



HENSCHKE

150 YEARS OF FAMILY WINEMAKING

MD JOHANNE IDA SELMA BLANC DE NOIR



GRAPE VARIETY

100% pinot noir from vines managed using biodynamic principles, grown on Stephen and Prue Henschke's Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Assemblage Date: 6 November 2017 | Alcohol: 11.5% | pH: 3.14 | Acidity: 7.1g/L
Residual Sugar: 5.5g/L

MATURATION

Hand-selected pinot noir was whole-bunch pressed, settled, cool fermented and underwent malolactic fermentation; the wine was subsequently bottle fermented and left on lees in bottle to age. Multiple vintages from 1997 to 2015 were combined in an assemblage-style blend in November 2017, as a multi-vintage, mature disgorged blanc de noir. The wine is sealed under a stainless steel closure to allow the wine to knit together and retain its bottle-age complexity.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Pale straw-gold with green hues. Elegant aromas of apple and citrus blossom are complemented by notes of plum skin, red currant, toasted brioche, hints of ginger spice and wet slate. Rich, concentrated and complex, the palate shows flavours of strawberry, red currant and green apple, with layers of texture, perfectly poised by bright acidity, and accompanying a very fine bead, finishing with long lasting flavours of ginger spice and honey.

BACKGROUND

In 1997, Stephen and Prue embarked on a journey to handcraft an ultra-premium sparkling wine from pinot noir, in addition to their dry table wines, and selected only the finest fruit from specific clones and sites suited for this purpose at the Henschke Lenswood vineyard in the Adelaide Hills. Purchased as an apple orchard in 1981, the 550m site offers higher rainfall and humidity at the right time of year, which together with the cooler temperatures provide ideal conditions for this cool-climate grape variety. The vineyard contains some of the oldest pinot noir vines in the Adelaide Hills.

The first release in 2008 celebrated Henschke's 140th anniversary. This limited fifth release is a blend across 18 exceptional pinot noir vintages all matured on tirage. It is a true expression of its site and celebrates 150 years of Henschke family winemaking.

CELLARING POTENTIAL

Celebration wine,
Drink now.

REVIEWED August 2018