Wine Advocate Issue #219. June 2015

reviews by Lisa Perrotti-Brown



ELITE RANGE

2012 Command Shiraz



95 - 97+ points

Sourced from 120-year-old vines, the medium garnet-colored 2012 Command Shiraz sports a very expressive nose replete with dried mulberries, potpourri, dusty earth, Chinese five spice and Szechuan pepper. Big and bold but not at all heavy, this soon-to-be-bottled Shiraz is drinking beautifully, offering tons of fruit with a very spicy and earthy character and firm, velvety tannins. It finishes long.

2012 Ashmead Cabernet Sauvignon 95 points



Deep garnet in color, the 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Ashmead has a classic crème de cassis nose with an earthy/meaty undercurrent, cloves, sandalwood and cedar. Medium-bodied, the palate is framed by elegant tannins and is showing evolution but remains very lively through the long finish.

2013 Fifteen Shiraz 97 points



future release

Sourced from a tiny single block of vineyard planted in 1915, the very deep garnet-purple 2013 Fifteen Shiraz is a brand new, 100% Shiraz wine aged in 100% new French oak. It opens to an incredible nose loaded with dark chocolate and crushed blueberries, plums, cloves, raw meat, licorice, tar and a whiff of incense. Big, powerful and concentrated, it is built like a brick house and framed by firm, grainy tannins. It

finishes quite earthy and long in the finish.

2013 Neil Ashmead Grand Tourer Shiraz



future release

95+ pointsThe 2013 Neil Ashmead GTS Elderton Estate

The 2013 Neil Ashmead GTS Elderton Estate, named after their father, is an estate-grown cuvee from a single block planted in the 1950s and farmed biodynamically since after 2006. Aged in 100% new French oak for 12+ months on the lees, this medium-deep garnet colored Shiraz opens to beautifully lifted black cherry, blackberry and floral notes intermingling with a slightly gamy/meaty undercurrent that has an accent of star anise. The medium to full-bodied palate is structured by fine, grainy tannins and nice freshness that lends great elegance to the long finish.

2012 Ode to Lorraine



92 points

Medium garnet-purple in color, the 2012 CSM Ode To Lorraine is a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Shiraz and 11%Merlot. The nose presents slowly evolving cassis and plum preserves notes, mulberries and prunes with an incense and cedar undercurrent. The medium-bodied palate has nice freshness and a very soft and elegant texture through the long finish.

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GREENOCK RANGE

2013 Western Ridge



*sold out

96+ points

Sourced from a single vineyard in Greenock, the 2013 Western Ridge Grenache Carignan is a medium garnet color with hint of purple. The nose reveals very pretty kirsch, roses and red currant preserves notes with a touch of clove-studded orange peel. Medium to full-bodied with medium-firm grainy tannins and lively acid the palate offers tremendous concentration and many, many flavor layers that conclude long and spicy.

2013 Greenock two



92 points

Medium-deep garnet in color, the 2013 Greenock Two Grenache Shiraz Mourvedre is a blend of 49% Shiraz, 41% Mourvedre, 10% Grenache. The nose offers aromas of baked cherries, blackberries and fragrant red currants with hints of pepper, earth and dried herbs. Full-bodied, it possesses a nice freshness and chewy, chunky tannins that hold through the quite earthy and long finish.

2013 Greenock one



July release

91+ points

100% Shiraz, the deep garnet-purple 2013 Greenock One Shiraz reveals wonderfully pure and delineated notes of crushed cassis, black plums and chocolate-covered cherries. The medium to full-bodied palate is very tight and muscular showing a nice acid line through to the long finish. It needs time.

2014 Golden Semillon



90 points

Pale to medium straw colored, the 2014 Golden Semillon presents a lovely nose of honeyed apricots, peach preserves and preserved lemons drizzled with acacia honey. Not overly sweet, the palate has a lovely muskiness and raisin character that holds through the long finish.

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ESTATE RANGE

2013 Barossa Shiraz



91 points

Deep garnet-purple, the 2013 Estate Shiraz is a 100% estate-grown Shiraz made with fruit from 15- to 116-year-old vines. The nose opens to very ripe aromas of preserved fruits, potpourri, peach blossoms and exotic spices. Big and ripe, full-bodied palate offers a rich, classically styled Shiraz with velvety tannins to frame the long and spicy finish.

2013 Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon



89 points

Deep garnet-purple, Elderton's 2013 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon presents warm blackcurrants and plums on the nose accented by touches of pencil lead and dried herbs. A nice backbone of chewy tannins and good acid freshness offsets the richly fruited palate through the long finish.

2013 Barossa Merlot



88 points

Medium garnet-purple in color, the 2013 Estate Merlot has a gorgeous nose of spice box, Christmas cake and dried mulberries with a hint of dried roses. Medium-bodied and soft, there is a nice bit of tannic chew on the well-balanced palate to shape the long finish.

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EDEN VALLEY / HIGH ALTITUDE BAROSSA RANGE

2014 High Altitude Barossa Shiraz 89 points



Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2013 [sic] High Altitude Shiraz offers ripe blackberries and crème de cassis aromas with hint of prunes, sandalwood and licorice. The medium-bodied palate has nice poise and good fruit concentration though the tannins are just a little hard. It finishes long and spicy.

2013 High Altitude Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon 88 points



Deep garnet-purple, the 2013 High Altitude Cabernet Sauvignon has wonderful red and black plum aromas with nuances of violets, aniseed and mocha. The rich, medium to full-bodied palate offers ripe fruit flavors shaped with plush, soft tannins through the long finish with some prune notes.

2014 Eden Valley Chardonnay



86 points

Elderton's 2014 Chardonnay opens to ripe honeydew melon, poached pear and apricot aromas with a touch of allspice. Medium-bodied, it is restrained, though shows nice purity of fruit and flavor through the medium to long finish.

E SERIES RANGE

2014 E Series Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon 90 points



Deep garnet-purple, the 2014 Shiraz Cabernet E Series is a blend of 90% Shiraz and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon that opens to a very spicy nose of cloves, vanilla and cinnamon stick with a baked blueberry core. The medium-bodied palate offers tons of spicy fruit that is deftly framed by velvety tannins before finishing long.

2014 E Series Chardonnay



88 points

The 2014 Unoaked Chardonnay E Series starts off quite perfumed showing peach blossoms and honeysuckle notes intermixed with hints of baking bread. The medium-bodied palate offers plenty of fruit concentration along with a lovely textural silkiness that lingers on the long finish.