# NOVELTY HILL

# 2017 Grenache, Stillwater Creek Vineyard

#### Tasting Notes

"An aromatic bouquet of wild red berries combines with a hint of cinnamon spice on a polished frame. Expressive layers of sweet cherries and fresh strawberries echo on the palate with silky, integrated tannins leading to a long, bright finish."

- Mike Januik, Winemaker

#### VINTAGE

Spring 2017 was marked by cool, wet weather that resulted in a late bud break, but hot, dry summer conditions accelerated the season and put ripening back on track. Clusters were small with fewer berries than usual allowing light to penetrate the vine and color the fruit from all sides. This, combined with a cooling weather pattern in mid-September to extend hang time, yielded fresh, expressive wines with plenty of structure and excellent acidity.

### Vineyard

Washington Grenache continues to gain an enthusiastic following and the only thing holding it back from all-star status is the limited number of vines planted in the state. Fortunately for Novelty Hill, the winery's estate vineyard Stillwater Creek has proven to be an ideal site for this delicious grape. Planted on a steep, south-facing section of the vineyard with large chunks of fractured basalt throughout the soil, the vineyard produces an exceptional example of this classic Rhone variety.

## Winemaking

- Hand-picked and fermented in small lots
- Crushed, de-stemmed, fermented and gently punched down 2-3 times a day to extract deep color and flavor without harsh tannins
- Aged 20 months in 35% new French oak, 65% used French oak, 5% new American oak barrels

AVA Columbia Valley

Blend 100% Grenache

Cases 165

Alcohol 15.2%

pH 3.60

Total Acidity 0.56 g/I00 ml

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