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p r e s e n t s

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e x p l o r e a l l t h i n g s w i n e

Arnot-Roberts – March 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Syrah Clary Ranch - A wine of extraordinary beauty, the 2015 Syrah Clary Ranch is a total knock-out. Plum, licorice, mint, lavender and crushed rocks are some of the signatures. Deep, inky and yet also remarkably refined, the 2015 delivers intensity without weight. This sensationally vivid, arrestingly beautiful Syrah is a must-have. It's as simple as that.

97 2018-2030 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Pinot Noir Peter Martin Ray Vineyard - One of the highlights in this range, the 2015 Pinot Noir Peter Martin Ray Vineyard presents a beguiling interplay of vibrant red cherry fruit and intense savory notes from the 100% whole clusters. Vibrant and poised on the palate, the Peter Martin Ray is striking. The flavors are precise and finely sketched throughout. Bright red cherry, cranberry and intense floral/savory notes add complexity.

95 2018-2017 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Pinot Noir Clary Ranch - An addition to the range 2015 Pinot Noir Clary Ranch is a terrific wine that captures the essence of the Arnot-Roberts house style. Intensely savory pungent (a quality share by the Syrahs here), the Clary Ranch possesses dazzling aromatic presence and overall nuance. The 100% whole clusters are felt in the wine's lift and aromatic intensity, while the fruit is a bit in the background. Readers should expect a pungent, almost Syrah-like Pinot with a lot of savoriness.

94 2018-2027 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Chardonnay Watson Ranch - The 2015 Syrah (Sonoma Coast) is another of the many highlights in this range from Arnot-Roberts. Inky and intense, and yet light on its feet, the 2015 has it all. Violet, lavender and black pepper add aromatic nuance. The 2015 was done with 100% whole clusters, but the stems aren't especially noticeable. This is a fabulous wine from Duncan Arnot and Nathan Roberts. Even better, it is a stunning value. Don't miss it!

94 2017-2025 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts White Wine Old Vine Heinstein Vineyard - The 2015 Old Vine White Wine Heinstein Vineyard is terrific. It is also the white in this range that has retained the most of its personality. Exotic floral notes, ripe orchard fruit, mint are all nicely delineated in the glass. The aromatic varieties in the blend keep things fresh, although there is plenty of vintage 2015 richness. This is very nicely done, in the ample, creamy style of the year.

94 2017-2023 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Ribolla Gialla Vare Vineyard - One of the most expressive wines in the range, the 2015 Ribolla Gialla Vare Vineyard is terrific. Orchard fruit, earthy notes, mint and dried flowers give the wine its distinctive savory aromatic profile. All the elements are in the right place.

93 2017-2022 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Trousseau (North Coast) - The 2015 Trousseau (North Coast) is delicate, aromatic and nicely lifted in the glass. Savory herbs, dried flowers, dried cherries and orange peel are some of the signatures. Drink this attractive, mid-weight red over the next few years. The 2015 is ethereal, gracious and also a touch eccentric. In 2015, most of the fruit was from Luchsinger, Arnot-Roberts' original Trousseau source, as there was no yield from the Bohan Ranch. Because of that, the 2015 is a bit light in color.

91 2017-2020 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Chardonnay Trout Gulch - The 2015 Chardonnay Trout Gulch is another rich, intense wine. Here, the low yields of vintage blur the personality of the site. There is some underpinning of the salinity that makes the wines from this site so distinctive, but this is a freakishly ripe Chardonnay from Arnot-Roberts. Orange peel and exotic spice notes add to the wine's eccentric feel. The fruit was also picked a bit later than normal, because the acidity was too high for the wine's sugar ripeness. As a result, the alcohol is also a bit high by Arnot-Roberts standards.

90 2018-2023 Mar 2017

2015 Arnot-Roberts Grüner Veltliner Alfaro Family Vineyard - The 2015 Grüner Veltliner Alfaro Family Vineyard is an unusually rich, almost exotic wine. Although not especially varietal, the 2015 is a pretty wine if taken on its own terms. Orange zest, dried flowers and mint add attractive shades of dimension.

89 2017-2020 Mar 2017

2014 Arnot-Roberts Cabernet Sauvignon Fellom Ranch - The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Fellom Ranch, from a site in the Santa Cruz Mountains, is savory, deep and quite powerful. Dried herbs, sweet red cherry, flowers and mint open up nicely in the glass, but it is the wine's mountain structure and purity that stand out most. Even so, there is more than enough to the fruit to play off the tannins. All three 2014 Cabernets are superb, but the Fellom has perhaps just a bit more pedigree and complexity than the Clajeux and Montecillo.

95 2022-2034 Mar 2017

2014 Arnot-Roberts Cabernet Sauvignon Clajeux Vineyard - The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Clajeux Vineyard offers striking purity in its aromatics and flavors. Bright red stone fruit, flowers, chalk, mint and a host of ferrous notes are all pushed forward. Tense and slightly nervous on the palate, with terrific energy, the Clajeux captures all the signatures that make Chalk Hill Cabernets so distinctive. I imagine the 2014 will be slow to unwind. Even today, though, it is very attractive.

94+ 2022-2034 Mar 2017

2014 Arnot-Roberts Cabernet Sauvignon Montecillo Vineyard - Graphite, smoke, crushed rocks and black cherry/plum notes make a strong first impression in the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Montecillo Vineyard. Powerful and structured, with beams of supporting mountain tannin, the 2014 is wonderfully complete. This is a fabulous wine from one of Sonoma's top vineyard sites.

94 2022-2034 Mar 2017