



## 2009 Syrah-Sawyer Lindquist Vineyard "Sonnie's"

This wine is 100% syrah from our biodynamic vineyard in the Edna Valley. This is our 2nd release of this special "reserve" bottling from the vineyard and is named after my mother Sonnie Lindquist, the true matriarch of our family. It is a strict vineyard selection followed by a strict barrel selection of our best lots, Only 12 barrels were selected which yielded about 280 cases, or about 560 six packs.

2009 was a very good vintage. Long, cool growing season with excellent balance and perfect weather during harvest. About half of this wine was fermented with whole clusters which adds depth, freshness and longevity. It was aged primarily in Ermitage barrels, a barrel choice to help differentiate it from our Bien Nacido Hillside wine in style, of which 50% were new. The spice, complexity and quality of this wine rank with some of the best syrah's that I've made. The vines are young, this is only their 5th leaf, but the biodynamic farming has helped bring an instant quality to these young vines. This farming method really nurtures the soil and that quality is absorbed up through the vines and into the grapes, giving the grapes a strong sense of place.

The Sawyer Lindquist Vineyard was Demeter certified biodynamic in 2009, a rigorous testament to our efforts in both vineyard and winery. This vintage is our first to carry the Demeter stamp of approval.