

MITOLO

Robert Parker – The Wine Advocate November 2005

For a winery only established in 1999 and dedicated to hand-crafted artisanal wines, “Mitolo has consistently been a revelation in my tastings. Thanks to owner Frank Mitolo and his brilliant winemaker, Ben Glaetzer, the quality has been truly splendid.”

Jester Cabernet 2004 **McLaren Vale** **91 points**

“...it is hard to find a better Cabernet for the price than Mitolo’s 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon Jester which spent nine months in used French oak prior to bottling. Approximately 20% of the grapes were dried on racks (a traditional Amarone technique) in order to concentrate the flavor. Yet there is no pruny or raisiny character to the wine. It is a dense ruby/purple tinged offering displaying loads of roasted meat, blackcurrant and plum aromas, deep, medium to full-bodied flavors, sweet tannin, and an expansive savory texture. This is a stunning Cabernet Sauvignon to drink now and over the next 7-8 years.”

Retail price: US\$22.00

Serpico Cabernet Sauvignon 2004 **McLaren Vale** **94 points**

“The 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon Serpico (aged 12 months in new American hogsheads as well as small French barrels) comes from the Willunga district of the southern sector of McLaren Vale near the ocean). It exhibits a dense purple color in addition to an extraordinary bouquet of smoke, blueberries, black raspberries and cassis. Superbly endowed with admirable purity, sweet tannin, a floral/fruity component and a fabulously layered, concentrated mid-palate as well as finish. It is one of the best Cabernet Sauvignon’s to ever emerge from South Australia. It should age well for 10-15 years.”

Retail price: US\$65.00

G.A.M. Shiraz 2004 **McLaren Vale** **97 points**

“Aged 18 months in primarily French oak, the 2004 Shiraz G.A.M. is an exceptional example of a precise yet full-flavored, concentrated Shiraz. Its gorgeous perfume of blueberries, blackberries, camphor, licorice and *pain grillé* is followed by an inky/blue/purple-colored wine offering superb purity, full bodied richness and gorgeous depth as well as texture. This fabulous effort is another example of Ben Glaetzer’s brilliant talents. It should drink well for 15 years.”

Retail price: US\$48.00

Savitar Shiraz 2004 **McLaren Vale** **98 points**

“Bordering on perfection is the 2004 Shiraz Savitar. Made from 30 to 50 years old vines and aged 18 months in 100% new French hogsheads as well as smaller barriques, it boasts an opaque purple color, and an extraordinary nose of acacia flowers, blueberries, raspberries and blacker fruits, melted licorice and graphite. It possesses amazing intensity, great equilibrium, a fabulous multi-layered mid-palate and a blockbuster finish. This extraordinary Shiraz should prove to be one of the legends of southern Australia’s great 2004 vintage. Drink it over the next 12-15 years.”

Retail price: US\$65.00

Reiver Shiraz 2004 **Barossa Valley**

Wine withheld from the tasting as it was not ready at the time the review was conducted.