



Flights: Contra Costa County Winemakers Bios December 10, 2020

Joel Peterson | Once & Future

Wine featured: 2018 Oakley Road Zinfandel

In 1976, Joel Peterson produced his first two single vineyard Zinfandels, completing the harvest under the watchful eyes of two large, protective, trickster ravens. Forty-plus years later, Ravenswood's founding winemaker acknowledges the iconic stature his once humble winery achieved. "It was a wild ride, starting with my first vintage of 327 cases in Joseph Swan's tiny winery to Ravenswood's growth into a world class winery, and finally the return to my roots with Once and Future wine" says the winemaker, whose leadership with California's historic grape has earned him the moniker "Godfather of Zin."

Ravenswood became known for producing the best-in-class single vineyard-designated Zinfandels since its first vintage, the taste-making County Series wines, which showcase the individual terroirs of Northern California's beloved wine regions, and the popular Vintners Blend collection. The winery, identified by an iconic logo designed by Berkeley artist Davis Lance Goines, has even earned a place in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. A long-time participant and observer of the California wine industry, Joel has watched the technological changes that have transformed California's enological and business practices.



Joel's latest project is Once & Future Wine, where he focuses on making small production handcrafted single vineyard wines, resurrecting his old redwood fermenters from his pre-Constellation days, that honor the distinctive typicity of site.

Once & Future Wine | Glen Ellen | 855.566.3946 | info@onceandfuturewine.com

Matt Cline | Three Wine Company

Wine featured: 2016 Live Oak Vineyard Zinfandel

Matt's winemaking career can be traced back to Oakley in 1982 where he helped his brother establish Cline Cellars; in 1985 he became head winemaker at Cline Cellars. Matt's wines won countless awards during his 16-year career at Cline Cellars. In 2001, Matt launched Trinitas Cellars, which he then sold in 2006. A year later, Matt established Three Wine Company with his wife, Erin, where they currently have a tasting room and production facility on the Sacramento River in Clarksburg. Matt



concentrates on sourcing old vines from Northern California, particularly from Contra Costa County.

Since then, the winery and tasting room has expanded and matured, becoming a staple at the Old Sugar Mill in Clarksburg, California. Matt continues to focus on the historical California varietals (Carignane, Mataro, and Zinfandel), specifically in Contra Costa County. These vineyards and varietals represent the last maps of what the California wine industry was trying to do prior to prohibition in the 1920s. Matt values the advancement of a diverse and copious number of varietals, as he pushes to move away from the singular varietal trend that is both unsustainable and not historically accurate. To Matt and thousands of years of winemakers before him, blending varietals and finding a perfect balance between the grapes, is what winemaking is all about.

When Matt is not racking and perfecting his winemaking techniques, he enjoys fly fishing, gardening, and celebrating with good food and wine with his family and friends.

Three Wine Company | The Old Sugar Mill: 35265 Willow Avenue, Clarksburg | 916.744.1300 | info@threewinecompany.com

Shauna Rosenblum | Rock Wall Wine Company

Wine featured: 2017 Sven & Ole's Reserve Zinfandel



Shauna Rosenblum is the Winemaker for Rock Wall Wine Company. She learned to make wine from her epic father Kent Rosenblum. Shauna literally grew up in the cellar and spent her childhood in wineries and vineyards where she worked and learned all the facets of the winemaking business.

Shauna has a Master's degree in Sculpture from the San Francisco Art Institute. As an undergraduate at California College of Arts and Crafts she became very interested in chemistry through the ceramics glaze making process. She realized there were similarities in the ceramics and winemaking processes as far as chemistry and blending. This realization led to an epiphany that winemaking was art!

Shauna became enamored with learning everything she didn't already know about winemaking and immersed herself in learning about wines from around the world. In this pursuit Shauna also completed the Master's Executive Winemaking Program at UC Davis.

Her passion for winemaking started with big, juicy Zinfandels and his spread far and wide. She loves making sparkling wine old favorites like Chardonnay and Cab and more esoteric varieties like Fiano, Charbono and Cilieggiolo. She considers wine to be an artistic medium, so to drink a glass of her wine is to taste her ephemeral art.

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