



2016 MOURVEDRE OLD VINES

Following the undeniably savory, yet slightly menacing 2015, the 2016 hints at the silky, occult, velvete, lavender ointment scented, diligently moisturized inner hinge. The 2015 needed time. The 2016 needs an *à point* lamb chop. The winemaking Gods regularly remind us that any number of unassailable dogmas - iron clad truths forged in the crucible of some distant Old World winemaking tribulations - wither in the face of reality. 2016 presented challenges for mourvèdre in the sandscapes of Contra Costa: many old vineyards began to defoliate by late August, well short of ripeness. Triage excluded many raisined clusters, and those few sound clusters did not color particularly well, portending - according to conventional wisdom - an even more spartan rendition than its predecessor. Yet the 2016s, one year further into a punishing drought, are uniformly more generous, charming and flattering than the 2015s. It is a mystery we have yet to resolve.

-Alex & John

Release Date: Spring 2018
Composition: 100% Mourvèdre
Appellation: Contra Costa County