

# DIRECTOR'S CUT SPECIAL EDITION 2017 Chardonnay

### AN ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

In the film business, the "Director's Cut" emerged as a means for filmmakers to present their own creative vision of a story. At the Francis Ford Coppola Winery, Director's Cut wines were created as a way for wine "director" Corey Beck to craft wines that would reflect his own unique vision that embraces appellation-specific sourcing, meticulous fruit selection, and numerous blending trials so that the wines capture the distinct nuances of the fruit's microclimates in a highly refined style.

#### DUTTON RANCH

Located in the Russian River Valley less than ten miles from the Pacific Ocean, Dutton Ranch is comprised of more than 75 separate vineyards planted in the coolest areas of the region. This year's Chardonnay is a single vineyard bottling from Gail Ann's Vineyard, a parcel of Dutton Ranch that resides in the warmest part of the appellation, an area known for producing Chardonnay with expressive tropical tones.

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

The 2017 growing season began with a good deal of precipitation, but after a mild spring, temperatures heated up and remained quite warm throughout summer and fall. Fortuitously, the vintage delivered smaller than average clusters, which led to excellent concentration and high quality fruit overall. Our Chardonnay was ready for harvest a few weeks ahead of schedule. Once picked, the fruit was pressed whole-cluster and fermented in small French oak barrels to achieve a rich, creamy mouthfeel and heightened spice nuances.

## TASTING NOTES

Our 2017 Director's Cut Special Edition Chardonnay offers vibrant aromas of pineapple, melon, kumquats, and clove. Full-bodied and broad on the palate, the wine's lush flavors of apples, lemon cream, cinnamon graham cracker, and smoky bourbon vanilla build before finding a crescendo of crisp mineral notes on the finish.



FINAL CUT

CHARDONNAY

UTTON HILL VINEYARD, RUSSLAN RIVER VALLEY



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