

GIANT STEPS
VIGNERONS
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA



2006 GIANT STEPS MILLER VINEYARD SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER: Phil Sexton
REGION: Yarra Valley, Victoria
VARIETALS: Shiraz (97%), Viognier (3%)
MATURATION: 11 months in new and older French oak
ALCOHOL: 14% alc/vol

VINTAGE NOTES:

A cool February followed a warmer than average January with warm days and cool nights. The 2006 vintage produced good phenological ripeness with excellent tannin structure.

WINEMAKING:

The 2006 Miller Vineyard Shiraz underwent three ferments, all of which were co-fermented with Viognier. The fruit was hand picked and chilled before being de-stemmed, but not crushed, to small open and static closed fermenters. A three day cold soak was followed by an eight day ferment with hand-plunging and foot-pigeage. After ferment, the skins were tipped into an airbag press. The wine was then racked off gross lees to oak for malolactic fermentation for eleven months in new and older French oak.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2006 Miller Vineyard Shiraz exudes concentrated black berries, roasted herbs, cracked pepper, and dark olive aromas. Juicy black cherries, violets, and ripe plum characters appear as the wine opens up. On the succulent palate, raspberry licorice, coffee and black forest cake are backed by fine tannins and good acidity. This wine will continue to gain more complexity with time in the bottle. The cellaring recommendation is between 2-7 years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

90 pts - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 90 pts - Wine & Spirits

ABOUT GIANT STEPS:

Giant Steps was established in 1998 in the cool-climate Yarra Valley region by wine industry veteran Phil Sexton. With the aim of creating single vineyard wines reflecting a unique sense of place, the 75 acre vineyard was hand-planted on the gravelly, north facing slopes of the Warramate Ranges. A decade later, the wines are renowned for offering length rather than breadth, finesse rather than largesse, and above all, fruit rather than artifact.



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