

GEO

2012 GEO CABERNET SAUVIGNON

MT. GEORGE VINEYARD, COOMBSVILLE, NAPA VALLEY

Silverado Vineyards' Mount George vineyard was the first planted to vinifera in the Coombsville AVA. Under the care of pioneering Napa vintner, Henry Hagen, the vineyard known then as Cedar Knoll established its reputation in the 1880's as a source for fine red wines, winning a silver medal at the 1889 Paris International Exposition. Here, the classic Claret varieties thrive on the deep, gravelly down-slopes of the ancient volcano whose name the vineyard now bears.

In 1987, Silverado Vineyards founders, Ron and Diane Disney Miller, purchased a significant portion of the historic Cedar Knoll site as part of the winery's journey toward its now exclusively estate-grown model. Over the years, their Mount George ranch has proven to be a contributor to Silverado's Estate and Limited Cabernet blends, and is the sole origin of the estate's single-vineyard Merlot.

As the 20th anniversary of Silverado's first Mount George harvest approached in 2012, the decision was made to make a wine for the occasion. It is called GEO – Greek for "Earth" and short for "George" - and it represents the highest expression of single-vineyard Cabernet from this extraordinary place.

WINEMAKER'S THOUGHTS

"The 2012 vintage was pure joy. The growing season was moderate with spring and summer being warm, but not challenged with heat spikes. The vines looked full and balanced which fooled most growers and winemakers. As soon as we started to pick, we realized this was going to be a monumentally large harvest. With the continuing moderate weather, we let the fruit mature at an even pace.

After the first few pump-overs of fresh wine, we knew that this was going to be a special vintage. The fruit was not overripe, but entirely mature: skins, seeds and pulp. This resulted in a wine that is dark in color, round and powerful. It has bright berry and herb aromas, dense mid palette with good structure and a long finish that encapsulates the essence of barrel and delicious blue and red fruit."

-Jon Emmerich, Winemaker

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

BLEND: 98% Cabernet Sauvignon
2% Cabernet Franc

ANALYSIS: 14.9% Alc.
5.79 g/L TA
3.64 pH

VINEYARDS: 100% Mt. George Vineyard, Coombsville

AGING: Average 21 days of maceration
17 months barrel-aged, 45% New, 75% French, 25% American
Overall blend – 89% French oak, 11% American

HARVEST: October 8th and 21st, 2012

