

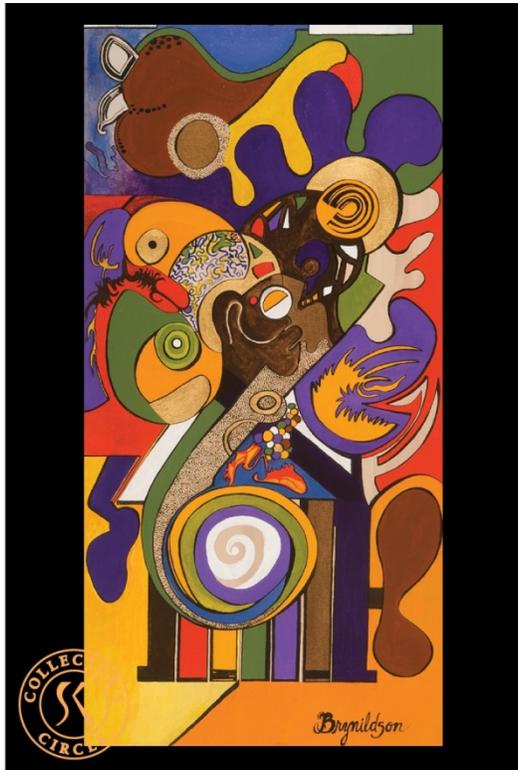


THE STEVEN KENT WINERY

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## 2012 "WHISPERS" RED BLEND LIVERMORE VALLEY



### ARTIST

"Whispers" is an original painting by local artist Shauna Brynildson and was purchased by our very own Catie Neilson who suggested it as a label for the Collector's Circle series. Shauna is known for creating multimedia and acrylic pieces that draw viewers into a moment of time or ignite a person's spirit to connect with some facet of life. Whispers often depict an intimate form of communication in various relationships. Are the intentions for pleasure, purpose, malice, revenge, empathetic overture or sentimental encouragement? Colorful integration fuses with endless boundaries - to be kept or crossed? What do the "Whispers" speak to you? To learn more about Shauna and her art visit [www.trivalleyartworks.com](http://www.trivalleyartworks.com).

### HARVEST NOTES

2012 put to end a string of three vintages of below-average temperatures in the Livermore Valley. The harvest months of September – November saw mild temperatures, and outside of about .4" of rain spread out over the middle two weeks of October, fruit came in under near-perfect conditions. Our last day of harvest was November 8th, two days ahead of the previous year.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Whispers is a blend of Grenache, Mourvèdre, and Petite Sirah (40% each of the first two grapes, and 20% of the last). The fruit for this wine was harvested from the Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard in the eastern foothills of the Livermore Valley and the Raboli Ranch situated just south of our Tasting Room. Fermented in 1.7 ton open-top fermenters, the wine was aged in 40-50% new French oak barrels for 18-20 months. Each wine was vinified separately then blended together several months before bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

This wine shows forward fruit aromas of wild strawberry and dried black cherry (consistent with Grenache and Mourvèdre respectively). On entry, the vibrant flavors of Grenache show through, and as the wine winds through the mid-palate it takes on more weight and darker fruit tones. It finishes with nice length and a tannin profile that recommends early drinking. Made exclusively for members of our Collector's Circle, Whispers will pair beautifully with lighter fare. Put a little chill on it for a perfect picnic wine with BBQ chicken.

### VINEYARD SOURCE(S)

Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard, Block 7 (Grenache), Block 12 (Petite Sirah) – eastern foothills Livermore Valley. Raboli Ranch (Mourvedre) – center of appellation Livermore Valley.

### HARVEST DATA

October 20-30, 2012 | pH 3.59 | TA .61 | Alcohol 13.4%

### FERMENTATION

Cold soaked for 5-7 days, individual fermenters inoculated with D254, GRE, and BRL97 yeast strains. Extended maceration of 7 days followed primary fermentation.

### COOPERAGE

Aged for 20 months in 45% new French and American oak barrels. Primary cooperages were Le Grand, Canton, and Radoux.

### CASES PRODUCED

121 cases

### RELEASE DATE

May 3, 2014