



SPENCER ROLOSON

Provocative Wine, Evocative Dirt



**2005 SPENCER ROLOSON SYRAH
LA HERRADURA VINEYARD, NAPA VALLEY**

Vineyard: The La Herradura Vineyard is a brilliant site tucked into the lower slopes of Howell Mountain in the Conn Valley. In 1999 Sam Spencer planted this vineyard on family land with Côte Rôtie selections. The vineyard is divided diagonally by a creek-bed and is an almost perfect amphitheater encompassing 180 degrees of exposure. The soils are thin, gravelly, clay loams on hillside that averages 25% slopes. The subsoil is ancient seafloor and Franciscan bedrock that make these vines work for everything they bear. Yields are naturally very low in such thin and inhospitable soils, producing loose clusters with small berries and very thick skins.

Tasting Notes: The 2005 vintage was long and moderate with a near perfect drift into October for a harvest replete with late season drama and high wire activity. Herradura responded beautifully with balanced fruit, glorious aromatics and lush complexity; the wine is thick with mocha, blackberry and crushed minerals supporting sweet and finely textured tannin. The finish is a balanced and persistent sixty second experience.

Technical Information:

Blend-Clone Selection: Cote-Rotie and other Top Secret Selections

Harvest Dates: October 13th and 22nd

Vineyard size: 4 acres

Alcohol: 15.0%

Barrel Regime: 50% new French Oak, Tonnelleres Sirugue, Ermitage, Remond