

FAUST

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

NAPA VALLEY

2010



A **DECADE AFTER** the first release from his Quintessa estate, Agustin Huneeus felt the thrill and excitement of a new endeavor beckon. The underlying premise for all of the wines he has ever produced has been that great wines must be a reflection of a great vineyard. Faust is not. Instead, Faust is a tribute to Napa Valley's noblest grape – full-bodied, decadently rich and unctuous Cabernet Sauvignon.

To express the complexity of the grape and diversity of the Napa Valley, Faust seeks Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from Agustin's family vineyards in Rutherford and Coombsville, Napa Valley's newest appellation located in the eastern foothills south of Atlas Peak. Agustin's relationships with growers in other appellations, such as Yountville, Mount Veeder, St. Helena and Rutherford, round out the blend with small lots from these spectacular mountain and valley terroirs.

Faust also honors the legend of Dr. Faust, a scholar and respected man of society who was tempted by the devil to seek renewed passion and youth in exchange for his soul. Faust is indeed the fruit of renewed passion for Agustin, though Mephistopheles has not yet appeared to claim his soul.

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THE 2010 VINTAGE saw cool spring temperatures and moderate rainfall which pushed bud break, flowering and fruit-set back about two weeks. Cooler temperatures continued into summer which made canopy management essential. A late summer heat spike helped the small, concentrated berries advance on their quest for ripeness. Extensive selective picking and sorting ensured that the grapes that reached the tanks were in optimal condition, fully ripe and full of flavor. The grapes were hand-picked, double-sorted and crushed at Quintessa, then cold-soaked and fermented in both French oak and stainless steel tanks. After an extended maceration, Faust was aged for 19 months in French oak.

COMPOSITION

83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot,
3% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc

ALCOHOL

14.2% by volume

AGING

19 months in 100% French oak, 30% new

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Dense and inky, the core is a beautiful, rich ruby color. The aromas lift out of the glass with blackberry, black cherry, ripe raspberry and tea leaf. The entry is impressive with a fleshy mouthfeel and notes of cassis, dark chocolate and ripe berries. The layers continue to unfold throughout a long finish. The 2010 is ready to drink upon release, and will develop and age gracefully over five to seven years.

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