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#RoséAllDay

2015 CHARLES & CHARLES ROSÉ

Columbia Valley, Washington

THE VINTAGE

2015 peaked as the warmest vintage on record along a trend of blazing hot temperatures in Washington State, and as a result picking decisions were more critical than ever. For Rosé, farming and water were key to avoiding dehydration, which we did very well. We also picked early to capture fresh fruit flavors, but not so early as to lose flavor, a line as thin as a knife's edge.

THE WINE

I know I say it each year but it's really true that this is the most complete Rosé we've made to date, period. The aromatic lift, balance of fruit, minerality and herbal complexity has never been so in tune. A big reason for the jump in complexity is this is the first vintage in which we've sourced fruit exclusively from vineyards devoted to our Rosé program, and not one vineyard from which we also source fruit for our Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah blend. The characteristics that we look for in Syrah for Rosé, for example, are quite different than what we look for in the red wine blend. With the Rosé, we strive for a long hang time to develop flavor, but with low alcohol and ripeness. We invite the tension of a touch of herbal and under ripe notes, a profile we don't at all want for the red wine blend. Aromas of cherry, wild raspberry, blood orange, rhubarb, salt and Herbs de Provence carry over to the palate, where you also pick up some nice minerality. There is a broad palate that leads nicely into a bright acidity that builds as it refreshes. The color is a pale yet vibrant fuchsia pink. Syrah (61%), Mourvedre (12%), Grenache (10%), Cabernet Sauvignon (7%), Cinsault (7%), Counoise (3%). pH - 3.23, TA 6.2g/L, RS - 0.2%, Alc - 12.2% 55,000 cases made.

THE TERROIR

We have an amazing group of growers with vineyards in an incredibly broad spectrum of Columbia Valley terroir. These vineyards include Upland (12%), Zirkle (10%), Talcott (9%), Clifton Bluff (8%), Sunset (7%), Arete (7%), Boushey (6%), Nate DenHoed (6%), King Fuji (6%), Art DenHoed (5%), Suhaldonik (5%), Andrews (5%), other (14%).

THE LABEL

Hatch Show Print, the legendary poster shop from Nashville, TN created the original label from which this is based. It's an abstract American Flag in honor of the tremendous wine heritage and current practice right here in our great country.

THE BUZZ: CHARLES & CHARLES ROSÉ

The #1 domestic Rosé*

Wine Spectator **89 pts & 2015 TOP 100 VALUE** (2014)

Wine Enthusiast **90 pts BEST VALUE** (2013)

Wine Advocate **88 pts** (2013)

Wine Spectator **88 pts BEST VALUE** (2012)

Wine & Spirits Top 100 Value Wines of the Year - **88 pts** (2012)

Wine Spectator **90 pts BEST VALUE & 2012 TOP 100 # 42** (2011)

Wine Spectator **90 pts** (2008)

THE PROJECT

A collaboration founded in 2008 between Wine Enthusiast Magazine 2014 Winemaker of the year, Charles Smith (K Vintners, Charles Smith Wines) and Charles Bieler (Three Thieves, BIELER Pere et Fils & Gotham Project). We make just four wines together. The Rosé, a Cabernet Sauvignon blend, a Chardonnay and a single vineyard Riesling.

*Nielson HI retail, wines \$10-19.99, L26 wks, 10/10/15.