLEY



THE ART OF WINE

Chateau Ste. Michelle's Artist Series red blend celebrates the inspired collaboration between artisan winemaking and fine art. The 2019 vintage labels showcase artist Jazz Brown, an autodidact who uses acrylic paint to create vivid expressive compositions. Described as a philosophical painter, Jazz Brown's artistic approach presents intense vibration through contrasting hues, shapes, and textures. He is inspired by both the Minimalism art movement and the Bebop jazz offspring from the 1960s. Brown describes his technique as "consciousnesses on canvas."

WINEMAKER NOTES

"2019 was a wonderfully unique vintage for Washington and our Artist Series wine. It was a relatively cool year with late snow in the spring and a cooler than normal ripening month of September. As a result, we found some of our most balanced, Artist Series style fruit came from our iconic warmer site of Cold Creek. The adage of 'warm sites in a cool year make dynamite wine' held true.

Cold Creek made up 67% of the blend followed by our other vineyard at Canoe Ridge Estate at 29%. Add in a complexing 4% from Dineen Vineyard in the Yakima Valley and we had the perfect harmony we strive for in this blend. Notes of black cherry and spice are wrapped around beautifully elegant structure and a refined finish. 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 6% Malbec and 2% Cabernet Franc make up this 'Jazzy' blend for our artist Jazz Brown. Enjoy his art and our wine!"

TECHNICAL DATA

TA		0.54 /100mL
pH		3.8
Alcohol		14.5%
Blend		61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 6% Malbec, 2% Cabernet Franc

Cases Produced: 1,933 (750mL/6)

VINTAGE

- Winter temperatures were average preceding the 2019 growing season resulting in little to no vine damage and bud break occurred normally.
- The abundance of snow in February provided ample soil moisture. Warm spring temperatures created excellent conditions for canopy growth and early fruit development.
- Summertime temperatures were mild with very few periods of excessive heat, followed by cooler fall temperatures which were ideal for maintaining acidity and developing beautiful fruit flavors and aromas.

VINEYARDS

- Our winemakers source the highest quality grapes of the vintage for our Artist Series Red Blend.
- 67% of the 2019 blend came from our Cold Creek Vineyard.
- Planted in 1973, the south-facing Cold Creek Vineyard is one of the oldest and warmest sites in Washington.
- The low yielding old vines produce small clusters and small berries, resulting in intense varietal flavors and deep color.
- The balance of the blend was sourced from our Canoe Ridge Estate vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills AVA and Dineen Vineyard in the Yakima Valley.

WINEMAKING

- Daily gentle pumpovers during fermentation help extract optimal flavor and color.
- Each fermentation lot is tasted daily to evaluate the evolution of the tannins, modify extraction techniques and find the right moment to drain the wine off its skins.
- Aged for 18 months in French oak barrels, 42% new.