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> WINES OF THE WEEK ARCHIVE

91 | Vilafonté
2003 Paarl Series C

\$70

One of two first releases from Zelma Long and Phil Freese's project in Paarl, this blend is mostly cabernet sauvignon (82 percent), with small amounts of merlot, cabernet franc and malbec, all from a vineyard they planted with Warwick's Mike Ratcliffe in the late 1990s. The aroma of the wine is closed at first, developing exotic forest scents along with red, purple and black fruit flavors. The tannins have the soft humidity of freshly turned earth, balancing the sweetness of the fruit, focusing the smokiness of the oak on duck or other wild game, roasted with woodland berries.

Broadbent Selections, San Francisco, CA

