Marilyn Wines  $28^{th}$ 



# 2012 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

#### Winemaker Notes:

The 2012 Marilyn Merlot is a deep rich red wine with purple hues evidenced in the glass. Aromas are pleasingly intense with hints of black raspberry, coffee, smoke, spice and cholcolate well integrated in the nose. From entry to finish this wine has an even and alluring presence on the palate with a nicely balanced medium body. The flavors follow the aromas with the added naunces of red currants, cherry, and oak nicely integrated with the vinous fruit and lingering smooth tannic finish. Built to age, but already very easy to drink.

## The Vineyards:

Marilyn Merlot has been lucky to have access to great Napa Valley vineyards including again this year Andy Beckstoffer's, Missouri Hopper from the Oakville Appellation, along with Benessere's Merlot from the St. Helena Appellation. These two great vineyards are the foundation of this wonderful wine which was bottled July 25, 2014.

## The Vintage:

The 2012 growing season was possibly the very best in the last 10 to 12 years. This was due in large part to a very even, moderate growing season. We had only a handful of days of very hot weather, while most of the season was in the 70's and 80's, ideal temperatures for the gradual maturation of the fruit. There was also little autumn rain to complicate the harvest dates. Overall a fantastic harvest if only every year could be like 2012.

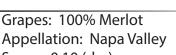
#### Pairing:

Well made Merlots pair well with many foods, from patés to steak and even hamburgers.

#### Photograph:

The label photograph is from "The Black Cape Sitting" by Milton Greene. It was shot in New York, 1955. Marilyn spent that whole year out of public view, living with the Greene family.





UPC: 85200004007

Sugar: 0.10 (dry) pH: 3.69 Acid: 0.57g/100mL Alcohol: 13.9% Suggested Retail: \$30.00 Winemaker: John McKay

# Tribute to our retiring winemaker: John McKay

www.marilynwines.com

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