## 2009 CONTINUUM

## OUR FAVORITE REVIEWS

The 2009, our fifth vintage, is a blend of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, 7% Petit Verdot and 4% Merlot, with the majority, 82%, sourced from Continuum Estate on Pritchard Hill in Napa Valley.



CONTINUUM





94 POINTS | Wine Advocate #198, Dec. 2011 | Antonio Galloni | \$165

The 2009 Continuum comes across as much more understated next to the 2008. It has plenty of silkiness and finesse, but less of the size and shape of its older sibling. Dark cherries, espresso, exotic spices and licorice are woven together in a fabric of notable elegance and harmony. The 2009 Continuum is 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, 7% Petit Verdot and 4% Merlot, 82% of which came from estate-grown fruit. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024.

I was super-impressed with the two wines I tasted from Continuum Estate, Tim Mondavi's new venture on Pritchard Hill, not far from Chappellet and Bryant. Mondavi is gradually moving towards 100% estate fruit, but these early vintages include some fruit from vineyards in Oakville and Stags Leap. Continuum is distinguished by a fairly large presence of Cabernet Franc. This is one of the most exciting new properties in Napa Valley.



RATING **93** | Issue 162: May/June 2012 | Red | \$165

Medium ruby-red. Deep, brooding aromas of cassis, licorice, dark chocolate and warm spices. Sweet and round on entry, then rather powerful in the middle, showing lovely floral lift to its medicinal black fruit flavors. Plenty of mouthfilling texture here but shapely too. Finishes with substantial ripe tannins. Comes across as a bit less sweet and pliant now than the 2008, but this is in a rather brooding phase today and needs time.



ON WINE

March 25, 2012 | Oenophile: Mondavi Picks | Jay McInerney | \$165

More delicate and refined than the '08 though no less complex, with hints of chocolate and coffee, this is one of the prettiest young Cabs (77% Cabernet Sauvignon) I've ever tasted. It's hard to resist now.



**94** POINTS | Vol. 8, No. 21 | July 11, 2012 | 2,500 cases made | Red | \$165

Sleek and understated, making its mark with firm, dense, tightly wound espresso, dried berry, crushed rock and black licorice flavors, with a finish that emphasizes the loamy earthiness. The tannins are firm and well-integrated. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Merlot. Best from 2014-2030. -J.L.