



HANS HERZOG

HANS
FAMILY ESTATE



F. J. Suckling

Nebbiolo

Established in 1994, Herzog, an artisan family winery is acclaimed throughout the world for growing handcrafted wines exclusively from their exceptional 'Grand Cru' organic vineyard. Its unique diverse terroir allows Hans to indulge his passion for many exciting grape varieties. His 'hands on' approach, immense vineyard work and almost uneconomically low yields set the bar for his outstanding range of stunning wines rich in varietal character. His winemaking is non-interventional and purely natural, nothing is added or extracted, letting the exceptional wines speak for themselves.

VINTAGE 2018

Nebbiolo, the noble heritage grape from the famous Piedmont region (Barolo, Barbaresco) in Northern Italy is exceptionally finicky about where it will thrive and ripen best. Extremely fussy with irregular fruiting it is always the first variety to bud and the last to ripen. Since 1997 we select buds from the healthiest and strongest Nebbiolo vines with good fruit maturity to graft them to other healthy vines (sacrificing vines from another grape variety). From the warm, sandy, gravelly soils mixed with fine particles of silt and clay grows a wine that stands up to the great Barbaresco or Barolo. The 2018 is another vintage with no cost spared to produce this stately wine from hand-picked grapes at a minuscule yield of 500g per vines.

HANS' COMMENT

After a long cold soak to extract the beneficial compounds from skin and seeds I let the grapes go through a natural fermentation for a few weeks. A maceration period after fermentation extracted the now soft and sweet tannins for additional flavours. The wine matured for 36 months in older French Barriques to soften and round up tannin and acidity but avoiding too much additional wood tannin extraction. With more than 2 years of additional bottle ageing at perfect temperature in our barrel hall this would more than equal to a 'Riserva' quality (total of 5 years of ageing). No fining. No filtration. Purely natural.

TASTING NOTES

Tasting Nebbiolo is an arresting experience because the floral and light red fruit aromas suggest a wine much lighter than it is. Tasting blind it is easy mistaken for a great Grand Cru Burgundy with its firm grip of the pronounced acidity and ethereal structure. This Nebbiolo is without rival, we felt transported to Piemonte, reminiscing of wild herbs, cherries, truffles and prunes. The silky, soft texture and delicious sweetness of the extracts, upheld by a great acidity enough to make the mouthfeel velvety and seductive. A truly regal wine - pure, elegant and perfectly balanced that will last forever if you have the heart to keep it aside.

TECHNICAL DATA

Variety	100% Nebbiolo
Rootstock	Riparia Gloire, 'selection massale' propagation, top grafted
Planted	1997
Soil	shallow < 45cm, well drained, developed from stony alluvium, sand/gravel
Plant Density	5,500 p/h
Alcohol	14%
Total Acidity	7.1
Total Dry Extract	29.5
Residual Sugar	0.15g/L
Ageing Potential	>15+ years

FOOD MATCHING SUGGESTIONS

A perfect match with rich pasta dishes, beef or game.

"The Swiss couple make wonderful handmade reds and whites from an array of grapes, from Viognier to Nebbiolo. In fact, the barrel of Nebbiolo they make is like something from the best of Barolo. Unfortunately, they are tiny production."

James Suckling, October 2022 (Suckling is internationally regarded as one of the world's most influential wine critics.)

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HANS HERZOG ESTATE | MARLBOROUGH | NEW ZEALAND | INFO@HERZOG.CO.NZ | WWW.HERZOG.CO.NZ