



James Haselgrove

"FUTURES"

Vertical Tasting — 16th February 1990

Having now released five vintages of "Futures" Shiraz, we decided that each wine be reviewed to get a feeling for their development.

Even more importantly we wanted to be sure that the "Futures" Shiraz lived up to the standards we originally set for it, and that you, the consumer, would be truly rewarded by your interest and investment.

The original criteria for the "Futures" Shiraz was:

- (A) To pick the McLaren Shiraz at the well recognized "old" level of 14° Baume level (about 1.5-2 degrees above current trends).
- (B) To ensure the winemaker's technique was such that the wines made were long lived, full flavoured, and of premium quality.
- (C) To offer premium wines of great value.

The tastings were performed by prominent South Australian Wine Consultant, Mr James Irvine. For gauging purposes, James Irvine has rated each wine out of 20. Now to the Reviews:



1984 "FUTURES" SHIRAZ

Appearance: Quite brick red showing through
Excellent clarity with lively, tawny meniscus.

Nose: Mid weighted lift to inner nose with vinosity. Fresh and lifted but needs about an ½ to 1 hour to breathe to realise its true beauty. Fruity with ripe berry flavours most noticeable. Sheer weight of alcohol bringing a headiness when deeply nosed. Almost forest floor earthiness in a most pleasant way.

Palate: Rich plummy (Satsuma). Full, rounded tannin but very soft for its size. Slight earthiness of McLaren Vale and an overtone of licorice flavour. Incredibly soft for its size. Very, very gentle but with big flavour reward.

Points

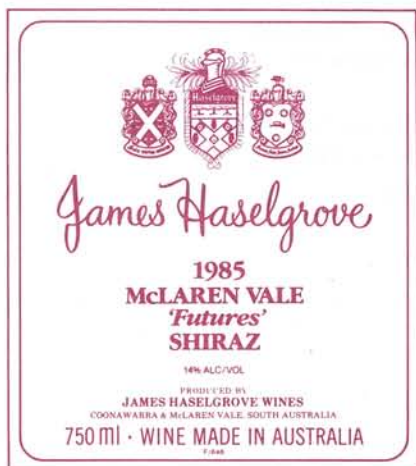
3

5.75

7.75

16.50

Potential: Within the group it is one of the lighter wines with the potential showing a likelihood of remaining like it is for the next 6 years, and even then there will be little change over the 4 years that follow that. The 1984 is a wine ready now and amply illustrates the true value of The "Futures" approach.



1985 "FUTURES" SHIRAZ

Appearance: Quite clear. Very deep ruby with a touch of tawny on the rim.

Nose: Lifted ethereals most obvious. Some light chocolate like notes in the early bouquet. Very fresh and with quite a distinctive pepperiness showing. Slight spicy complexity.

Palate: Excellent follow through of bouquet onto palate. Huge soft fruit with huge soft tannin. Slightly simpler than 1984 in the palate. Again alcohol helps lift the end palate.

3

5.50

7

15.50

Potential: Still developing — for up to another 3 years. With the tannin size and the alcohol it will live for at least a further 8 years.

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