



## 2011 THE PLAYGROUND \$6 MILLION SHIRAZ

"Each year we monkeys are presented with small parcels of interesting stuff we just can't resist playing with', explains the back label, adding 'the quantities are so small the wines are only sold at the cellar door'. The raspberry and cherry aromas are unusual, the light to medium-bodied palate, with a complex open-weave texture and structure, fits the bill."

93 POINTS, JAMES HALLIDAY'S AUSTRALIAN WINE COMPANION, JULY 26, 2014

I shave every morning, am several months away from being able to fit into skinny jeans and cringe at the idea that someone might refer to me as a hipster...but the truth of the matter is that my current vinous preferences aren't that different from what seems to be in vogue at the more meaningful wine shows in Australia. Meaningful to the extent that the results are less scattergun and a quick look at the judges make the medals and awards interpretable. I'm not convinced you can ask for much more than that. Anyway, in short Teusner have hit their target market by sending me this wine. It's thoroughly regional. Typically spicy with boysenberry, violets and raspberry. No sign of grubby wet vintage fruit. A splash of Viognier is obvious in terms of mouthfeel, tannin and aromatics but there isn't any stonefruit flavour – or much in the way of slipperiness. Enough flesh to envelop the cool climate acidity. Quite savoury and complex with herbs, black olives, roast peppers and brown leaf. Lots of firm and fine tannin. Only just medium-bodied. It's an elegant, angular wine that takes time to unfold. Looked its best on day three. I can't see everyone loving what it offers but I was captivated...albeit beardless and lacking a beret.

91+ POINTS, JEREMY PRINGLE, WWW.WINWILLEATITSELF.COM.AU, DECEMBER 27, 2013

Kym Teusner's Playground it is; six million dollars it is not. Capturing the best of a tricky cool, wet season, it's enticing in an unexpected way, reflecting a savoury, peppery style of fine-boned texture in a mood not dissimilar to Crozes-Hermitage.

93 POINTS, TYSON STELZER, BAROSSA LIVING, AUTUMN 2014

Medium to deep red colour with slight purple tints. Green walnut aromas, minty herbaceousness, spices, fruitcake and some sappy oak. The wine is medium-bodied at most, with savoury dryness on the palate helped by soft, fine-grained tannins. It's not very fresh, but has flavour, balance and adequate softness.

87 POINTS, HUON HOOKE, HUONHOOKE.COM, 16/2/14



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