

Media Release - October 20, 2008

For immediate release

Leura Park Estate 'Dark Horse' Brings Home [Liquid] Gold!

A hand picked '07 Shiraz from a tiny 1.5 acre block took out the coveted Gold Medal in the largest class at the 2008 Geelong Wine Show. Gold medals were only awarded in 4 of the 8 classes of wine.

The Leura Park Estate entry shone through a field of 48 entrants in the Shiraz Class - the biggest class in the Show. Head Judge was Huon Hooke, renowned Australian wine judge and writer for numerous publications including The Sydney Morning Herald, Good Weekend, Australian Gourmet Traveller WINE magazine and Decanter.

“We are absolutely delighted with our trophy – it is already sitting proudly in our Cellar Door,” said David Sharp, Director of Leura Park Estate Vineyard.

“Our tiny Shiraz block is proving to be an absolute star – it is our youngest and smallest block but has firmly established itself as a proven producer of flavours reminiscent of Northern Rhone Syrah. Literally, it is our dark horse!”

Mr Sharp said true craftsmanship underpinned the evolution of the 2007 Shiraz and that it highlighted the talent of Leura Park Estate's winemaker, Stephen Webber – Australian Winemaker of the Year 2007.

“The hand picked fruit was de-stemmed into small 5 tonne fermenters. 10% whole bunches were used in the fermentation process to increase structure. The fruit was then cold soaked prior to the initiation of fermentation then hand plunged during fermentation. Matured in French Oak for 12 months, there was minimal handling and filtration prior to bottling”.

“The result is a truly magnificent medium bodied Shiraz of velvety consistency, solid length and clean finish. The palate reveals hints of mulberry and black current as well as savoury pepper and toasty oak.”

Mr Sharp said the Leura Park Estate Shiraz '07 could be enjoyed now or cellared for prosperity. It is available from the Leura Park Estate Cellar Door, open weekends, 1400 Portarlington Road, Curlewis (03) 5253 3180. www.leuraparkestate.com.au

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