



THE DUELING LION AND BULL is a symbol of harmony and seasonal transition during the Persian New Year, No Ruz, the representation of two powerful and opposing forces as they embrace as one on the vernal equinox each spring. Nature's grace and brute in accord with one another. An apt metaphor for the duality expressed here between Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz.

DUEL DISTINCTION

Grown in two designated blocks on the Darioush estate in Napa Valley and Oak Knoll, Duel is the idyllic marriage of two distinguished varietals: Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz. The finished wine offers unique attributes of both varietals; a rich chocolate core and earthy minerality is lent by Cabernet Sauvignon, while Shiraz reveals its inherent exotic spice and ripe red fruit. Approachable in its youth, Duel will continue to age superbly for several years.

TASTING NOTES

Fragrant aromas of rich blackberry, cocoa powder and rhubarb complement the robust yet supple core of bittersweet chocolate, French roast coffee and raspberry compote. Hints of graphite reveal a fine, lingering finish of baking spices, vanilla and sandalwood.

VINTAGE	2007
COMPOSITION	60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Shiraz
COOPERAGE	Aged 20 months in 50% new <i>François Frères</i> and <i>Damy</i> French oak barrels from Tronçais
WINEMAKER	Steve Devitt
AVAILABILITY	2,094 cases
RELEASE PRICE	\$48.00

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ROBERT PARKER | RATED 91

“...the 2007 Duel reveals a slightly deeper ruby/purple color in addition to more blueberry, blackberry and forest floor aromas. The wine is medium to full-bodied, richer and more opulent than the 2006...very pure with burgeoning complexity as well as lots of character/personality, it, too, should drink well for 7-8 years.”

