



Orin Swift

A kaleidoscopic blend of California's boldest reds, Abstract 2022 captures the essence of Orin Swift's creativity - complex, layered, and unapologetically hedonistic.

Abstract Red 2021

California, USA

O R I N S W I F T

Region and Vineyards

Abstract is a testament to **California's viticultural diversity**, bringing together grapes from premier vineyards across the state. While specific vineyard names are not disclosed, the wine consistently draws from varied terroirs spanning **Napa Valley, Sonoma, Mendocino, and the Sierra Foothills**. These regions are chosen for their unique contributions—elevation, soil composition, and microclimate—which, when blended, result in a wine of remarkable character.

The **Grenache** provides lift and ripe red fruit tones, often sourced from sites with warm days and cool nights to preserve acidity and aromatic integrity. **Petite Sirah** contributes depth, inky color, and firm tannins, while **Syrah** introduces spice, dark fruit, and savory layers. The diversity of sites allows for a patchwork of complexity, with each vineyard component vinified separately and selected through rigorous tasting and blending trials. The final composition reflects both precision and artistic instinct.

Winemaking

Abstract 2022 is composed of a proprietary blend dominated by **Grenache**, supported by **Petite Sirah and Syrah**. Each varietal is fermented separately to preserve its identity before being assembled into the final blend. Winemaking focuses on bold extraction and texture, tailored to highlight the wine's richness and vibrancy.

The wine is aged for **eight months in French oak barrels**, of which **31% is new**, adding notes of spice, toast, and supple integration. Bottled at **15.3% alcohol**, Abstract retains balance through juicy acidity and a layered structure. Dave Phinney's signature style—concentrated, polished, and expressive—is evident from the first sip to the lingering finish.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep purple core with an electric ruby rim, vivid and glass-staining.
- **Aroma:** Intense notes of ripe black plum, cocoa, black pepper, cedar, dried porcini mushrooms, and forest floor musk, wrapped in sweet oak spice.
- **Palate:** Mouthcoating and opulent, offering blueberry preserves, tarragon, balsamic glaze, and a hint of anise. Bright acidity and a plush texture carry the wine through to a savory, umami-laced finish reminiscent of eggplant yakitori.

92
Decanter



Alcohol :15,30 %

Composition: 44% Syrah, 29%
Petite Syrah, 17% Grenache



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Did you know?

The label of Abstract is a physical collage created by winemaker Dave Phinney himself—assembled over four weeks using magazine clippings collected over years. Each image is a fragment of a greater whole, much like the wine itself: hundreds of individually vinified lots meticulously blended into one harmonious expression.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Barbecue-glazed short ribs:** Rich and smoky flavors mirror the wine's depth and spice.
- **Lamb tagine with dried fruits and spices:** Complements the wine's aromatic complexity and plush fruit core.
- **Grilled eggplant with miso glaze:** Echoes the wine's umami finish and earthy undertones.
- **Dark chocolate mole enchiladas:** A daring but rewarding pairing for the wine's boldness and sweet-savory tension.



Decanter (DCT) : 92 Points (2021)

Black cherry and kirsch, with pronounced oak, vanilla and chocolate notes. Broad and mouthfilling, with a deep concentration of blueberry fruit, black currant, vanilla and mocha. Grippy, angular tannins resolve with good acidity and a lengthy finish of earth, chocolate and cedar. This label was first introduced after the Prisoner sale, having debuted in 2009. 'With over 75,000 square miles of California represented in this blend, it is a true amalgamation,' says Dave Phinney. The blend for Abstract begins with Grenache, and then they weave in Syrah and Petite Sirah, but the combination and blend differ from year to year.



Robert Parker (RP) : 90 Points (2021)

Perhaps it is inevitable in a blended red that includes Petite Sirah, Grenache and Syrah, but the nose of the 2021 Proprietary Red Abstract is a bit generic, with decent fruit represented by a mix of berries and cherries. Sourced from areas as diverse as Sonoma, Napa and Lodi, it's full-bodied and softly tannic, with an herbal nuance and a hint of dark chocolate on the gently dusty finish. Best After 2023



Wine Spectator (WS) : 91 Points (2020)

This blend offers a potpourri of hearty aromas and flavors, with black raspberry and cherry flavors accented by smoked pepper, orange peel and black olive notes that finish with medium-grained tannins. Syrah, Petite Sirah, Grenache, Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Tempranillo and Malbec. Drink now through 2030. (TF)

