MARTINELLI
WINERY & VINEYARDS

"Vigneto di Evo" Zinfandel

Russian River Valley
2012

Vineyard Character

This wine is a barrel blend from select Martinelli single vineyard Zinfandel sites. It is named for Evo Martinelli, who was raised on Martinelli Road. He was Lee Sr's first cousin, the son of Fred Martinelli. Evo gave Lee Sr. one of his first jobs out of the vineyard and instilled the importance of going to college in him as a young man.

Growing Year

This was a fairly mild year, similar to 2007 and 2009. The harvest looked like it was going to be early because of the early heat and bud break, but this ended up being a long, drawn out season with consistent growing temperatures. The wines have good tannins, structure, and a nice acid balance.

Wine Statistics

After picking, the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation to generate skin contact and expose fruit character and are fermented with wild yeast. The juice is transferred to oak barrels with a touch of residual sugar remaining to complete the fermentation process in barrel until dry. It rests in 35% new French oak on its gross lees for ten months.

Case Production: 876

Tasting Notes

The 2012 "Vigneto di Evo" Zinfandel has vibrant aromas of ripe cherry, blackberry and strawberry. The palate is fairly firm on entry with bright red cherry, notes of nectarine skin and spicy plum on the finish.

Historical Acclaim

2011 Vintage

- 92 points Tim Fish, The Wine Spectator

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme **Consulting Winemaker:** Erin Green