



The Wine Advocate #231 June 2017

### Long Shadows Vintners

"This estate has hit pay dirt with their 2013s and 2014s, and the quality here continues to skyrocket. While they bring in a who's who list of top winemakers for these cuvees, the day to day winemaking is handled by Gilles Nicault, who's an unquestionably terrific winemaker in his own right." - Jeb Dunnuck

#### **2013 Chester-Kidder Proprietary Red**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**93+ points**

Made by Gilles Nicault, the 2013 Chester Kidder (58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Syrah, 5% Petit Verdot and the rest Cabernet Franc) sports an inky color as well as rich, serious notes of blackcurrants, scorched earth and chocolate. Deep, rich and concentrated, with beautiful purity and fine tannin.

#### **2014 Pirouette Proprietary Red**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**94+ points**

Made by Philippe Melka, the 2014 Pirouette checks in as a blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Petit Verdot, 17% Merlot, 7% Cab Franc and a splash of Malbec. This inky colored beauty gives up tons of graphite, toasted spice, dried herbs and chocolatey dark fruit, full-bodied richness, building, ripe tannin and a great finish. It's another killer wine from this estate, and possibly the best to date.

#### **2014 Sequel Syrah**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**94 points**

Made by John Duval, the 2014 Syrah Sequel is a sexy beast of a Syrah (there's a splash of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend) that was brought up all in small barrels. Deep, inky colored, with a huge nose of black fruits, chocolate, smoke meats and licorice, it's a powerhouse on the palate and gives up full-bodied flavors, ripe, polished tannin and a great finish.

#### **2014 Pedestal Merlot**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**95 points**

I loved the 2014 Pedestal Merlot and it's 81% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Malbec and 2% Petit Verdot. It offers a downright voluptuous and incredibly sexy style in its ripe black currants, toasted spice, chocolate and licorice aromas and flavors. Broad, expansive, layered and pleasure bent, with ripe tannin, it's a knockout Merlot that's going to have 10-15 years of drinkability.

#### **2014 Feather Cabernet Sauvignon**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**93+ points**

Made by Napa Valley's Randy Dunn, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Feather is going to reward those with patience. Clean and pure, with a straight, focused style, it has classic crème de cassis, crushed violets and graphite aromatics, medium to full-bodied richness and fine, polished tannin. It needs 2-3 years of bottle age and will shine over the following decade or more.

#### **2014 Saggi Proprietary Red**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**94 points**

The 2014 Saggi is gorgeous. Black cherry, blackcurrants, licorice, graphite and spice characteristics all give way to a rich, full-bodied, yet incredibly elegant and seamless style on the palate. Given its purity and overall balance, it's going to cruise in the cellar, but it's already hard to resist as well. The blend is 52% Sangiovese, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 16% Syrah.

#### **2015 Poet's Leap Riesling**

**Columbia Valley, WA**

**90 points**

The terrific 2015 Riesling Poet's Leap has 1.2% residual sugar, which is barely noticeable. Juicy, vibrant notes of green apple, citrus and lychee all emerge from this medium-bodied, fresh, clean, deliciously refreshing white that will be incredibly versatile on the dinner table. It will also age gracefully for a decade or more.

**2015 Dance Chardonnay****Columbia Valley, WA****90 points**

The 2015 Chardonnay Dance is outstanding and offers lots of classic Chardonnay aromas and flavors of apple and stone fruits, brioche spice and a hint of honeysuckle. It's medium-bodied, has terrific purity and is impeccably balanced.

**2013 Sequel Syrah, Vintage Select, Bin 898 Columbia Valley, WA****95 points**

A killer wine made from 100% Syrah, the 2013 Sequel Vintage Select Bin 898 sports a saturated purple color as well as terrific notes of blackberries, blackcurrants, smoky oak, meat and spice. Big, rich, layered and textured, yet still elegant and never over the top, it's a beauty that's going to keep for a decade or more. This cuvee comes from multiple sites in the Columbia Valley and was put together by John Duval.

**2013 Feather Cab Sauv, Vintage Select****Columbia Valley, WA****95 points**

I loved the 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Feather by Randy Dunn, and it's a firm, tannic, classically styled Cabernet Sauvignon that has terrific intensity and concentration. Black fruits, scorched earth, chocolate and hints of graphite all dominate the bouquet, and its full-bodied, tight and compact on the palate, with a power-packed, tannic finish. Forget bottles for 3-4 years and drink over the following two decades.

**2013 Pirouette, Vintage Select, Solo Dancer Columbia Valley, WA****95+ points**

Deep and inky the 2013 Pirouette Solo Dance is a serious effort that's going to need some bottle age. Made from 98% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Petit Verdot, it offers tons of minerality, dark chocolate and black fruit, full-bodied richness, a stacked mid-palate and terrific length. It's a superstar in the making.

**2013 Shoup Proprietary Red****Columbia Valley, WA****94 points**

The 2013 Shoup is a beautiful wine that offers full-bodied, perfumed aromas and flavors of black currants, creme de cassis, spring flowers and graphite. With impeccable balance, ample tannin and nicely integrated acidity, give bottles a year or three and drink over the following decade. The blend of the 2013 is 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Petit Verdot, 7% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc.

**2014 Cote Nicault GSM Blend****Columbia Valley, WA****93 points**

Coming from Red Mountain, the 2014 Cote Nicault is a deep, rich blend of close to equal parts Syrah, Mourvèdre and Grenache. Ripe, sexy and voluptuous, with deep black and blue fruits, crushed rock and peppery herbs, it has full-bodied richness, a polished, elegant texture and a clean finish. This beauty has both richness and texture, and it will benefit from short term cellaring and keep through 2024+.