



ANTHONY MUELLER
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The Players

Walla Walla Valley offers a wide range of expressions, with classic producers such as Woodward Canyon Winery and L'Ecole No. 41 churning out age-worthy and delicious wine for decades on end. Tranche, owned by the Corliss family, continues to produce blockbuster wines that age incredibly well and are full of concentrated fruit expressions with elegant oak tones. Duckhorn's Canvasback brand has positioned itself to be a heavy hitter within the Walla Walla Valley as well.

The new generation also makes their mark on the Walla Walla Valley with hip winemaking and fun labels with Elephant Seven, Time & Direction and Morell Family Wines while newer producers like Caprio Cellars and Brook & Bull steam ahead with focus and precision.

Force Majeure, Cayuse, Horsepower, Reynvaan Family Vineyards, Sleight of Hand Cellars and K Vintners are still crafting impressive and collectible juice that is difficult to acquire if you are not on the mailing list. Maurice Cellars and Abeja, with their century-old restored farmstead, shine with elegance and finesse. Kontos Cellars, Seven Hills Winery, Pepper Bridge Winery, Va Piano, Dusted Valley and Northstar offer wines of significant depth and focus.

The Walla Walla Valley produces a myriad of utterly delicious wines that range in style from classically made with an oak structure to concrete-fermented, whole-cluster wines without the use of oak. The producers of Walla Walla Valley continue to set the bar for thoughtful, dynamic wines that show impeccable focus, clearly displaying a sense of place with mineral tension.

2018 Abeja • Syrah

2018



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Rating 91	Release Price \$52	Drink Date 2021 - 2028
Reviewed by 👤 Anthony Mueller	The 2018 Syrah was made with 3% Viognier and exudes dusty and juicy black fruit tones with an undercurrent of peppercorn spices, cedar, vanilla and wilted lavender. Medium to full-bodied, the wine displays a balanced structure with lifting tannins that sway with elements of black plum reduction and dried blackberry. It ends with a lingering, complex finish and lasting flavors of black cherry skin and roasted coffee bean. The wine rested in French oak for 19 months. Only 4,440 bottles were filled. Bravo!	
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2017 Abeja • Cabernet Sauvignon Heather Hill

2017



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Rating 92	Release Price \$68	Drink Date 2021 - 2033
Reviewed by 👤 Anthony Mueller	Floating effortlessly out of the glass, the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Heather Hill offers elegant, dark fruit tones that melt perfectly with seductive baking spices and elements of pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, the palate expresses a smooth and velvety texture that proudly shows its elegant nature with impeccable balance, succulent acidity and fine-grained tannins. The wine summersaults to an elongated finish showing power, precision and finesse. The wine rested in French oak for just under two years. It's crushingly good, and the only problem is trying to keep my hands off it. Put this in the cellar and forget about it for a couple of years and reward your future self with a beautiful bottle of wine. Only 6,384 bottles were filled.	
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