## ERIC KENT WINE CELLARS



## 2009 Grenache

DRY STACK VINEYARD Bennett Valley

## Label Poet: Helen Pruitt Wallace

## Carry a Stone on Your Tongue

to open the doors, windows, the moment to feel drenched in it to hear the owl's note as the moon stuck in his beak

to feel the moon's implosion to burn with it to know impetuous green beneath the damp dirt

to taste the damp dirt in the stone you place on your tongue to quell thirst You hold it like an owl's note Unfolding Tasting Notes | The cool 2009 growing season and early rains offered many surprises in Bennett Valley and one was how well the Grenache from Dry Stack Vineyard performed compared to the Syrah. As the Grenache evolved in barrel, we fell in love with it and decided to bottle a single-varietal vineyard designate to share with pre-release members and a few select retailers and restaurants.

Pale ruby in color, with amazing clarity for a wine that was neither fined nor filtered, this cool-climate Grenache has a stunning nose of fresh strawberry, jasmine, white pepper, damp earth and an herbal medley of basil and thyme. The palate is smooth and elegant, revealing bright red cherry, more strawberry and white pepper, along with hints of rose petal and a wonderful minerality. The lighter and "prettier" side of Grenache, with remarkable persistence and the acidity and tannin to age for many years to come. If you're a fan of Grenache and find yourself drawn to the spicy, savory and herbal layers found in our Small Town Pinot, this is definitely a wine for you!

Drinking Windows | Prime drinking: late 2012 to 2016 Graceful ageability: 2018+

Analysis pH: 3.71

TA: 6.0 g/L Alcohol: 14.1% Bottling Date: April 15, 2011 Pre-Release: Fall 2011 Retail Release: Spring 2012 Total Produced: 96 cases

**Philosophy** We prefer to follow the grapes' lead and offer gentle care as the wine emerges from the juice. If a wine asks for help, we provide it. If a wine is happy on its own, we simply let it be and celebrate its unique evolution.