



Stephen Tanzer's
INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

Josh Reynolds
May 2012

2009 Todd Brothers Ranch Zinfandel – 91 Points

Opaque ruby. An explosively perfumed bouquet evokes dark berry preserves, violet and spicecake, with a peppery topnote. Pliant and broad on the palate, offering intense blackberry and cherry compote flavors that show impressive depth and focus. Finishes with slow-builing tannins and very good, smoky persistence.

2010 Les Enfants Terribles Dry Creek Valley Grenache – 90 Points

Vivid red. Fresh red berries, star anise and white pepper on the fragrant nose. Bright, racy and pure, offering energetic raspberry and cherry flavors that show a suave blend of power and vivacity. Finishes clean and spicy, with impressive cut and length. This wine was fermented with native yeasts.

2009 Florence Vineyard Zinfandel – 90 Points

Vivid red. Blackberry, kirsch and smoky Indian spices on the nose, with a subtle licorice undertone gaining strength with air. Red and dark berry flavors show very good clarity, depth and sweetness and pick up spiciness with air. The suave, velvety finish displays good spicy lift, a sappy dark berry quality and no obvious tannins.

2010 Les Enfants Terribles Heart Arrow Vineyard Zinfandel – 90 Points

Bright ruby. A highly aromatic, wild nose offers scents of dark berries, musky herbs and cured meat. Vibrant and juicy in the mouth, with fresh black raspberry, smoke and tangy pepper qualities and supple texture. Finishes spicy and meaty, with very good length and solid grip. In a distinctly Old World style and liable to perplex those used to polished, fruit-bomb zins.

2008 Louvau Dry Creek Zinfandel – 90 Points

Bright ruby-red. High-pitched red fruit and floral aromas are complicated by seductive spice notes and a touch of anise. Juicy, penetrating raspberry and bitter cherry flavors display a suave blend of richness and vivacity, picking up sweetness with air. Closes on a spicy note, with silky tannins adding shape and gentle grip.

2007 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon – 90 Points

Dark ruby. Cassis, cherry, pipe tobacco and candied flowers on the pungent nose. Juicy, sharply focused dark berry flavors are lifted by tangy acidity, displaying very good heft and punch. Smooth, integrated tannins come on late and are quickly absorbed by the wine's plush, gently sweet fruit. This wine is drinking surprisingly well now but has the stuffing to age.

2009 Late Harvest Zinfandel – 90 Points

Inky ruby. Intensely perfumed aromas of blackberry liqueur, cola and violet. Juicy and intense, with primary, spicy black and blue fruit and floral pastille flavors. Supple tannins give gentle grip to a very long, spice-dominated finish.

2010 Dry Riesling McFadden Farm – 89 Points

Green-tinged straw. Vibrant, high-pitched aromas of lemongrass, orange and white pepper. Dry and sharply focused citrus flavors are incisive and pure, with a late note of bitter quinine enhancing the serious character on this wine. Closes firm and spicy, with good length and a resonating citrus note.

2009 Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel – 89 Points

Bright ruby-red. Red berry and cherry aromas are brightened by cracked pepper and fresh flowers. A tangy, midweight that offers fresh cherry and raspberry flavors, energizing acidity and silky texture. Gains sweetness on the finish, which repeats the peppery note.