

# STOLPMAN VINEYARDS

BALLARD CANYON

## RUBEN'S BLOCK 2016

### TECH

#### VINEYARD COMPONENTS

The Tee-Pee Block : 6,000 own-rooted,  
head-trained Syrah vines

#### VARIETAL BLEND

100% Syrah

#### VINIFICATION

67% whole-cluster

#### FINAL ANALYSIS

alcohol: 14.1%

#### VATTING/FERMENTATION

Native fermentation in Concrete

#### COOPERAGES & ELEVAGE

Neutral 500L French Ermitage Puncheon,  
28 months

#### RELEASE DATE

April 2019

#### HARVEST DATE

2016

#### TOTAL PRODUCTION

140 cases

### NOTES

#### BACKGROUND

Grape Whisperer Ruben Solorzano planted his block in 2006 amidst much fanfare and conjecture. Bottom line: 6,000 Syrah vines crammed on one beautiful cliff-side, dangling above Ballard Creek. Ruben farms his block without tractors or other modern-day conveniences. Each vine yields just two tiny, concentrated Syrah clusters – what we call – Ruben's Block.

#### VINTAGE

The mellow 2016 vintage gave us the luxury of strategy and planning. We pounced on a beautiful full-moon to hand-harvest Ruben's Block. Our most prized fruit, we then sorted every cluster, the yellowing stems stayed intact while the green stems were separated from their precious, tiny grapes. No doubt, 2016 is the best vintage of Ruben's Block yet.

#### SENSORY

A revelatory wine. Remove the cork, decant, and be one with this wine through an evening. Adjectives fall short to describe the evolution of rich layers and coating, decadent dark fruits. Even at our most hedonistic, there is still a youthful spark of pure Stolpman. A wine for the truly self-actualized connoisseur.