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Micro Wines 2020 Cinsault

Winemaker: Jonathan Ross

Grape(s): Cinsault

GI: Barossa Valley (Barossa, South Australia)

Site(s): Schliebs Family Farm in Vine Vale

Vintage notes: Average rainfall through the winter, which was up from the previous year. A chilly and windy spring, with some weather events that created flowering issues, resulting in shot berries later in the year. Dry and cool summer, but with some warm weather spikes in February as grapes went through verasion. Grapes picked on March 9th, two days later than the 2019 harvest. A balance of ripe and underripe grapes created a finer acid profile and lither body.

Vineyard notes: Schliebs Family Farm is a biodynamically-grown vineyard with 50-70 year-old cinsault vines in the sandy Vine Vale subregion of the Barossa. Schliebs Family Farm is owned and maintained by Wayne Ahrens, who makes his own wine under the Small Fry label.

Winemaking: Grapes hand-picked and transported to Torquay, Victoria overnight. Fully destemmed into open-top fermenters, where a wild ferment commences. Daily punch-downs, one rack and return with aggressive foot-stomping, and racked after alcoholic fermentation into 5 year-old puncheons. Wines went through full malolactic fermentation, and received 60 ppm of sulfur at the end of it. Bottled unfined and unfiltered on August 6th. pH 3.5, TA 5.2 g/L.

Closure: Stelvin

ABV: 11%

LEGEND tasting notes: A fragrant and floral nose of fresh rosella and cherry blossom. On the palate, the wine is light on its feet, juicy but fresh, with ultra soft tannins. Flavors of tart raspberry, lilly pilly (a native stone fruit reminiscent of sour plum), saltbush, and pickled watermelon rind. Light and gulpable, yet complex with lots of interest.

Label design: The "micro" symbol has been arranged and colored to convey the flavor profile of the wine, into pinkish purple starbursts/fireworks/budding flowers. A visual tasting note from the winemaker.

Production size: 108 dozen