

## **Wine:** 2005 Michael Black Merlot, Napa Valley

Harvest: Hand-picked in late early October, 2005

Appellation: Coombsville area of Napa Valley

Varietal Composition: 97.5% Merlot; 2.5% Cabernet Sauvignon

Brix at Harvest: 26.2 Brix
PH: 3.48 pH
Total Acidity: 6.8 g/L

Crush: 100% whole berries

Pre-fermentation: 4 day cold soak at 50 degrees F

Fermentation: 14 days primary, malo-lactic fermentation in barrel

Peak Temperature: 93-94 degrees F

Pressing: 10 days after the onset of fermentation

Aging: 22 months in barrel

Oak: 100% French oak, 45% new for the vintage consisting of Allier,

Troncais and Center of France Forests, both medium and medium

plus toast

Bottled: August 13, 2007

Produced: 480 cases, 750 ml, plus 6 each, 6-bottle, 1.5L, cases produced

Release Date: March 1, 2008

## Winemaker's Notes:

Rich cassis, dusty berry and black cherry aromas are evident in the nose, with warm and exotic floral scents of dried rose petals and hibiscus flowers. Enticing cedary-spice notes with vanillin and hints of black olive lead to a very concentrated, black cherry and berry flavor in the mouth. The supple tannins and complex layers of richness unwind slowly as ripe, black fruit flavors burst across the palate. The textural impression is very sensual and succulent, and the intensity builds in a powerful finish of fruit purity and mineral nuances.

## Finished Wine Statistics:

Alcohol: 14.6% pH: 3.58 pH TA: 5.7 g/L