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2018 FALLERI VINEYARD

Calistoga, Napa Valley Zinfandel

This historic little vineyard of head-trained vines at the edge of town in Calistoga was planted by immigrant Argentina Falleri in 1924. The vineyard was maintained by Argentina's daughter Olivia and today is cared for by Argentina's granddaughter, Sonya Spencer. Biale has been producing wine from this vineyard since 1993, which all started when Bob drove by the vineyard and had the hawk eye for old, head trained vineyards. It just so turned out that these grapes were available and so the longstanding relationship began.

Vintage Notes: Seamless season of heavenly hangtime and phenomenal phenolic development. February saw abundant rains, followed by lots of filtered light in spring and early summer. Both bud break and flowering occurred a bit late, but under ideal weather conditions, creating plentiful and even fruit set. Summer brought generous sun during the day and cooler marine influences, virtually uninterrupted by major heat spikes. The relatively mild summer followed by extended fall sunshine and moderate heat created near-ideal conditions for winemakers to allow their fruit to accumulate flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar levels. Volume is looking great, up 20-30% increase over average crop quantity.

Harvest Dates: 9-19-18

Winemaking: The fruit was hand-sorted first in the field then again at the winery. Open-top fermentation and punched down three times per day. Pressed to Burgundian oak – 20% new. Aged 14 months.

Alcohol: 14.4%

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Aromas of fresh strawberries, raspberries, yellow plum, sage and root beer. Medium bodied with light delicate tannins that build and lead to a long mouthwatering finish. This is a wine which will pair well with many fares.

Only 98 Cases Produced.