



WHERE
NEW
ZEALAND

WHAT
RED

WHEN
YOU NEED
A PICK-
ME-UP

PYRAMID VALLEY HOWELL FAMILY VINEYARD HAWKES BAY CABERNET FRANC (GROWER'S COLLECTION)

Like a ballerina killing it a dance club - you think, "of course," but you're still surprised.

PYRAMID VALLEY VINEYARDS



CONCEPTUAL DOPPELGÄNGER

She was trained to be a dancer at the finest ballet academy in New York. She was a truly great ballerina, but something was missing... of course - hip hop dancing!!! Julia Stiles kind of killed it doing just this in "Save the Last Dance" - a sweet fish out of water teen movie about dancing and love, naturally. In reality, J. Stiles was a classically trained thespian so her role in the movie and real life were both of fundamental foundation with a flipping-the-script angle, so-to-speak. While this Cab Franc isn't exactly break dancing in your mouth, it does do some unexpected things while never losing sight of its ever so proper upbringing. Who doesn't love bona fides wrapped in a bit of whimsy?

WINEMAKER Mike Weersing

REGION Hawkes Bay

GRAPE VARIETY Cabernet Franc

SOIL Red metal soils

AGE OF VINES Planted 1984

PRODUCTION 32,000 bottles

VITI/VINI

Organic and biodynamic practices on this approximately 1 hectare site. Low yields from a tiny parcel on red-metal soils, in the Bridge Pa triangle, farmed meticulously by Mike's friend, mentor, and inspiration Chris Howell. Hand picked, 80% destemmed, transferred by gravity to tank. Ambient soak of 6 days, warm vineyard yeast fermentation, 27 day cuvaison. Natural, spring malolactic. 15 months on original lees in used French oak barrels, predominantly hogsheads (350L); bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

PRODUCER

Wine to Mike and Claudia Weersing is a genie, genius loci; our job is to coax it from its rock to bottle. Every gesture they make, in vineyard and winery, is a summons to this spirit of place. Biodynamics, hand-based viticulture, low yields, natural winemaking - these are some of the means they've adopted better to record and transmit this voice. Each wine is allowed to flower as it wishes. With the Grower's Collection, their ambition is to create a range of wines from sites other than their home vineyard. They are allowed to work with admired colleagues, and with sites, soils, varieties different than those at home. All of their wines are devoted to people and place; all bring rich rewards of community.

