2015 THREE GRACES HIRONDELLE VINEYARD STAGS LEAP DISTRICT, NAPA VALLEY





APPELLATION: VINEYARD: COMPOSITION: FERMENTATION: AGING: ACID: pH: ALCOHOL: HARVESTED:	Stags Leap District, Napa Valley Hirondelle Estate 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot Traditional stainless steel tanks 100% New Oak (Taransaud, Saury, Garonnaise) 6.1 g/L 3.68 14.5% September 2 - 21, 2015
WINEMAKER'S INSIGHT	The 2015 Three Graces includes a blend of the best barrels of the Hirondelle Estate Vineyard Cabernet Franc in addition to portions of 5 blocks of this vineyard's Cabernet Sauvignons. The Petit Verdot comes from one row planted on the fenceline of Hirondelle Vineyard. The wine has a complex nose of graphite, tobacco, vanilla and blackberry. In the mouth, this wine is extremely smooth and silky with layers of fruit and spice.
HARVEST	2015 was a very early harvest. The season also proved to be warm, which caused the harvest to start and end early. Another major hurdle we had in Napa Valley was the series of rains in the early part of the season that washed off the pollen on the flowering grapes. This is called shatter and essentially means many of the grapes on each cluster never turned into fruit. On the positive side, the low yield ended up concentrating the flavors on the grapes we did bring into the winery and gave us some of the most concentrated wines we have seen in a long time.
HISTORY	Clos du Val, French for "small vineyard estate of a small valley," was founded in 1972 in the renowned Stags Leap District. The winery was first recognized for its Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon at the famed Judgment of Paris in 1976, establishing its place as one of Napa Valley's most iconic winery estates. Still family-owned today, Clos du Val farms 350 acres of estate vineyards in the Stags Leap District, Carneros and Yountville appellations and continues to craft wines of balance and complexity, showcasing the fruit from the outstanding terroir on which our estate lies.