



## A BLEND OF THREE HERITAGE CHENIN VINEYARDS

Rothrock vineyard in Prosser is a south facing site, 855 feet above sea level with a 15% slope. The shallow topsoil is very fine sand and silt loam on top of basalt bedrock. This vineyard in the Yakima Valley was planted with chenin blanc in the 1970s. I've been making wine from Rothrock since I first started this old vine Chenin project in 2013.

Upland vineyard on Snipes Mountain in Sunnyside has incredibly wild and diverse soils. The Newhouse family skillfully farms this historic and unique site. Their parcel of chenin blanc was planted in 1979 on a 25% slope, 1,000 ft elevation, facing southwest with a stunning view of Mt. Adams.

The parcel of chenin blanc at Roza Hills vineyard in Zillah was planted in 1982. It's on a south facing slope of the Rattlesnake Hills, 1200ft at the highest point on Moxee series soils which is fine silt loam with chunks of decomposed basalt on top a hard layer of calcium carbonate called caliche. This is the first vintage I've harvested chenin from this site which was expertly farmed by James St. Clair.

## HARVEST, FERMENTATION, AGING AND PACKAGING

My chenin blanc is always hand picked and whole cluster pressed. The juices settle in tank overnight and are racked clean to fill neutral old French oak barrels and stainless steel drums. The nuanced dynamics of slow native yeast fermentations add complexity. Lees stirring lends fullness and body to the mouth. In the spring, the wines from the three vineyard lots are blended together, lightly fined with bentonite clay and sterile filtered before bottling. I use natural corks, each cork screened for TCA and other off-aromas with Portacork ICON process. This year I am using domestically produced bottles from a Seattle glass factory.

## 2017 ORR OLD VINE CHENIN BLANC COLUMBIA VALLEY

Alcohol 12.0%  
Residual sugar = 0.1g/L  
Malic acid = 0.03g/L  
pH= 3.34  
TA = 5.7g/L  
385 cases produced

## Tasting notes

Very fresh aromas of green fruits like kiwi and honeydew melon. Bright, focused and very dry, a tiny bit saline in the mouth with a hint of cucumber peel and wet sidewalk in the finish.