

ignway

Oscar & Matilda

About O&M

Oscar and Matilda are our energetic and entertaining children. Since their arrival into the world these two individuals have challenged and inspired us and shaped a depth of passion and love like nothing we could have imagined. It is fitting that the greatest wine that we have made to date will bear the name of the greatest creations that we will ever make.

The Vintage

Although the 2016 Vintage will be considered one of the great harvests of the last 20 years, the growing conditions were anything but conventional. The total rainfall for the year was half the average but the timing was perfect. The summer was warm but not hot and there were no extended heat waves. These conditions resulted in exceptional fruit created in shrewd and almost sagacious weather, where the season seemed dialed in to the specifics of each vineyard. The wines created are equally intelligent and authoritative, with purity of fruit combining with incredible tannin structure. Layered and complex, these wines will age for many years and will cement the Barossa Valley as one of the worlds iconic wine regions.

The Wine

We are continually striving to discover new flavors and textures to improve the quality of every wine we make. As a minimal intervention winemaker there are only subtle changes that we can make in the winery, and the most significant discoveries are made when we secure new vineyard sites. In 2015 we began working with a tiny vineyard in Moppa, planted in 1896. The intention was to use the wine made from this vineyard in 'Bruce', and the 2015 subsequently sold out in under 4 months. In 2016 I decided to keep the best barrel of this wine and blend it with the Don to create a 'super wine'. We emptied half of a new Gillet Puncheon (500L) into the Don blend and then filled the barrel back up with Moppa Shiraz. The blended wine remained in this single puncheon for an additional 6 months. We bottled the first Oscar & Matilda Shiraz on the 8th of October, 2018.

The gnarly and twisted old vines at the Kleinig Vineyard in Moppa produce fruit of incredible intensity, darkness and depth. I believe that these old vineyards need to be pushed past the point of accepted ripeness to truly unlock the personality in the site. In this wine we were able to achieve a perfect synergy of stress and strength. The Hoffmann vineyard delivers wine of power and elegance, with a brighter aromatic and a sublime tannin. The blend of these two old vine parcels has created a wine with depth, energy, power and grace.

The Vineyards

Vineyard:	Hoffmann Dimchurch
Sub Appellation:	Ebenezer
Planted:	1950
Soil:	Red/brown earth over dark red clays with a separating layer of chalky limestone

Vineyard:	Kleinig Old Shiraz
Sub Appellation:	Moppa
Planted:	1896
Soil:	Sandy loam over deep clay

Craig Isbel, Winemaker

