2010 COLLABORATION SERIES IV

Blend: 75% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot
Cooperage: 50% New French and American Oak, 50% Used French and American Oak
Winemaker: Carolyn Lakewold
Viticulture: Force Majeure
Vineyard: Ciel du Cheval
Alcohol: 13.8%
Cases Produced: 200
Retail Price: $58.00/btl
Wholesale: $40.60/btl
Allocation Level: 10 Cases

The 2010 Collaboration Series IV is a Merlot-dominant Bordeaux-styled blend made by winemaker Carolyn Lakewold from some of the oldest and most treasured Merlot vines at Ciel du Cheval. Using only 100% free-run juice Carolyn crafts a wine that is rich and complex, balancing European stylistic influences and Red Mountain character. “The 2010 Collaboration Series IV is a Merlot-dominated blend that’s made by Carolyn Lakewold of Donedei Wines. The stated goal with this cuvée is to straddle the line between old-world and New World in style, and while I’m not sure how close they got to that mark, I can say that it’s certainly a beautiful wine. Possessing an inky purple color as well as an up-front, intense bouquet of black and blue fruits, violets, licorice, leather and liquid flowers, it flows onto the palate with a full-bodied, hedonistically styled texture that carries solid freshness and plenty of framing tannin that emerges on the finish...a plush, downright sexy effort that’s hard to resist. It should have over a decade of evolution. Drink now-2023. 94 pts – JD Wine Advocate

2011 COLLABORATION SERIES VI

Blend: 47% Mourvèdre, 42% Syrah, 11% Grenache
Cooperage: Concrete fermentation, 500 L. French oak puncheon
Winemaker: James Mantone
Viticulture: Force Majeure
Vineyard: Ciel du Cheval
Alcohol: 14.7%
Cases Produced: 280
Retail Price: $50.00/btl
Wholesale: $35.00/btl
Allocation Level: 15 Cases

Our Southern Rhone-style blend in the Collaboration Series lineup. “The 2011 Collaboration Series VI is the estate’s southern Rhone styled blend and is made by James Mantone of Syncline. A Mourvedre-dominated blend, with additional components of Syrah and Grenache, that’s all aged in concrete and neutral 500Liter puncheons, it is a thrilling effort that offers up sweet kirsch, blackberry, bramble, pepper and subtle violet-like floral qualities as well as a full-bodied, seamless and deftly textured palate. The fruit really shines here and possesses classic Southern Rhone-like aromas and flavors. It should be reasonably approachable on release and shine for 8-10 years, if not longer. Drink now-2021. (94-96+ pts.)” -JD Wine Advocate