



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

The 2021/2022 growing season continued our run of cool vintages, with bountiful spring rain and no days recorded above 37 degrees. These cool harvests allow us to create pure, energetic, balanced wines and give us the flexibility in the winery to schedule perfect picking dates and gentle, controlled maceration. There was one isolated but significant hailstorm that affected a narrow band of the Barossa on the 28th of October, which unfortunately smashed our home vineyard, as well as the Harold Vineyard in Eden Valley. All other sites remained unaffected, and the season delivered slightly below average yields, healthy canopies and perfectly ripe bunches. While I believe 2021 will be considered a higher quality harvest, the wines of 2022 are still exceptional in their own right and will equally drink beautifully young and age with poise, balance and refinement.

The Wine

A worthy predecessor to the stunning 2021 release, the 2022 Oscar & Matilda reflects the pedigree of these old vineyards while showcasing its own flair and personality, driven primarily by the cooler harvest conditions. The wine traverses the potential profiles of Shiraz, with a plush, ripe texture complimented by subtle yet charming spice. The alluring, youthful aromatics of boysenberry, blueberry and morello cherry envelop the finer elements of iron, cinnamon and thyme. The silky, juicy and effortless pallet showcases delightful plum, blackcurrant, cranberry and kirsch, while liquorice, coffee and earthy spice lurk eagerly on the periphery, awaiting their time to shine. This wine looks subtly different every time I try it, adding to the charm and mystery of what it is and what is yet to come.

A carefully curated blend of two old vine parcels from two of the finest Barossa Valley vineyards. The gnarly and twisted old vines at the Kleinig Vineyard in Moppa produce fruit of incredible intensity, darkness and depth. These old vineyards need to be pushed past the point of accepted ripeness to truly unlock the personality in the site, and we strive 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 early summer heat, along with cool February nights allowed each component to ripen perfectly, and they have come together to create a wine that is greater than the sum of its parts.

To craft the Oscar and Matilda Shiraz we select the two best barrels from each of these old vine parcels. The blended wine is returned to oak and housed in a new Gillet Puncheon (500L) for a total of 28 months before bottling. This wine will evolve into a magnificent drink over the next 10 to 20 years, although the balance and freshness expressed by this release encourages drinking at any stage it is required.

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:	1895
Soil:	Sandy loam over deep clay

Craig Isbel, Winemaker

