

# 2016 SAUVIGNON BLANC Rachel Rossi Reserve Rutherford Napa Valley

## THE BLEND

100% Sauvignon blanc

# VINEYARD

100% Rossi Ranch - *old cane block* 100% Rutherford

# RELEASE DATE

March 2019

#### STATISTICS

harvested — August 10
21.4° brix at harvest
12.9% alcohol
6.0 g/L total acidity
3.25 pH
fermented and aged in
concrete egg

#### WINEMAKERS

John Williams Paula Moschetti Rory Williams

# VINEYARDIST

Frank Leeds

## A BRIEF HISTORY

The Rossi Family lived and farmed at what is now known as the Rossi Ranch from 1907 until 2007. It was on this property that they established California's Bonded Winery #934 in 1908. When Fred Rossi passed in 1922, Rachel Rossi, his wife and matriarch of the family took the reins. Along with her three children, Rachel kept the farm prosperous through Prohibition and the Great Depression until her death in 1958. For the next 40-plus years, the Rossi children carried on the tradition and in the later years developed a special relationship with Frog's Leap. In 2007, with the passing of the last remaining Rossi sibling, Louise, Frog's Leap was fortunate to acquired this historic 52 acres on the Rutherford Bench and had already decided that someday we would make a special wine honoring this strong and powerful woman.

The Rachel Rossi Reserve block of Sauvignon blanc lies in the morning shadow of the Rossi Ranch's iconic water tower. These vines were planted in 1981(the year Frog's Leap was founded) on the finest Pleasanton gravelly loam available on the famed Rutherford Bench. Organically certified and dry farmed for nearly forty years, the vines are now fully mature and extremely deep-rooted bringing superb balance with extraordinarily complex flavors to the fruit.

An immigrant from Italy, Rachel Rossi demonstrated that remarkable pioneering spirit that laid the foundation of the modern Napa Valley wine industry.

## ABOUT THE WINE

The Rachel Rossi Reserve Sauvignon Blanc may challenge you at first. This is a wine with an exceptionally deep connection to its soil and a powerful perfume in its purity. A second inhale will greet you like a long lost friend: rich apricot and freshly wetted stone aromas meet seamless flavors, superb balance and a flawless finish that speaks to its breeding. A wine to enjoy with complex food for many years to come. This wine is a reserve in the most meaningful use of the term: vines reserved for a long life even as their productivity wanes, a wine reserved for the complete aging cycle on its lees yielding unique and profound flavors and, lastly, a wine reserved for extended aging in the bottle to reach its fullest potential. Indeed, what "Reserve" is supposed to mean. Enjoy.