

What's New...Beer, Wine & Spirits

Week of 5/19/08

BEERS

Domestic

OMMEGANG Witte

New York

High, white, fluffy summer clouds. A soft breeze through a citrus grove. A heavenly bite of orange chiffon cake. All of these come to your mind as you lift our pale golden wheat ale to your lips. It's so soft, so *light* on your tongue, you think, as the tart lemon, bitter orange, and subtle spiciness of coriander arrive to round out the intriguing delicacy of this delicious ale. You smile, knowing there are five more of them in the fridge.

Crafted for summer session drinking, is a traditional white ale, or witbier; pale in color, with a high, white frothy head and refreshing flavors of orange, lemon, coriander, and wheat. Witte is also Brewery Ommegang's first ale to be offered on draft.

DARK HORSE 'The Guy Off The Scale' Barley Wine

Michigan

A barley wine style ale brewed to 15% alc with hints of raisin, chocolate, carmel, sherry, cherry, and alcohol, just to name a few and this beer will only get better with age. Bronze Medal Winner 2007 Great American Beer Festival!

DARK HORSE Sapient Trip Ale

Michigan

Seasonal

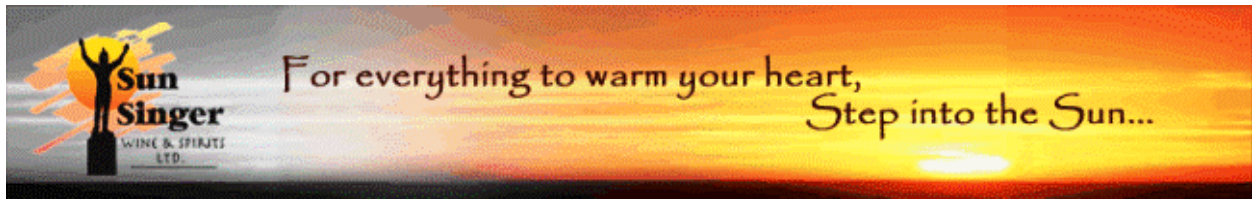
Why is the Grim Reaper holding a mailbox? Well, that mailbox is from a dead Dark Horse beer. The Grim Reaper better know as "Death" was quite found of our classic Sapient Summer Wheat Ale. When we changed it into a Belgian Style Triple, Death thought it would only be appropriate to bring something from that beer into this beer. So he picked the mailbox, and we weren't about to argue with him. You can say what you want about him, but that Death sure has a big heart. So anyway...we brewed this beer with a Trappist yeast strain so it is very traditional. The flavors are incredibly complex with notes of mild fruit and finishes with a bit of clove. Although this beer is higher in alcohol it is very smooth and finishes dry on the pallet.

Imported

ALTENMUNSTER Maibock

Germany

Altenmunster Mai Bock pours a beautiful golden color. It's sweet fruity flavors are highly enjoyable. All nicely mixed together. Malty, full-flavored and very drinkable.



WINES

United States

FOXGLOVE Chardonnay 2007

San Luis Obispo County, CA

Winemaker Bob Varner makes Foxglove in a modern style that's meant to bring out the true terroir of an appellation (Edna Valley in Chardonnay and Paso Robles in Cabernet Sauvignon). He adds the same quality standards and attention to detail for Foxglove that he puts into every barrel of single vineyard Varner wine. Reminiscent of a pure, but rich Chablis, the wine forgoes malolactic fermentation, leaving it packed with natural acidity.

3 RIVERS Chardonnay 2006

Columbia Valley, WA

The 2006 Chardonnay combines fruit from around the Columbia Valley. Blending allows us to grab unique nuances from around our growing region and bring them together in one exemplary wine. Pineapple and cardamom aromas lead to more tropical flavors. Gentle stirring of the lees, oak barrel aging for 10 months and malolactic fermentation all contribute to the round mouthfeel and smooth finish.

SEVEN HILLS Merlot 2006

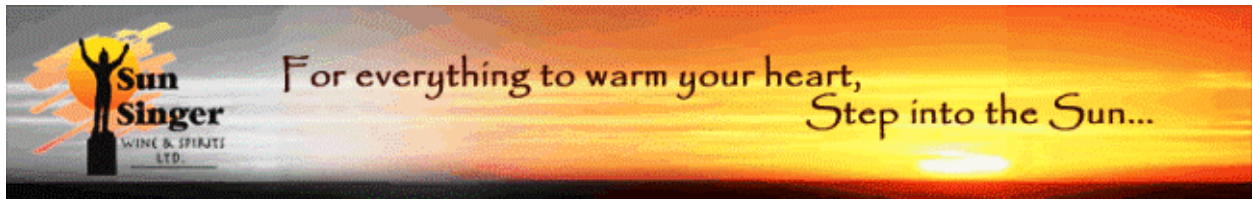
Columbia Valley, WA

Blended from several vineyards within the Columbia Valley. 2006 was a moderately warm vintage of dry, sun-filled days, with extended hang time. Yields were about average. The grapes were hand-picked under ideal harvest weather. This wine shows the balance and lush character of the 2006 vintage, and is very accessible upon release. Gentle tannins and broad, full Merlot fruit flavor is complemented by Cabernet Franc, adding softness and complexity, and a light note of violets. The aroma is of ripe plum and blackberry, enhanced by sweet oak tones of toffee and spice.

SEVEN HILLS Cabernet 2005

Columbia Valley, WA

The vintage was moderately warm, and dry with average crop levels leading to expressive flavors and ripe tannins. The wine shows a lively perfume of ripe red berry and exotic spice dances around dried herb and almond notes. Generous sweet fruit by mouth, showing red plum and raspberry with a hint of rhubarb at this young stage. Moderate acidity, an approachable texture, and a pleasing, lengthy warm finish support the food-compatible sensory profile. This wine will benefit from medium to long-term aging, gaining additional integration and flavor development over two to eight years. Historically these wines show well for a decade or more. A collectable, limited bottling from one of the most highly regarded Northwest vineyards that will not disappoint in the cellar.



France

GUSTAVE LORENTZ Pinot Blanc 2007

Alsace

With a pleasant and delicate bouquet it is deliciously supple in the mouth. Easy to drink and versatile, it beautifully accompanying starters, fish, shellfish and white meat. To be drunk very young and chilled, PINOT BLANC can also be kept for 4 to 5 years in the best vintages.

LA BASTIDE SAINT DOMINIQUE Cotes-du-Rhone 2005

Rhone Valley

The Wine Spectator calls La Bastide Saint Dominique a "winery to watch". Made by Eric Bonnet this wine has a perfume of violets, roses and pepper with a lush body. A silky elegant style Cotes du Rhone. 90% Grenache 10% Syrah

Chile

NATURA Sauvignon Blanc 2007

Casablanca Valley

Made with Organically Grown Grapes

This world-class Sauvignon Blanc shows a light greenish color, with fresh aromas of white fruit and citrus with a mineral note.

New Zealand

HUNTER'S Sauvignon Blanc 2007

Wairau Valley, Marlborough

This classic Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc shows a blend gooseberry, lemon and ripe tropical fruits on the nose. The full multi layered palate of herbaceous flavors and stonefruit are well balanced by the fruits natural crisp acidity.

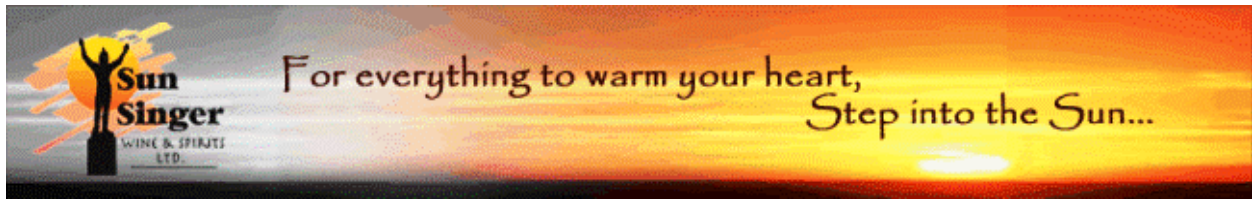
Australia

OXFORD LANDING Shiraz 2006

South Australia

Fruit parcels were selected in the vineyard on the basis of their flavor and tannin structure. Many of the parcels were sourced from older, lower yielding Shiraz blocks at Oxford Landing and our growers' vineyards in the surrounding area. These parcels were then fermented in a combination of static fermenters and roto-fermenters to ensure maximum extraction of varietal fruit flavors and tannins.

The result is a deep purple red wine with touches of ruby. Lifted dark berry and plum fruit aromas dominate the nose with hints of chocolate and anise. The palate is smooth and even with generous fruit flavors of licorice, raspberry and allspice. Soft tannins and berry fruit persistence lead to a long, slightly savory finish.



SPIRITS

NORTH SHORE 'Sirene' Absinthe Verde

Illinois

Like the sirens of Greek mythology, Sirène will tempt you. With a beautiful, nuanced aroma and flavor, Sirène embodies the rich tradition and history of absinthe.

Creating Sirène

We take a fairly traditional approach to creating Sirène. We use the traditional trinity of absinthe ingredients along with a proprietary blend of additional herbs and spices to create Sirène's richness and complexity. The process requires a significant amount of time, preparation and botanicals, but the result is worth the effort.

Absinthe Culture

Much more than just an interesting spirit, fascinating rituals and culture revolve around consuming absinthe. It has always been a social drink. Think of having a cup of coffee at the neighborhood coffee shop, a glass of wine at an outdoor café, or sharing a hookah at a Middle Eastern restaurant. Absinthe is best enjoyed while casually sitting with friends, enjoying the company and conversation - slow down for a few minutes and have the experience. In today's world, none of us take enough time for ourselves or to really enjoy the moment.

Enjoying Sirène Absinthe

Absinthe is traditionally enjoyed in a drip. Being avid mixologists, we have some fun and savory cocktail recipes with it as well.

STONE'S Original Ginger

England

Stone's Original Green Ginger Wine is still made to the same recipe by blending the finest quality raisins and pure ground ginger and is enjoyed in so many ways by millions of consumers each year.

Many enjoy Stone's on its own or over ice, but it is most famously drunk as a 'Whisky Mac' when mixed with whisky. The warmth of Stone's is a perfect complement to the smooth taste of the whisky. This perennial 'Winter Warmer' is the perfect way to relax on the long dark evenings.

Displaying its versatility, at the other extreme, Stone's creates the perfect summer cooler as a long drink combined with lemonade or other mixers such as ginger ale.