

A worthy successor to the '10, though perhaps slightly less muscular, but conversely, incrementally more elegant. We have gotten particularly adept in allowing for the expression of a wonderful savoriness in Cigare, and a pretty nice mastery of tannins. Recent vintages seem to show more structure than years past, and we are convinced that this vintage will be capable of very long ageing.

## WINEMAKER NOTES

A beautiful wine-dark, mulberry color, and a first nose of dark, cool loamy earth with suggestions of raspberries, Damson plums and cherry/chocolate. On the palate, it is sleek and racy with a lively acidity, very soft tannins and great persistence. This is a wine from an extremely cool and elegant vintage, and by all experience, should be a great prospect for very long ageing and development.

## VINEYARD | PRODUCTION NOTES

Grenache (15% from our former Ca' del Solo estate, now called Rancho Solo) adds rich black fruit flavors and a discreet spiciness. Syrah is principally sourced from Bien Nacido vineyard in Santa Maria Valley, which produces the closest analogue we have found to a Northern Rhône Syrah—tannic and meaty in the lower registers; peppery, fruitful and delicately floral in the top, all the while showing great balance and harmony. A select group of non-irrigated, centenarian Contra Costa vineyards continues to provide Mourvèdre for Cigare. A touch of Cinsault provides a very particular fragrance of flowers and aromatic herbs.

## INGREDIENTS

Grapes, tartaric acid, and sulfur dioxide.

In the winemaking process, the following were utilized: indigenous yeast, yeast nutrients, and French oak chips.

At the time of bottling, this product contained: 55 ppm total SO<sub>2</sub> and 25 ppm free SO<sub>2</sub>.



## VITAL STATISTICS

Varietal Blend:

37% Mourvèdre, 34% Grenache,  
20% Syrah, 9% Cinsault

Appellation: Central Coast

Vineyards:

22% Ventana, 21% Del Barba,  
15% Rancho Solo, 13% Evangelho,  
11% Alamo Creek, 9% Bechtold,  
6% Bien Nacido, 3% Gonsalves

Cellaring: 10-15 years from  
release (April 2015)

Alcohol by Volume: 14.2%

TA: 5.8 g/L

pH: 3.34

Production: 2,527 cases

## WINEMAKER

Randall Grahm



## REGION

