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**BIRD ON A WIRE**

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## **Bird on a Wire**

### **2015 Syrah**

**Winemaker:** Caroline Mooney **Grape(s):** Syrah

**GI:** Yarra Valley **Site(s):** Single Vineyard in Yarra Glen

**Vintage notes:** Vintage 2015 was a great harvest for the Yarra Valley: a great winter in terms of rain and temperatures, a timely budburst, a warm Spring that was perfect for flowering, and a cooler end of summer to slow ripening. A classic vintage.

**Vineyard notes:** The site is in the northern end of the Yarra Valley, sitting in between Yarra Glen and Dixons Creek, and was planted in 1998. The soil in this vineyard is sandy loam over clay & gravel over mudstone and is crucial to the texture and tannin structure on the wine. This combined with the steep slope makes it a superb shiraz sight. Slightly lighter soils to the BOAW marsanne block (which faces the syrah), balancing out this cooler aspect. A site which proves itself year on year, Caroline has been working with this vineyard for more than 10 years.

**Winemaking:** Hand-picked, with several different ferments. The first, 10% whole bunches retained. Saturated with CO<sub>2</sub>, and sealed and over the week, the fruit breaks down to release more sugar to the yeast. Plunged by hand and foot and remaining on skins for two weeks. The second was a 50% whole bunch crush, left intact but foot stomped to break down the fruit. Pump overs and plunging to balance out the ferment, remaining on skins for 17 days. Third, 20% whole berry – fruit destemmed but not crushed to keep plump whole berries. Plunged and pumped over for 12 days. Finally, 20% crushed and destemmed with a pump over conducted per day over 12 days. 15% of the wine was matured in a new 300-liter hogsheads, the remainder in one- and two-year-old barriques.

**Closure:** Stelvin **ABV:** 14.5%

**LEGEND tasting notes:** A mature and vibrant syrah from one of the Yarra's cooler sites. Aromas and flavors of pepper berry, kangaroo jerky, Davidson plum (a tart native plum), boysenberry, smoked game, and cinnamon myrtle on a supple and structured body.

**Production Size:** 250 dozen

**Scores:** 95 (James Halliday), 93 (Huon Hooke), 93 (Campbell Mattinson)