

# **2021 GSM** California

## Vineyards

Select Vineyards, Contra Costa, CA

### Wine Analysis

Content: 50% Grenache, 33% Syrah, 17% Mourvedre Alcohol: 13.9% pH: 0.69 Acidity: 0.57g/100ml Production: 42 cases Release Date: Aug 10, 2023

### **Vintner** Ron Mosley

**Winemaker** Alejandro Aldama

**Tasting Notes** Aromas of lavender, raspberry, with a hint of cloves. Pairs well with grilled arrachera steak tacos topped with avocado.

The Magic The grapes were cold soaked for 3 days. Fermented for 10 days in open top fermenters, then racked into French Oak barrels for maturation. 15 months French Oak barrels, 30% new, 30% 1 year old, 40% 2 years old.

The Grape Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre are the three grape varieties used in GSM blends, which are commonly blended together in the Rhone Valley in the South of France. Grenache adds acidity and bright fruit aromas. Syrah imparts aromas of violets and carnations, and gives wine structure. Mourvèdre adds dark fruit flavors such as blackberry, as well as a gamy, earthy quality.

### The Land

The quality soils of Contra Costa County are the defining feature of its terroir. Gnarled old vines were planted over 100 years ago on deep, sandy soils which restrict the vine yields, leading to small, concentrated berries with thicker skins, with firm tannins and excellent structure. Contra Costa has a hot climate, moderated by the afternoon breezes from San Fransico Bay. This cooling off period extends the growing season, so the grapes will have longer to develop rich and complex flavors.

### The Season

The 2021 season began with sunny skies and a warm spring. But with the continuing drought, the vineyards were challenged. The vines response was to produce fewer clusters, and smaller berries, thus reduced yields. But the silver lining was while the crop was down, the concentration was amazing. The small berries were packed with color, flavor, and excellent tannins. The fall was perfect to take these berries to full ripeness with intensity. Overall, an excellent vintage!







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