

# vilafonté

## Series C 2018

### Exquisite & Composed

Series C 2018 demonstrates; that if you want to be heard, whisper...

This blend displays dense red-black colour and magenta-tinged rim. The deep and subtle perfume of violets, cool graphite and layers of dark berry fruit has a captivating complexity. Crème de cassis, black liquorice and fresh juniper berry add to the alluring bouquet. Depth of flavour continues onto the palate, revealing multi-layered tannins, finely woven and gentle with delicious swelling intensity. Offering balance of verve, power, excellent length and persistence. The 2018 Series C requires time to express full concentration and promises enjoyment for decades to come.

### The Vintage

Phoenix rising. Marked by the worst drought on record, 2018 presented some significant challenges. After the driest three-year period (2015-2017) in recent history; water resources in the Western Cape were at an all-time low, putting water supplies under immense pressure and leading to strict water rationing. Early in the growing season, water received from the Berg River Water Scheme was cut to forty-five percent of usual allocation, and then further cut to twenty percent in December. Low soil moisture in Spring, and limited water available for irrigation led to reduced vigour and canopy size. Some unseasonable rain and low temperatures in October and November disrupted fruit set and reduced the number and size of berries on each cluster. Harvest timing was normal, beginning on February 2nd and continued uninterrupted through February 27th.

It was humbling to see how well our vineyards fared under such sustained drought conditions. Noteworthy is the small berry size for this vintage; on average berries were twenty-five percent smaller by variety and largely under a gram per berry, adding to concentration.

### The Blend

Twenty-two months in sixty-nine percent new French oak barrique, with the balance in older French oak. Series C 2018 consists of Cabernet Sauvignon (fifty-eight percent), Merlot (seventeen percent), Malbec (fourteen percent) and Cabernet Franc (eleven percent).

Thirty-six barrels were produced.



Zelma Long  
October 2020



Chris de Vries  
October 2020