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Vintage Notes: A warm spring prompted early budding on the vines and temperatures were mild through mid summer. Temperatures quickly shot up in the last week of August leading to the beginning of harvest early September. Late September brought chilly temperatures and some rain, forcing a break in harvesting. Nature then gifted a wonderful Indian Summer that warmed up early October, leading to the ripening of fruit and the integrated, mature tannins that have made this vintage so renowned.

Vineyard Notes: The Wurtele Vineyard (pronounced wer-tul), planted in the early 1990's, is comprised of 35 acres planted to 100% clone 7 cabernet sauvignon, ranging in elevations from 450 feet to nearly 1,000 feet with 360 degrees of sun exposure and rocky, well-drained soils consisting primarily of volcanic and sedimentary.

Winemaking Notes: Our 2007 Wurtele Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from a section of the vineyard located on a north-facing slope at the highest elevations. The shallow, rocky soil produces grapes with a distinct intensity and structure. We began picking this section on September 29th, and finished on October 11th. The fruit was de-stemmed and sorted into tank with about 50% whole berries in tact. The must was chilled to 55 degrees and soaked for 3 days prior to fermentation. The gentle punch-downs began on day 4 and slowly extracted the color and flavor from the skins in the cap. The wine was left for an extended maceration on the skins for a total of 24 days of contact. The free-run wine was drained off an aged in 40% new French oak barrels for 22 month. The wine was bottled with no fining or filtration.

Tasting Notes: Lush ripe mulberry and blackberry dominate the aromas backed up by dark chocolate and cedar. The rich, dark fruit tannins coat the pallet lingering with a chewy finish. *Release Date: November 1, 2011*

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