

2005 G.A.M SHIRAZ

Vineyard Region
McLaren Vale**95 Points**

Fashioned from a McLaren Vale vineyard, the 2005 Shiraz G.A.M. (named after the Mitolo children - Gemma, Alexander and Marco) is a deep ruby/purple-hued effort displaying beautiful blackberry, white pepper, liquorice, and toasty oak notes. Rich full bodied, and intense, with blueberry and blackberry flavours, sweet tannin, and excellent purity, it is a *tour de force* in winemaking. Enjoy it over the next decade.

The Wine Advocate, Robert Parker, 2006

95 Points

Proclaims it's terroir from the whiff: layer-upon-layer of blackberry and plum fruit, high-quality oak and tannin management.

The Australian Wine Companion 2008, James Haliday

5 Stars

Baked dansons, blackcurrants. Lots of ripe, juicy fruit-berries, damsons. Spicy, mineral, smooth tannins. High alcohol but fairly good balancing acidity. 2-5 years.

Decanter Magazine, January 2008

Silver Medal

Decanter World Wine Awards 2007

93 Points

There is a lot of black opulence here, it is super controlled. The ripeness, strength, and yet softness of this wine's tannins is a lesson in what is possible, as is the vague lilt of coffeed, smoky, roasted oak, the perfect glove to the hand of slippery, dark, plummy, jammy fruit. I love the smell, I love the taste, I love the feel. There is warmth here, especially tasting it in summer, but consumed in winter, as it is meant to be consumed, it will carry its alcohol easily. This is a super smart wine. Drink: 2008-2017

The Wine Front, Campbell Mattinson, February 2007

Blue/Gold Medal

The palate is really beautiful with ripe, not jammy fruit. Youthful but ripe tannins which offer support, structure, persistence and balance. This should be absolutely terrific in a year or two. It integrates seamlessly with food. A gorgeous, fine wine.

Sydney International Wine Competition 2007, Martin Moran

5 Stars

G.A.M stands for Gemma, Alexander & Marco the children of Mitolo founder Frank Mitolo. This McLaren Vale Shiraz writ large, with plenty of dense black fruit on the nose and palate. Gentle spice, regional earthy notes and balanced smokey oak add interest. The fleshy palate has a lovely balance of succulent fruit and fine-grained tannins.

Epicure, Ralph Kyre-Powell, November 2007

90 Points

Wine Enthusiast, April 2007

With talented Ben Glaetzer at the controls, McLaren Vale's Mitolo's specialities are Shiraz. They are excellent drops in every respect from a very fine vintage.

Sunday Telegraph, John Fordham, March 2007

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This is a rich, well balanced, classic McLaren Vale style showing blackberry varietal character with just a hint of spice. The palate is particularly mouthfilling, but not jammy, and the oak is very well integrated. This is an excellent expression of region and variety.

Winewise vol 23, June 2007

92 Points

Dark deep blackish purple. Intense and spicy. Lashings of raspberry, blackberry and Turkish delight aromas flow as the wine opens up before you. Slowly evolving and revealing layers of complexity. Medium bodied, ultra fine tannins and almost indiscernible mocha silky oak. Quite seamless drinking with an abundance of plums, blackberries and black liquorice on the finish. Try this with veal parmigiana. Drink to 2015

Paul Ippolito Talks Wine, vol 28

The G.A.M Shiraz is archetypal McLaren Vale Shiraz. Produced from 20 year old vines, the G.A.M is a deeply-flavoured, pure and concentrated Shiraz with layers of complexity and an excellent finish.

Wine-Ark, March 2007

Full red purple in colour. Full dark chocolate and blackberry and liquorice. The palate is rich warm with the alcohol making it's presence known over the fruit. The palate is rich and mouthfilling with excellent full oak characters. Good back palate before a good long warming finish. An excellent rich warm wine. Not sure about it for the long term but in the medium term it will age magnificently.

Murray Almond, www.vinosence.com, March 2007

Nothing subtle here! Instead enjoy its rifts of plush blueberry fruit, musk stick confection, blood plum coulis that leads to a heavy bass chord of liquorice, warm black olives and spice complexity. Oak is there in abundance but it's all in balance.

Vintage Cellars, June 2007

Dense, tight and full flavoured, this wine offers smoky blackcurrant notes, chocolate and tobacco leaf touches, Good acidity and pleasing length, Serious stuff.

Qweekend, Ken Gargett, May 2007

Aromas of creamy, ripe blackberries and sweet cola spices and pepper. Lush and velvety in the mouth with bold mixed berry compote flavours and more sweet spice on the finish. Wow!

www.winediva.ca/newsletters/NEWSLETTERmar0807/BCReviews.htm, Mar 2007