



THE VINEYARD ♦ These grapes were grown inside the original 1868 parcel of ToKalon Vineyard nestled in the greater Oakville AVA. The soils are gravelly Bale Clay Loam. It is 100% Clone 8 Cabernet on 110R rootstock. Pedigree is the word that comes to mind with this area of Oakville, the “First Growth” vineyard of Napa.

GROWING SEASON ♦ The 2017 growing season is the hottest on record and had been focused on heat spikes but was soon punctuated by a literal firestorm. The late winter brought flooding conditions, filling the soil profile and sending budbreak off to a galloping start- the drought is over! Things switched abruptly in June when we started breaking 100° F- 11 times- fortunately it always cooled back down at night. We picked these grapes on October 6th narrowly avoiding the calamity which was to strike two days later.

VINIFICATION ♦ Fruit was hand harvested and destemmed in a Pellanc Selectiv’ Process, allowing for whole berry fermentation. After a 7 day cold soak (while roads were closed and power was out: a “hibernation”) we added D254 yeast. We pressed the wine after an extended maceration. It completed native malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels over several months.

TASTING NOTES ♦ This wine explodes from the glass with a mix of dark cherry pie and oak-aged blackberry syrup. The palate has mouthwatering cocoa and floral notes, and a remarkably smooth finish. Label by: Dust Cloud Design

APPELLATION Napa Valley, Oakville AVA

MATURATION 50% New French Taransaud Barrels

HARVEST DATE 10/06/2017 **BOTTLING DATE** 5/21/2019

AGING 19 months **ALCOHOL** 15.25% **PH** 3.69 **TA** 5.8 g/L **RS** 0.1 g/L

PRODUCTION 122 cases (750 mL) **SUGGESTED RETAIL** \$85

BENJAMIN LEACHMAN ♦ WINEGROWER

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