

BETTANE & DESSEAUME
THE WORLD'S GREATEST WINES



Bonny Doon

Anyone wishing to sample the off-the-wall humor and inventiveness of Randall Grahm, California's wackiest but certainly not its least efficient winemaker, need do no more than visit its website. A non-conformist and sworn enemy of the "enologically correct," he has spent the last 30 years making wine his own way, frequently varying his style while displaying at all times the desire to fully explore his convictions as an esthete and an individual. He has recently developed a passion for Riesling and the Italian grape varieties, but has staked his reputation on the Rhône Valley varieties he was the first to commercially exploit. He was quick to understand that the warm, dry soils of Paso Robles and Monterey were better suited to Grenache, Cinsault, and Mourvèdre than the Bordeaux varieties, and his love of great Châteauneuf-du-Pape inspired him to create two superb and extremely skillful blends for which he invented two puns (he shows a particular aptitude for wordplay) and which have made his fortune: Old Telegram refers to his affection for the wine made by the Brunier family and for his own grandfather (Old Grahm); Le Cigare Volant is inspired by the famous decree passed by the municipality of Châteauneuf in 1956 prohibiting any unidentified objects from flying through its airspace. In each case, however, it is the Santa Cruz sunshine that has been captured and bottled.



VINE VARIETY

62 acres (25 hectares), red: Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Nebbiolo, Barbera, Cinsault; white: Roussanne, Muscat, Pinot Gris.

OUR FAVORITE WINES

All this estate's wines have something to say and are highly individual – and that includes their names! Currently, the most accomplished are: *Le Cigare Volant*, a wonderfully unctuous red; *Old Telegram*, a tauter, fuller-bodied wine dominated by Mourvèdre; *Le Sophiste*, a honeyed but far from sickly Roussanne white; and the fabulously fruity *Muscat de Glacière*, one of California's most consistent dessert wines.

