Independent Wine Evaluation

THE SOMMELIER COMPANY

2016 "Nelson Ranch" Riesling, Meadowcroft Wines

This wine opens with soft lychee and zesty lemon fruit nose over just as prominent a beeswaxy and flinty mineral palate. With time the wine turns floral and nutty with an alkaline kick on the finish, which makes it seem a bit more dry that it is. (It is off-dry.) The overall impression is of a fresh, clean, European-style white food wine, tart and crystalline with acid.

A number of notes develop with exposure and contribute to complexity, particularly on the nutty and saline side of the spectrum. The fruit moves into the ripe tropical and stone fruit directions, and the whole plethora of aromas and flavors do much to gather into a cohesive package over an evening. Alcohol is prominent in the early rounds, but does integrate; however, the resonant acidity remains and suggests a rich pairing.

Complexity: Flavors are distinct, layered and clean, from first to last sip
Balance: Good, though at times alcohol and acid are highly perceptible
Expressiveness: High; aromatic nose, and persistent on the palate
Character: Feminine, taut, and austere; zesty, mineral and waxy
Typicity: Varietally typical and European (e.g. Alsace) in style

Appellation: Mendocino County

Vintage: 2016

Composition: Riesling

Alcohol: 14.1%

Release Price: $28

VISUAL, AROMATIC AND FLAVOR CHARACTERISTICS:

Appearance: Pale gold with straw highlights; youthful, bright and clear

Fruit, Floral: Lychee, lemon, white peach, banana peel, perfume

Spice, Herbal, Vegetal: Lemongrass

Oak, Earth, Other: Honeycomb, almond, saline, soap, flinty minerals

RESULTS:

Stage 1: Blind Tasting
—Complexity: 7/10
—Balance: 6/10
—Expressiveness: 8/10

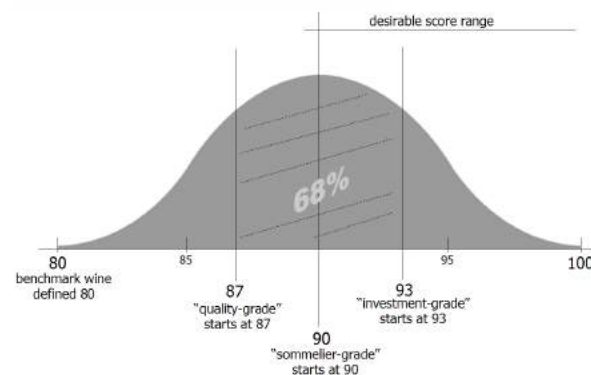**Stage 2: Non-Blind**
—Character: 7/10
—Typicity: 8/10

SCORE: 91

Tasting conducted December 27, 2017

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Principal, Jörn Kleinhans, CSW

EVALUATION MODEL:

desirable score range

68%

80 benchmark wine defined 80
85
87 "quality-grade" starts at 87
90 "sommelier-grade" starts at 90
93 "investment-grade" starts at 93
95
100

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