

# 2011 HERITAGE BLEND Napa Valley

#### THE BLEND

37% Charbono 29% Zinfandel 26% Petite sirah 8% Carignane

# PRODUCTION

290 cases

### RELEASE DATE

September 2013

# $S \, \mathsf{TATISTICS}$

harvested —
September 22 - October 3
22.2° brix at harvest
13.3% alcohol
6.1 gr/L total acidity
3.60 pH
aged 12 months in French oak

# WINEMAKERS

John Williams Paula Moschetti

## A BRIEF HISTORY

When in 2007, Frog's Leap purchased the historic Rossi Ranch on Rutherford's western bench amongst the 52 acres of vineyards were some older vines of varieties rarely if ever planted in the modern Napa Valley. These vines (and the pre-Prohibition winery on the property) were a direct link to our heritage and a profound reminder of the responsibility we have as stewards of the land. We quickly decided to retain as many of these vines as was possible and more importantly to add to them—in honor of the Rossi Family who had live and farmed here for 99 years. When the project is complete the entire acreage in front of and around the iconic water tower and old cellar will be planted to heritage varietals, grapes that were popular here a century ago. The most interesting wines in the world tell a story. The story of this wine is the celebration of the history we share with all those who went before us and worked so hard to keep the Napa Valley an agricultural paradise.

The most interesting wines in the world tell a story. The story of this wine is the celebration of the history we share with all those who went before us and worked so hard to keep the Napa Valley an agricultural paradise.

# ABOUT THE WINE

Our first vintage of Heritage Blend celebrates some familiar Frog favorites: Zinfandel Petite sirah and Carignane. But, what is new and exciting is the 37% of Charbono, an ancient variety from the Savoie region of France, all but extinct there now. Although once very popular, today there is very little—less than 100 acres—of Charbono left here in the Napa Valley. If you have had the rare privilege of tasting an Inglenook Charbono from the 1950's or 1960's, you can understand why it was the first new planting we made at the Rossi vineyard. We look forward to future Heritage Blends to include other varieties like Valdeguie, Mataro, Mondeuse, Grenache and even perhaps some old vine Riesling. The important quality of these blends will not be the exact percentages of the varieties but rather the interplay of these old friends, all of whom share the common history of being here before, during and after Prohibition.

The 2011 blend has beautiful blueberry and mocha notes and a long silky finish with plenty of tang. We're thinking roast chicken and a glass of Heritage on a chilly November night.