

TASTING NOTES

BRAND OVERVIEW

LIOCO (pronounced lee-oko) is a dynamic "virtual winery" committed to site-driven wines. It is the result of a years-long-conversation between Matt Licklider, (a seasoned wine import specialist) and Kevin O'Connor (wine director at the esteemed Spago-Beverly Hills) about whether or not California could produce wines of origin.

VINIFICATION

Invoking "traditional" Chablisien winemaking, this wine was fermented with a wild yeast in 100% stainless steel (no oak). A naturally-occurring malo finished completely. The wine rested on its fine lees (no batonnage) until bottling, which was done without fining or filtering.

VITICULTURE

This wine was grown from the ground up. This is not a bulk wine. Three vineyards were chosen expressly for this production of the wine—vineyards that possessed one common feature: "creekbed soil." We believe this soil type, found in the Russian River Valley, Chalk Hill, Dry Creek and the southern Alexander Valley appellations, contributes a chalky minerality that distinguishes Sonoma County Chardonnay.

NOTES

In Burgundy, it is common to see four tiers of wine from a domaine: Grand Cru, 1er Cru, Village, and Bourgogne. While much of what LIOCO does is from single vineyards, we wanted to put forward a wine for all occasions and do so without compromising (1) how the fruit was grown or (2) handled in the winery. This wine embodies that vision. It is our version of Bourgogne Blanc. The goal of the wine is the capture the essence of Sonoma County Chardonnay, that is: full, rich flavored Chardonnay balanced by brisk acidity and a hint of something mineral. This wine, unencumbered by oak gives a clear translation of both varietal Chardonnay flavors (lemon oil, citrus blossom) and vineyard aspect (chalk, mineral).

DETAILS

Winemaker: Kevin Kelley
Production: 2642 cases
PH: 3.65
TA: 6.3 g/l
Brix: 24.1 degrees
RS: 0.07 g/l
Alcohol: 14.2%
Yeast: wild
Yield: 4T/acre
Clones: Wente, Clone 4, and Upper Barn
Harvest dates: 9/28 & 10/3
Bottling date: 5/23/07

