A Tribute to Grace Grenache, Santa Barbara County 2016

Vineyards: Santa Barbara Highlands Vineyard, valley floor ‘Alban’ clone (harvested 10.6.16)
Vie Caprice Vineyard, southern-most block ‘Alban’ clone (harvested 9.21.16)
Jorian Hills Vineyard (harvested 10.13.16)
Spear Vineyard (harvested 10.12.16)

Varietal: 100% Grenache
AVA: Santa Barbara County
Across: 11 months in neutral French barrique
Finishing pH: 3.68
Bottling date: August 19, 2017 (moon in Cancer)
Release date: March 1st, 2018
Total Production: 894 cases

Following the early rains of 2016, Santa Barbara County enjoyed a long, steady ripening season with a revived sense of depth compared with the intense drought years prior. This Grenache represents four vastly different expressions within this climate: the Highlands with her 3200 feet elevation extremity and wide open skies, the Vie Caprice vineyard with 5’ x 4’ spacing amidst Santa Ynez horse country, the tee-pee-planted Jorian Hills vineyard in Ballard Canyon, and the amphitheatre-like setting of the Spear vineyard in the Sta. Rita Hills.

An interesting juxtaposition of the same grape, treated the same way: 100% de-stemmed, 11 months in neutral barrel, racked once under the July’s new moon (2017) ~ where they married, and were bottled one month later.

tasting notes: Rose attar, clary, iris and amber