

Vineyard Region
McLaren Vale



PRESS REVIEWS

Frank Mitolo is justifiably proud of his record in the 100 Best. This top notch operation is one of the most impressive in the country and the wines never fail to impress. I have long been a fan of the value attached to the Jester Series, which has a very sprightly Vermentino in its numbers these days. The Shiraz is always a cracker and he always keeps the concentration, silkiness and wow factor ratcheted up to a max. This vintage is no exception. With Turkish Delight, briary, fresh-picked berries and succulent steak au poivre meatiness this is a true star and it's still a cracking price.

100 Best Australian Wines 2011, Matthew Jukes, May 2011

94 Points

Dense purple-crimson; the wine is all about controlled power, the fist in a velvet glove; the medium- to full-bodied palate rolls black fruits, a touch of licorice and a generous dash of dark chocolate into a seamless whole; you know the tannins and oak are there, but no more.

2012 Australian Wine Companion. James Halliday. July 2011

89 Points

Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2009 Jester Shiraz has notes of kirsch, warm blackberries and baking spices with hints of vanilla, anise and tree bark. Full-bodied and with plenty of spicy fruit, it has a medium level of velvety tannins, crisp acid and a long finish.

Wine Advocate, Robert Parker by Lisa Perotti Brown M.W., December 2011

90 Point

Bright purple. Lively aromas of blackberry, cassis and spices. Spicy, bright and very fruity, with good energy to its dark berry flavors. This is far from a stereotypical Aussie shiraz. Finishes with smooth, gentle tannins and lingering spiciness. Offers considerable upfront appeal.

Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, Josh Reynolds, September 2011

4 Stars ****

Attractive aromas of spice, sweet black fruit, black olive, pepper, jam and damson. A bold and spicy jam sandwich. Fantastic effort, offering bags of ripe, fleshy vibrant fruit flavours. Good concentration.

Decanter Magazine, November 2011

89/100

Ripe, sweet and berryish on the nose. The palate is bold, broad and sweetly fruited with creamy blackberry fruit. Good focus.

www.wineanorak.com, Jamie Goode, August 2011

90 Points

Black and blue and bloody, this is a formidable shiraz scented with tar, blueberries, black mushrooms and a sanguine note in its tannins. It's rich and heady, suited to braised oxtail.

Wine & Spirits Magazine, September 2011

.....**TOP KEY**..... The nose is a bit of earth overridden with rich fruitcake. It's just starting to come into its own, puppy fat has been cast off and it's settling down for a good, fit life. **94 points** and worth its \$28.

The Key Report, Tony Keys, September 2011

Vineyard Region
McLaren Vale



PRESS REVIEWS

4 Stars - Frank Mitolo sources his Jester shiraz from McLaren Vale's Willunga subdistrict. Mitolo writes the maritime climate contributes to, "an even ripening period and the development of rich fruit flavours and ripe tannins". Mitolo's words dovetail with the tasting experience of a big, generous, harmonious shiraz full of fresh, ripe fruit flavour and soft tannins. Mitolo matured Jester in older French oak previously used for his flagship CAM. Shiraz.

Canberra Times, Chris Shanahan, November 2011

This is the type of red that will impress on a formal dinner table without stretching the budget into a higher price bracket. Frank Mitolo said that his 2009 Jester Shiraz was generous (in flavour and complexity), yet textured on the palate. It has berry and plum fruits that are rounded out by supportive oak and balanced acidity.

Launceston Examiner, Mike Burnett, September 2011

Deep purple in colour, the Mitolo brings cherry, light smoke, vanilla, espresso and spice on the nose. It's a deep, full-bodied red, with rich black cherry, espresso, black tea, raspberry jam and licorice notes on the palate and a long, hot finish. The sweet fruit was accentuated by the back bacon, the regular bacon accentuated the smoky notes of the wine, and the pancetta imparted a slightly strange, oily note to the texture of the wine. A big, grippy red.

winnepegfreepress.com, Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson, November 2011

I like what I've seen of 2009 Vale Shiraz in several interpretations and this Mitolo floats my boat. Smart label, it may say Jester but it holds the court's attention with more than silly gags. It holds its alcohol well too and at nearly 15% I was waiting for the warmth but it was joyously integrated, laden with black fruits and licorice, some vanillin oak and even cinnamon quills. I love the fullness of the mouthfeel, it's got a core of blackcurrant and spice, there's also a dark chocolate note that's alluring. The tannins are mouth-coating and the length is good. I think food like a rib eye or a mature cheese would be a likely pairing.

www.winingpom.com.au, Patrick Haddock, August 2011

91 points

The Jester is more than just a concentrated wine, it is deep, richly flavoured and quite potent. Expect aromas of blueberries, black raspberries, vanilla, chocolate and plush floral notes with baking spices and tobacco. The palate is similarly supple and concentrated, laden with chewy fruit, espresso and chocolate liqueur flavours. If you like your wines brawny enough to arm-wrestle, the Jester will be just your style.

The Wine Diva, Daenna Van Mulligen, October 2011

From vineyards that benefit from a maritime climate and long even ripening period, this ample wine is partially barrel fermented, then aged in French oak for nine months. Deep, dark and loaded with blackberry and boysenberry jam flavours, this dry, full-bodied wine offers great depth of fruit, notes of licorice, spice and toast, and a fine supporting frame. Approachable and generous, enjoy it now with grilled meats and roasted veggies, or cellar medium term.

www.savvycompany.ca, Susan Desjardins, November 2011

Dark purple in colour with crimson edges. The nose consists of rich dark berries with a touch of subtle oak. The palate was smooth, providing an excellent balance of fresh blackberries, earthy tones leading into a lively finish supported by soft tannins.

Canberra Advertiser, Reg Ryan, January 2012

MITOLO

2009 JESTER SHIRAZ

Vineyard Region
McLaren Vale



PRESS REVIEWS

Ripe fruit and resultant high levels of alcohol can make Aussie reds either persuasive or overwhelming dining companions. With dark, jam-like smells and flavours cut by sharp acidity and warmed by 15 per cent alcohol, this Shiraz is big but not pushy. Jesters, after all, are very good at dealing with power. Pair with venison burgers if you've got 'em, or spicy, saucy Indian beef dishes.
nowtoronto.com, Graham Duncan, June 2012