



2009

## The Brawler



**APPELLATIONS:** Sierra Foothills AVA, Calaveras County

**HARVEST DATE:** October 12, 2009

**VINEYARD:** Appaloosa Estate Vineyard

**COMPOSITION:** 96 % Syrah 4% Viognier

**ALC:** 15.4%

**PH:** 3.67

**TA:** 6.3 g/l

**CASES PRODUCED:** 173 cases

**CELLAR PRACTICES:** All fruit is handpicked on the same day, hand sorted, destemmed and crushed with 10-15% whole cluster into small open top fermentors. The Syrah and Viognier is co-fermented, cold soaked for 4 days, inoculated with specially selected yeast isolated from Rockpile AVA and fermented dry. Pressed into 100% French Oak barrels and aged for 18 months.

**TASTING NOTES:** The Brawler is back with a vengeance. A deep ruby purple color coats and grips the glass with legs that have strong thighs. Dark and gamey, dried herbs and leather aromas frame a core of blackberry and elderberry fruit with a hint of apricot in the background. Flavors are rich, blackberry/apricot cobbler that is perfumed with sweet spices, dark chocolate and espresso. Tannins are still a little edgy, but fine and silky on the finish and will only get better with age.

**RETAIL PRICE:** \$36