



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2010 “The Messenger”

Production: 197 cases

Composition: 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Syrah, 3% Petit Verdot, 3% Merlot, 2% Malbec
1% Viognier

Vineyards: Beau Terre, Baker, Hansen, Clarke and Lazar

Cooperage: 16 months all in French oak barrels (50% new oak)

Alcohol: 14.5% alc, 3.78 pH, 0.56 TA

Bottled: April 25, 2012

Release Date: Fall 2012

Release Price: \$48.00

Blending Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah is not a new idea -- the French in the Provence region have been producing blends of these two top varietals since the nineteenth century. In many senses, it makes intuitive sense, using Syrah to "brighten" the sternness of Cabernet, while keeping two varietals which most feel are two of the three best and certainly the most long lived in the world.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

Nose) The Messenger brings Vanilla spice and dark chocolate together, then adds black cherry and some raspberry crème soda.

Palate) The solid and well muscled palate has a lot of bounce in the middle, with both black cherry and pie cherry, and plays out like a Cab, but instead of the tannic bite, there is a sleek velvety mocha and berry finish.