Vineyard Region: McLaren Vale



94 points

"The 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Serpico (100% McLaren Vale fruit) was treated like Amarone with the grapes picked relatively underipe and green, then dried for seven weeks before they were fermented. The result is distinctive, full-bodied Cabernet with no pruny or raisiny characteristics whatsoever. Its fresh acidity and lively backbone support a wine of enormous richness and intensity, offering classic crème de cassis notes intermixed with white chocolate, damp forest, cedar, and toasty oak. Full-bodied, opulent, powerful, and totally dry with a sweet, rich mid section. It should age well for 10 – 15 years."

The Wine Advocate, Robert Parker, 2006

"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

"This 2005 Mitolo is, as you might predict, a confronting wine, rushed with ravages of dry, dusty, stewed herbs, the plate yet juicy and sweet kirsch-like. There's quite a bit of tannin here and quite a bit of mouth-watering flavour, and id I could afford it I would have no hesitation in buying this and stashing it for 8-10 years. This wine could really be something."

The Wine Front, Campbell Mattinson, April 2007

"Passionate grape grower/businessman (Frank Mitolo) + talented winemaker (Ben Glaetzer) = super wines. Since its foundation in 2000, Mitolo has become one of the stars of South Oz, thanks to its magnificent reds from Willunga in McLaren Vale and

Greenock in the Barossa."

Wine & Spirit, Simon Woods, March 2007

5 Stars

"Made by the talented Ben Glaetzer, this red packs 14.5 per cent alcohol, but shows

excellent fresh fruit characters and balance. It has red currant and gumleaf aromas and brings sweet, bold blackberry flavour to the front of the palate. Mint, Turkish delight and dark chocolate characters meld with coconutty oak on the middle palate and persistent berry fruit and smooth flinty tannins combine at the finish."

Newcastle Herald, June 2007

"Impenetrable purple in colour. Rich dark nose showing the dusty dried fruit characters the enrich the nose. The palate is rich full an alcoholic with sweet fruit and chocolate characters. Full back palate before a rich long finish. A rich tasting young wine that would be confronting to many due to the style of the wine. Be aware of this and you'll see quality characters."

Murray Almond, www.vinosense.com, March 2007

"Sweet fruit aromas reveal the effects of air-drying the grapes for up to two months before crushing; giving a distinctive ripe tannin structure to this Ben Glaetzer made beauty, with touches of raisiny flavour and quite a rich finish. Three other shiraz releases also show muscle."

The Advertiser, Tony Love, 18th April 2007

Vineyard Region: McLaren Vale

MITOLO



96 points

"Full red-purple: uncompromising varietal character which speaks louder (for once) than the region: savoury blackcurrant and earth fruit, with unexpected elegance.

Australian Wine Companion, James Halliday, April 2007.

8.9/10

"Among hefty company this held it's own and offered some suitable wow factor for first timers and even more wow because of the price."

Max Crus, September 2007

94/100

This is incredible stuff. Smooth, sweet blackcurrant fruit nose is fresh and expressive with a sappy edge. The palate is soft and smooth with lovely texture and a spicy, gravelly undercurrent to the fruit.

Jamie Goode, wineanorak.com, April 2008.