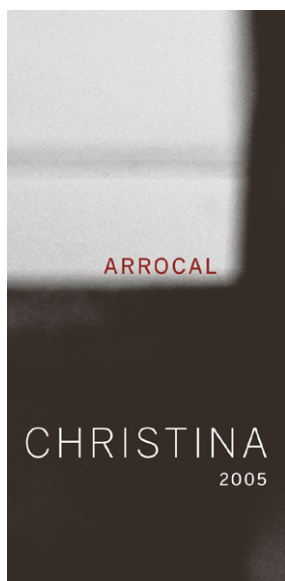


Arrocal Christina 2005



Winery: Bodegas Arrocal

Region: Ribera del Duero D.O.

Grapes: 100% Tinto Fino (Tempranillo)

Winery: Located in Gumiel de Mercado a small village in the western portion of the Ribera del Duero D.O., the winery produced its first wine in 2001. The vineyards were planted by the owners and a new winery was built and utilized for the 2005 vintage. The young estate vines are trained espalier in a Smart system and are drip irrigated. Aurelio has been working with the winery from the first vintages.

Aurelio's second child, Christina was born in 2005. To commemorate this special event, he worked with 5 different wineries in Ribera del Duero to create 5 different special cuvees of wine for Christina. Aurelio picked Ribera del Duero for a number of reasons including that his family's roots are from the region and that in his estimation some of the best wines in Spain are made there. The wines from Ribera

del Duero display a unique combination of finesse, balance, power and intensity. Using only the best vineyard sites, a selection of the best grapes from old vines, and made in cooperation with some of the most talented winemakers of the region, each of the five wines shows the character of the excellent 2005 vintage along with unique personality of its particular vineyard.

Wine: This special cuvee was produced from hand harvested fruit grown on 70-80 year old vines grown around the village of La Horra. The grapes were manually sorted prior to fermentation in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks. Malolactic fermentation took place in new French oak barrels. Aged for 22 months in new French oak. Unfiltered.

Reviews:

“Purple-hued, it has an enticing perfume of pain grille, pencil lead, mineral, blackberry, floral notes, and licorice. Layered, bordering on opulent, it has excellent depth and breadth of flavor, well-concealed tannin, and 3-5 years of aging potential.”

92 points *Wine Advocate* issue 175 February '08

“Extremely aromatic nose displays blackberry, blueberry, cherry liqueur, cola and smoked meat. Lush and sweet but pure, with energetic dark berry, cherry-cola and piquant mineral flavors. Combines depth and energy with a deft hand, finishing with impressive clarity, gentle grip and persistence... raised in all new French oak barrels but the wood is barely noticeable.”

92 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 139 July/Aug '08

“A polished mix of balance and power, this red offers blackberry, espresso, mineral and tobacco flavors on a firm, smooth structure. It has the dark, loamy notes typical of the region, with bright, juicy fruit and plenty of toasty oak. Drink now through 2015.”

93 points *Wine Spectator* November 30 '08



Selected by Aurelio Cabestrero®

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