



WHERE
NEW ZEALAND

WHAT
WHITE

WHEN
WEEKLY, WHEN
READING
INTERNATIONAL
BRIDGE RESULTS

PYRAMID VALLEY MOTEO VINEYARD HAWKES BAY CHENIN BLANC (GROWER'S COLLECTION)

Bottled on the equinox to maximize
sunshine in bottle.

PYRAMID VALLEY VINEYARDS

WINEMAKER Mike Weersing

REGION Hawkes Bay

GRAPE VARIETY Chenin Blanc

SOIL Complex mix of clay/
lime deposits over red metal

AGE OF VINES Planted 1991

PRODUCTION 4,500 bottles



CONCEPTUAL DOPPELGÄNGER

High pressure yields high clouds with upwardly thrusting structures. In front of a sunset they can resemble yellow mountains pushing into the sky, made of pure gold and earth, flowing out to their wispiest, palest yellow ends. Capturing beauty is a fool's errand, obviously, due to its famously fleeting nature. Sometimes, though, there is a magical conspiracy that blesses you with all the right moves because your heart is in the right place. You gotta be ready for that kind of thing.

VITI/VINI

Organic and biodynamic practices on this approximately 1 hectare site. John Patrick and his family live on and farm this lovely vineyard, which lifts above the Hawkes Bay lowlands, on a high alluvial terrace. The cooler altitude, and complex soils create a site well-matched to Chenin Blanc, engendering structure, opulence, and refined aromatics. Whole bunch pressed, no settling, no fining agents. A natural fermentation and maturation in 500L puncheons, none new.

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.

