

THE DEVONIAN 2019

Background:

Ross' late Father came from Devon, a richly coloured and beautiful, green tinged county of England. Along the Northern Coast of this county, exposed rocks from the Paleozoic era were found to contain a huge array of fossils of fish. Hence the Devonian era became known as the Age of Fishes, as it spanned the era between sea dwelling creatures and the emergence of the first species to live on land. The Rascal's Father emigrated to South Africa in 1969, and his life, spanning two continents is celebrated with this wine, as is his love of wine, geology, and yes, fish!

Vintage: 2019

Varietal: 100% Chenin Blanc

Style: Full-bodied with and elegant finish, subtly wooded

Wine of Origin: Swartland

Vineyards: The vineyards are situated in Jouberts kloof which is 10km from Malmesbury on the Southern side of the Paardeberg. These bush vine vineyards are between 35-42 years old, planted on de-composed granite on South-Eastern slopes with a 100-200m elevation. The wine is made from three different vineyards approximately 100m apart.

Winemaking: The grapes were harvested in three different sessions starting at 20,5 Brix and ending at maximum 22 Brix to provide a good spread of flavour and acidity levels. The grapes were chilled overnight and whole bunch pressed. The free run juice was naturally settled overnight and then racked into 5-year-old, 300ltr French oak barrels for natural fermentation. No SO₂ was added during this whole process. The wine goes through 100% natural malolactic fermentation and stayed on the lees after fermentation until December 2019 when it was bottled.

Tasting Notes: This wine shows a mélange of flavours on the nose of lime, floral, oatmeal, and honey. The palate has a soft entry with a creamy texture, and there is good balance between the subtle acidity from the limey notes and the sweetness from the floral notes. The finish is slightly nutty with a hint of minerality.

ABV: 13.15% **pH:** 3.29 **RS:** 2.2g/l

Awards:

Decanter World Wine Awards 91 points, Platter Wine Guide 4.5*, Prescient Chenin Blanc Report 89, Tim Atkin South Africa Report 89 points, James Suckling Wine Ratings 89 points

