

Stolpman

SUN & EARTH

40% Syrah, 40% Grenache & 20% Mourvèdre
180 cases produced



A Stolpman & Solorzano Legacy

In 2014, we partnered with legendary viticulturalist, Ruben Solorzano to select grapes from his top vineyards and make the Santa Barbara County red blend, Para Maria. While Para Maria has always delivered many weight-classes above its bottle cost, we knew that Ruben yearned to create his own Estate and make a world class wine, sparing no expense. In 2016, the Stolpman's gave Ruben and Maria the 4 acre parcel above their home on the Ballard Canyon Estate to do just that.

Ruben own-rooted Grenache, Mourvèdre, and Syrah vines at the extremely high density of 6,000 vines/acre to limit the yield per vine and heighten concentration. All work must be done by hand without the space for mechanization.

The wine is created in the vineyard as Ruben is hyper-focused on training each different varietal to ripen together to allow for co-fermenting. The flavor profiles marry while still grape juice and transform into one seamless wine. Ruben selects only his favorite sub-lots to classify as Sun+Earth, often with only 10-12% of the wine making the cut.

Sun+Earth is the English translation of Maria and Ruben's surname, Solorzano.

Healthy late season rains pushed back bud-break and the growing season by 3-4 weeks. We escaped the summer without any extreme heat events that would have accelerated ripening. This moderate weather led to even, slow sugar accumulation. October weather warmed up and pushed the vines through the finish line for a smooth, seamless, and plush vintage that still carries plenty of bright energy.

The perfect growing conditions of 2023 bring the Sun + Earth cuvee to a new pinnacle. The wine has astounding tactile density. The oozy, goeey palate is framed by a tarry chocolate crust. Floating above the sheer volume and viscosity, pretty notes of purple sage flowers, red apple, to hints of sweet tobacco and a most delicate anise note. With just moments of air, a red beam of strawberry malt appears above the dark, oceanic depth. A silky, velvet tannin brings the surging vortex of mouth-filling yum to a succinct finish.

Vintage 2023

Region Stolpman Estate
Vineyard, Ballard Canyon AVA

Components Ruben and
Maria's 4-acre Estate within
Stolpman Vineyards

Farming CCOF Organic
Certified & Demeter Biodynam-
ic Certified

Harvest Date Co-Ferment of
Grenache and Syrah on
October 23, Mourvèdre on
November 1

Vinification Syrah 30% whole
cluster, Mourvèdre and
Grenache de-stemmed

Vatting/Fermentation Open
top concrete fermenting tanks

Cooperage & Elevage Neutral
500L French Oak Ermitage Mt.
La Vache Puncheon

14% Alc by Vol