MCHENRY HOHNEN VINTNERS



2021 McHENRY HOHNEN APIARY BLOCK CHARDONNAY

Review Summary

93 pts — "A tiny parcel of Gingin Chardonnay within Hazel's Vineyard. This wine draws its name from beehives perched atop this biodynamically farmed block. What some might refer to as a 'natural wine', this is a pure and raw expression of place free from winemaking manipulation and artefact.

Fruit was handpicked and whole bunch pressed straight to a 700L concrete egg vessel without any sulphur addition. The juice underwent wild yeast and full malo-lactic fermentation and was left on full lees for 10 months. Moved only once in the winery a few days before being bottled without any sulphur, fining or filtration.

Whether by the power of suggestion, or actually there, does have a sort of creamed honey character, along with some dustiness and ginger. It's spicy and juicy, crisp acidity, apple and ripe lemon. Texture is again fine and chalky with a subtle umami flavour to it, moving towards roast chicken or something like that. Very interesting expression of MR Chardonnay here. Good. I'm all for it."

Gary Walsh, The Wine Front March 2022

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