



KFWB LOS ANGELES 'LIFESTYLE MINUTE' - Thursday, July 7, 2005

A new South African powerhouse.

A few months ago I got a pre-release tasting of the wines from **Vilafonté**, one of South Africa's newest and most ambitious wine labels. The heavy-hitting talent behind this project comes from California. The winemaker is Zelma Long and head wine-grower is Phil Freese. Zelma began her career at Mondavi and went on to a long stint at Simi Winery in Sonoma. Phil (Zelma's husband) has decades of viticulture experience at Mondavi, Opus One and myriad other vineyards. There are two Vilafonté wines, both red Bordeaux-style blends. The dark, lush and dense **Series M**, based on Merlot, delivers rich plum and blackberry fruit with lovely oak nuance. **Series C**, based on Cabernet, is complex and balanced, with smooth, rich and supple flavors. Both are stunning. At \$50 and \$70, respectively, they're among South Africa's priciest wines, but worth it.



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Audience is in the area of 1,000,000 listeners.

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