



2010 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Homage, Napa Valley

HOMMAGE, THE NAME FOR CLOS PEGASE'S RESERVE WINES, pays tribute to the memory of the artist whose painting graces the label each vintage. In addition, it honors the artisans, growers, enologists, craftsmen and workers whose efforts are reflected in the wines. Our artisanal Homage wines are made in very limited quantities from exceptional estate fruit. They are concentrated, rich and full structured – ideal for aging.

HARVEST NOTES

Rainfall, combined with very cool spring growing conditions, pushed bud break, flowering and fruit-set back. A two-day heat spike into triple digits followed, causing some sunburn to grapes that were subsequently removed. Cooler than average temperatures returned in early September, but gave way to a warm and consistent mid-October, resulting in optimal flavor maturity and structural development across the board.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Tenma Vineyard provides the dense and intense structural core of this wine. Graveyard Hill, in Mitsuko's Vineyard, is a rocky well-drained outcropping, perfect for the cultivation of cool climate Cabernet. Dunaweal Vineyard's deep and fertile soils allow our Petit Verdot to thrive, bringing depth of color, violet undertones and intense mouthfeel. Individual lots were racked at the completion of malolactic fermentation, again in spring and late summer of 2011, then returned to barrel to soften the tannins and to naturally clarify the wines. The final wine was blended to tank in July 2012 after a total *élevage* of 20 months.

TASTING NOTES

2010 Homage unfolds with exotic aromas of black cherry, cassis and French plums bolstered by baker's spices, iris, fresh pipe tobacco and subtle toasty oak. Harmonious and plush mouthfilling fruit bolstered by an abundance of ripe tannin and nuanced acidity turns layered on the mid-palate with a long, intense cocoa-laden finish. The complex balance between fruit, tannin, palate weight and acidity guarantees that the wine will improve nicely with additional age.

LABEL ART

Our label pays homage to Maria Elena Vieira da Silva. Born in 1908 in Lisbon, she moved to Paris to immerse herself in painting, sculpture, engraving and textile design. Her complex style evolved into a unique blend of Cubism and Abstract Art: linear compositions of shapes in space, characterized by gentle color and soft light.

TECHNICAL INFO

VINTAGE

2010

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

97% Cabernet Sauvignon,
3% Petit Verdot

VINEYARD

Tenma Vineyard, Calistoga, Napa Valley (95%); Dunaweal Vineyard, Calistoga, Napa Valley (3%); Graveyard Hill, Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros, Napa Valley (2%)

SOIL

Tenma Vineyard: Bale Clay-Loam and Sandy Clay-Loam; Mitsuko's Vineyard: Haire clay-loam and Haire Gravelly Clay-Loam; Dunaweal Vineyard: Bale Clay-Loam

CLONES

Tenma Vineyard: Cabernet Sauvignon—Clones 7 and 337; Dunaweal Vineyard: Petit Verdot—Clone 6; Graveyard Hill, Mitsuko's Vineyard: Cabernet Sauvignon—Clones 7 and See

HARVEST DATES

October 14–26

AGING

20 months in 78% new French oak

ALCOHOL

14.8%

RESIDUAL SUGAR

0.03%

PRODUCTION

489 cases of 12 x 750ml bottles
49 cases of 6 x 1.5L bottles

BOTTLING DATE

July 2012