



# RESULTS 2017



QUEENSLAND WINE  
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**Partner**

**WINESTATE**  
MAGAZINE

# ***34th Annual Queensland Wine Awards 2017***

## **Trophies**

### **Champion Mainstream Variety White Wine**

Heritage Estate 2016 Reserve Chardonnay

### **Champion Alternative Variety White Wine**

Savina Lane 2016 Fiano Classico

### **Champion Mainstream Variety Red Wine**

Summit Estate 2016 QC Queensland  
Cabernets

### **Champion Alternative Variety Red Wine**

Ravens Croft 2016 Tempranillo

### **Champion Fortified Wine**

Ballandean Estate White Liqueur Muscat

### **Champion Wine \$20 or Under**

Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Semillon  
2013

### **Outstanding Wine of Provenance**

Clovely Estate, Semillon  
2010, 2013, 2014

### **Champion Wine of Show**

Heritage Estate 2016 Reserve Chardonnay

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## ***Industry Awards***

### **Queensland Viticulturist of the Year**

Aaron Stephen, Clovely Estate

### **Queensland Winemaker of the Year**

Mike Hayes, Symphony Hill Wines

### **Queensland Cellar Door of the Year**

Summit Estate

### **Queensland Winery of the Year**

Symphony Hill Wines

### **Samuel Bassett Award 2017**

The Zanatta Family

## ***Supporter Awards***

### **Most Supportive Media Commentator**

Des Houghton, Courier Mail

### **Most Supportive Social Media Commentator**

Steve Leszczynski - QWine

### **Most Supportive Restaurant**

Kajoku Restaurant - Toowoomba

### **Most Supportive Community Event**

Carnival of Flowers - Toowoomba

# ***34th Annual Queensland Wine Awards 2017***

## **Judges**

Hamish Seabrook (Chief Judge) Winemaker, Barossa/Clare

Stuart Pierce (Panel Chair), Winemaker, Harvey River Estate, WA

Adrian Marchioro (Panel Chair), Business Dev Manager, Treasury Wine

Giovanni Zulli, Cellar Manager, The Brisbane Club

Allan Hunter, Wine writer, Courier Mail

Andrew Higgins, McWilliams Wines

### **Associate Judges**

Luke Fitzpatrick, Samuel Smith & Sons

Jane Brentnall, Cairns Wine Show

## **Chief Steward**

Sandra Deane

## **Results Collation and Publication**

Arwen McGregor

Ursula Kennedy

Peter Mulcahy

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Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>1</b>	<b>Verdelho, dry</b>					
1	1	2016	Balancing Rock Wines	2016 Verdelho	51.0	silver
1	2	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Verdelho	46.5	bronze
1	3	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Verdelho 2016	48.0	bronze
1	4	2017	Robert Channon Wines	Verdelho 2017	47.0	bronze
1	5	2016	O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyard	Vince Reserve Verdelho	52.0	silver
1	6	2017	Granite Ridge Wines	Verdelho	45.5	
1	7	2017	Ocean View Estates	Verdelho	45.0	
1	8	2017	Dusty Hill Wines	Verdelho	47.5	bronze
1	9	2017	Moffatdale Ridge Wines	2017 Moffatdale Ridge Verdelho	45.0	
1	10	2017	Morgan & Gill Wines	Morgan & Gill Verdelho	46.0	

**Class Comments:** Best wines showed complexity and balance with good use of varietal texture, sweetness and phenolics.

<b>2</b>	<b>Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc, dry</b>					
2	1	2017	Girraween Estate	Estate Sauvignon Blanc	46.5	bronze
2	2	2017	Girraween Estate	Reserve Sauvignon Blanc	45.5	
2	3	2017	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Sauvignon Blanc	48.0	bronze
2	4	2017	Granite Ridge Wines	Crystals	44.0	
2	5	2016	Dusty Hill Wines	Semillon	45.0	
2	6	2016	View Wine by Sancerre Estate	View Wines Semillon	43.5	
2	7	2013	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Semillon	55.5	gold
2	8	2014	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Semillon	51.0	silver

**Class Comments:** A great class to judge, show cases how Semillon can age beautifully. Keep up the great work! Many of the Sauvignon Blancs lacking tightness and freshness. Watch for ripeness and balance of this variety. Semillon wines are strongest in class, best wines showed freshness and strength of this variety. Highly competitive amongst Australia's best.

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Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>3</b>	<b>Chardonnay, dry</b>					
3	1	2017	Girraween Estate	Unwooded Chardonnay	46.5	bronze
3	2	2016	Girraween Estate	Reserve Chardonnay	52	silver
3	3	2016	Heritage Estate	2016 Reserve Chardonnay	56.0	gold
3	4	2016	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'WYP'	54	silver
3	5	2014	Twisted Gum Wine	Chardonnay	44	
3	6	2016	Flame Hill Vineyard	Traprock Chardonnay	44	
3	7	2015	Preston Peak Wines	Preston Peak Chardonnay	NP	
3	8	2015	Robinsons Family Vineyards	Robinsons Family Vineyard 2015 Chardonnay	51	silver
3	9	2017	Morgan & Gill Wines	Morgan & Gill Chardonnay	44	
3	10	2015	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Table Chardonnay	51	silver
3	11	2017	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Chardonnay	45.5	
3	12	2015	Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Chardonnay 2015	43	
3	13	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Chopin Chardonnay 2016	44.5	
3	14	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Chardonnay 2016	46.5	bronze

**Class Comments:** The Chardonnay class was very strong with some very well-made wines. Top wines were awarded for complexity, brightness, and good oak handling. Producers need to watch oak usage, some over oaked wines. The 2017 unoaked chardonnays a bit simple, 2016 was strong in varietal definition, good use of oak and acid support in the medal wines.

4	<b>Dry White Varietal Wine other than Wines eligible for classes 1 to 3</b>					
4	1	2016	Balancing Rock Wines	2016 Pinot Gris	47.5	bronze
4	2	2016	Banca Ridge	Marsanne	50.0	bronze
4	3	2016	Banca Ridge	Viognier	45.5	
4	4	2017	Heritage Estate	2017 Fiano	51.0	silver
4	5	2016	Heritage Estate	2016 Wild Ferment Marsanne	43.5	
4	6	2016	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate Riesling	48.5	bronze
4	7	2016	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate Pinot Gris	45.5	
4	8	2016	Savina Lane Wines	Fiano Classico	56.0	gold
4	9	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Gewurztraminer	50.0	silver
4	10	2017	Symphony Hill Wines	Gewurztraminer	55.5	gold
4	11	2017	Symphony Hill Wines	Fiano	51.0	silver
4	12	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Petit Manseng	46.5	bronze
4	13	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Vermentino	52.0	silver

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4	14	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Pinot Gris 2016	45.5	
4	15	2017	Robert Channon Wines	Pinot Gris 2017	44.5	
4	16	2016	Flame Hill Vineyard	Fiano	42.0	
4	17	2016	Flame Hill Vineyard	Pinot Gris	46.0	bronze
4	18	2016	Ballandean Estate Wines	Messing About Fiano	48.5	bronze
4	19	2017	Ocean View Estates	Viognier	51.0	silver
4	20	2016	Dusty Hill Wines	Viognier	45.5	
4	21	2015	Preston Peak Wines	Preston Peak Viognier	0.0	
4	22	2017	Ravens Croft Wines	Ravens Croft Pinot Grigio	47.5	bronze
4	23	2016	Overflow Estate	The Overflow Estate 1895 Vermentino	47.0	bronze
4	24	2016	Overflow Estate	The Overflow Estate 1895 Fiano	45.5	
4	25	2016	Summit Estate	Fiano 2016	47.0	bronze
4	26	2016	Summit Estate	Viognier 2016	53.0	silver
4	27	2017	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Roussanne	51.0	silver
4	28	2017	Hidden Creek Wines	Hidden Creek Gewurztraminer	47.0	bronze
4	29	2017	Hidden Creek Wines	Hidden Creek Pinot Gris	45.0	

**Class Comments:** Fiano was a solid variety and a champion of the class, great vibrance, concentration, and a delight to judge. Pinot Gris - some lacked in personality compared to other varieties, pick them early - retain natural acid. Gewürztraminer - good quality, nice aromatics, standout was exceptional. Roussanne was polarising but all agreed it was a solid wine.

Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>5</b>	<b>Dry White Blends</b>					
5	1	2017	Moonrise Estate	Verdonnay	45.0	

**Class Comments:** Only wine in the class, unfortunately lacking in freshness and flavour intensity.

<b>6</b>	<b>Merlot, dry (any vintage)</b>					
6	1	2014	Hidden Creek Wines	Hidden Creek Merlot	45.0	
6	2	2014	Just Red Wines	Merlot	44.5	
6	3	2014	Granite Ridge Wines	Fergies Hill	46.5	bronze
6	4	2016	Ocean View Estates	Merlot	44.0	
6	5	2016	Moffatdale Ridge Wines	2016 Naked Merlot	41.0	
6	6	2016	Morgan & Gill Wines	Morgan & Gill Merlot	44.5	

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6      7      2016      Moonrise Estate      Merlot      51.5      silver

**Class Comments:** Not a strong class, hard to find any shining stars. Overall hard to find positives with this variety. A combination of old barrels or the lack of fruit intensity.

Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>7 Cabernet Sauvignon, dry (any vintage)</b>						
7	1	2014	Banca Ridge	Cabernet Sauvignon	42.5	
7	2	2016	Girraween Estate	Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	47.0	bronze
7	3	2014	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	43.5	
7	4	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Cabernet sauvignon 2016	45.5	
7	5	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Cabernet sauvignon 2016	44.0	
7	6	2012	Granite Ridge Wines	Top Block	40.0	
7	7	2014	Moffatdale Ridge Wines	2014 Cabernet Sauvignon	46.5	bronze
7	8	2016	Morgan & Gill Wines	Morgan & Gill Cabernet Sauvignon	49.5	bronze
7	9	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Cabernet Sauvignon	46.5	bronze

**Class Comments:** Nothing outstanding, better wines were varietal but perhaps a bit simple. Older wines generally holding up compared to other varietals.

## 8 Shiraz or Shiraz Viognier, dry (any vintage)

8	1	2015	Balancing Rock Wines	2015 The Rock Shiraz	47.0	bronze
8	2	2016	Girraween Estate	Estate Shiraz	47.0	bronze
8	3	2015	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'The Lincoln'	37.0	
8	4	2014	Twisted Gum Wine	Shiraz	39.0	
8	5	2014	Mt Tamborine Vineyard & Winery	RJH Range Black Shiraz	39.0	
8	6	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Shiraz	49.5	bronze
8	7	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Inspiration Range Reserve Shiraz	45.0	
8	8	2014	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Shiraz The Rock	44.5	
8	9	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Shiraz 2016	52.5	silver
8	10	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Shiraz 2016	48.0	bronze
8	11	2015	Just Red Wines	Nikki's Vineyard Syrah	43.0	



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8	12	2015	Just Red Wines	Shiraz Viognier	45.0	
8	13	2016	Just Red Wines	Daily Red Shiraz	47.0	bronze
8	14	2015	Granite Ridge Wines	Granite Rock	38.0	
8	15	2014	Flame Hill Vineyard	Traprock Shirz	45.0	
8	16	2015	Ballandean Estate Wines	Open Block Shiraz	48.0	bronze
8	17	2015	Dusty Hill Wines	Dusty Hill Shiraz	39.0	
8	18	2015	Dusty Hill Wines	Gra Fion Shiraz Viognier	40.0	
8	19	2015	Dusty Hill Wines	Forbidden Shiraz	40.0	
8	20	2014	Moffatdale Ridge Wines	2014 Reserve Shiraz	40.0	
8	21	2012	Preston Peak Wines	The Rock Shiraz	0.0	
8	22	2013	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate Double Pruned Shiraz	43.5	
8	23	2016	Summit Estate	Wild Ferment Syrah 2016	49.5	bronze
8	24	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Shiraz	55.5	gold
8	25	2013	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Shiraz	39.0	
8	26	2016	Heritage Estate Wines	Old Vine Reserve Shiraz	46.5	bronze

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Class	No.	Year	Winery	Winename	Score	Medal
<b>9</b>	<b>Dry Red Varietal Wine other than Wines eligible for classes 6 to 8</b>					
9	1	2014	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Pinot Noir	44.5	
9	2	2015	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Pinot Noir	49.5	bronze
9	3	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Pinot Noir 2016	43.5	
9	4	2015	Balancing Rock Wines	2015 Reserve Sagrantino	47.5	bronze
9	5	2015	Banca Ridge	Petit Verdot	46.0	
9	6	2016	Moonrise Estate	Petit Verdot	45.5	
9	7	2015	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'The Spaniard'	46.0	
9	8	2014	Savina Lane Wines	Tempranillo Reserva	47.5	bronze
9	9	2014	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Petit Verdot	48.0	bronze
9	10	2015	O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyard	Tom Reserve Tempranillo	42.0	
9	11	2016	Just Red Wines	Tannat	47.0	bronze
9	12	2016	Flame Hill Vineyard	Barbera	55.5	gold
9	13	2015	Ballandean Estate Wines	Messing About Saperavi	49.5	bronze
9	14	2015	Ballandean Estate Wines	Nebbiolo	45.0	
9	15	2015	Dusty Hill Wines	Gra Fion Nebbiolo	46.5	bronze
9	16	2014	Preston Peak Wines	Preston Peak Sagrantino	NP	
9	17	2016	Ravens Croft Wines	Ravens Croft Tempranillo	56.0	gold
9	18	2016	Ravens Croft Wines	Ravens Croft Petit Verdot	51.0	silver
9	19	2016	The Overflow Estate	The Overflow 1895 Montepulciano	46.5	bronze
9	20	2014	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Petit Verdot	46.0	
9	21	2014	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Saperavi	48.0	bronze
9	22	2015	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Barbera	48.0	bronze
9	23	2015	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Nebbiolo	45.5	
9	24	2014	Summit Estate	Malbec 2014	46.5	bronze
9	25	2015	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Sangiovese	51.0	silver
9	26	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Petit Verdot	47.5	bronze
9	27	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Sangiovese	46.0	
9	28	2013	Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Petit Verdot	47.5	bronze
9	29	2014	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Nebbiolo	44.5	
9	30	2015	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Lagrein	58.0	gold

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9	31	2015	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Nero D'Avola	47.0	bronze
9	32	2015	Symphony Hill Wines	Tempranillo	47.0	bronze
9	33	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Reserve Saperavi	52.0	silver
9	34	2016	Symphony Hill Wines	Montepulciano	49.5	bronze

**Class Comments:** Super strong class, very diverse. Pull out your Pinot and plant Italian!!

Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>10</b>	<b>Dry Red Blends</b>					
10	1	2016	Girraween Estate	Estate Shiraz Cabernet	52.5	Silver
10	2	2016	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'Joshua's Pup'	49.0	Bronze
10	3	2014	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate Cabernet Malbec	48.0	Bronze
10	4	2014	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'Hungry Horse'	46.5	Bronze
10	5	2014	Twisted Gum Wine	Shiraz/Cabernet Sauvignon	43.5	
10	6	2014	Mt Tamborine Vineyard & Winery	The Alchemist Shiraz Cabernet	42.0	
10	7	2016	Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Malbec 2016	45.0	
10	8	2015	Robert Channon Wines	Cabernet Shiraz 2015	43.0	
10	9	2016	Just Red Wines	Cabernet Merlot	42.5	
10	10	2013	Granite Ridge Wines	The Ridge	44.5	
10	11	2014	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate South Burnett Terroir Il Taglio	44.5	
10	12	2016	Summit Estate	Queensland Cabernet 2016	55.5	Gold
10	13	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Triboulet	44.0	

**Class Comments:** Highest awarded wine in class was quite sublime with soft acid in a savoury palatte with beautifully integrate oaks and tannins. Best wines were a standout. Top wine if consistent could put this blend on the map for the region. Unfortunately, many wines were lacking in freshness and vitality while simple wine making faults were all too common. These blends underpin Australia's historical wine making past and should be celebrated. It was great to see two magnificent examples of these blends.

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## 11 Rose or Light Red, Early Release Red, Dry or slightly Off-Dry styles (<10g/L RS)

Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
11	1	2017	Moonrise Estate	Moonlight Rose	51.0	Silver
11	2	2017	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'Smigleys Rose'	47.0	Bronze
11	3	2017	Twisted Gum Wine	Shiraz Rose	44.0	
11	4	2017	Ballandean Estate Wines	Messing About ROSE	47.5	Bronze
11	5	2017	View Wines By Sancerre Estate	View Wines Rose	45.5	
11	6	2017	Hidden Creek Wines	Hidden Creek Rose	46.0	

**Class Comments:** Lovely to see the dryness and delicate nature of the rose. Overall, well made, good light styles of rose.

## 12 White – fruity, semi-sweet and medium sweet styles, including Moscato

12	1	2016	Jester Hill Wines	Sommers Gold	43.0	
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**Class Comments:** Sweet - nothing varietal demonstrated.

## 13 Rose or Red – fruity, semi-sweet and medium sweet styles, including Moscato

13	1	Jester Hill Wines	2 Fools Sommers Red Rose	Cabernet Sauvignon 100%	45.0	
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**Class Comments:** Light, delicate, sweet rose, well made, but perhaps too sweet.

## 14 Dessert Whites - dessert styles, rich and luscious, more than 60 g/L residual sugar

14	1	2014	Ballandean Estate Wines	Late Harvest Viognier	49.0	Bronze
14	2	2015	Dusty Hill Wines	Botrytis Verdelho	46.5	Bronze
14	3	2015	Whiskey Gully Wines	2015 Pengloss Colombard Chardonnay	45.5	

**Class Comments:**

Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>15</b>	<b>Fortified Wines – all styles</b>					
15	1	NV	Granite Ridge Wines	Granite Amber	51.0	Silver
15	2	NV	Dusty Hill Wines	Fortified Verdelho	44.5	
15	3	NV	Dusty Hill Wines	Liqueur Muscat	48.5	Bronze
15	4	NV	Ballandean Estate Wines	Liqueur Muscat	55.5	Gold

**Class Comments:** Good class with solid expression of Aussie style, best wine showed purity and good use of spirit

## 16 Sparkling Wine– Red or White

16	1	2017	Balancing Rock Wines	2017 Stellar Sparkling Pinot Noir Chardonnay	46.5	Bronze
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16	2	2015	Banca Ridge	Method Traditionelle Sparkling	51.5	Silver
16	3	2017	Girraween Estate	Sparkling Rose	51.0	Silver
16	4	2015	Girraween Estate	Sparkling Shiraz	48.5	Bronze
16	5	2014	Ridgemill Estate	Ridgemill Estate 'Eloise'	42.5	
16	6	2015	O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyard	Lona Sparkling Semillon	45.5	
16	7	2010	Clovely Estate	Clovely Estate Reserve Blanc de Blanc	48.0	Bronze
16	8	2009	Preston Peak Wines	Serisier	NP	

**Class Comments:** Good commercial quality class, most wines had the persistent bead, quite a mixed bag wines, ranging from Moscato's to complex wines on lees. Many good examples but all had some minor issues ranging from aldehyde excess to imbalanced sweetnees to overall lacking freshness. Best wines were awarded for bright, fresh, lively fruit & persistent bead.

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### 17 Museum Class – Red (2009 or earlier) or White (2010 or earlier)

17	1	2001	Hidden Creek Wines	Hidden Creek Rare Tawny	48.0	Bronze
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**Class Comments:** Good spice, powerful oak

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Class	No.	Year	Winery	Wine Name	Score	Medal
<b>18</b>	<b>Provenance Class</b>					
18	5 a,b,c		Clovely Estate	2010, 2013, 2014		Wine of Provenance
18	3 a, b, c		Robert Channon Wines	Reserve Chardonnay 2014, 2015, 2016		
18	2 a, b,c		Ridgemill Estate	Ridgmill Estate WYP, 2009, 2012, 2013		
18	1 a,b,c		Girraween Estate	Estate Cabernet Sauvignon 2013, 2014, 2016		
18	6 a, b, c		Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Shiraz 2009, 2012, 2016		
18	4 a, b, c		Just Red Wines	Tannat 2014, 2015, 2016		
18	7 a, b,c		Jester Hill Wines	Touchstone Petit Verdot 2008, 2012, 2016		

Class Comments: Top wine had great consistency, a standout!. Other wines showed the challenges that consistency brings. Most brackets had stronger and weaker wines.

## 19 Innovative Wine Styles

19	1	2017	Robert Channon Wines	Wild Ferment Verdelho 2017	53	silver
19	2	2015	Dusty Hill	Forgotten Shiraz	55.5	gold
19	3	2012	Clovely Estate	Artisan Polyphemus Passito Shiraz	48	bronze

Class comment: A great class of wines made in an alternative style. My judging approach was to take simple bias out of the judging criteria such as pointing down for cloudiness or colour and awarded the wines for their balance from the interactions with their alternative wine making methods. Keep up the great work!