

# THE 2009 KASHMIR CUVÉE

The 2009 vintage was challenging, yet rewarding throughout northern California. In order to achieve optimum balance and ripeness, patience and flexibility were the hallmarks of our growing season. In the end, the work we put into the vineyard paid off with remarkable wines that showcase great fruit concentration, balance and finesse.

Each year there is great anticipation for the release of our Kashmir Cuvée. This small production reserve Cabernet Sauvignon is crafted from select blocks of our vineyard. These special lots are determined by our winemaker, Mark Herold, and crafted only in the best years. Kashmir is a unique expression of Kamen Estate and a notable addition to any wine cellar.

We hope you will enjoy our Kamen Estate Wines as much as we enjoyed growing and crafting them.

- ROBERT MARK KAMEN





#### WINEGROWING INFORMATION

To create our Kamen Kashmir Cuvée, we have carefully chosen certain blocks from our 30-year-old mountain vineyard that exhibit distinct characteristics year after year. In select vintages, the cuvée made from the thoughtful blending of these individual sites produces a unique wine where the whole exceeds the quality of its individual parts.

2009 began with a warm and dry early spring. The season gave way to consistent growing conditions without any drastic variations. We saw a beautiful, warm vintage with an extended spell of warm temperatures through September. The key components which go into creating the Kashmir cuvée were hand harvested, block by block, from October 3rd through October 25th. Our yields from these blocks were under 1.5 tons per acre. The grapes were harvested at full maturity with an intense ripe fruit component without high sugar content, showcasing a great balance of ripe fruit flavors and fresh acidity. The result is a wine that is aromatic, concentrated and developed.

## WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

This wine begins with saturated inky tones in the glass and leads to layered aromas of creamy blueberries, blackberries, forest floor, black truffles, rose petals, ripe cherries, leather and dark cocoa nibs. The concentrated palate offers incredible texture and balance with intense flavors of dark cherry, cola, candied raspberry and subtle stony mineral attributes. The finely grained tannins are seamlessly integrated, offering a silky mouth feel, leading to a long, lingering and elegant finish. The 2009 Kashmir Cuvée is a wine that can be enjoyed now and will mature gracefully over the next 25 years.

#### ACCOLADES

"The 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Kashmir is rich, deep and plush. The wine's extroverted personality is nicely balanced by ripe tannins. Mocha, espresso, sweet spices and plums are layered into the huge, textured finish. Here, too, the style is decidedly ripe, but there is also more than enough freshness to play off the juiciness of the fruit. Anticipated maturity: 2014–2024." —Antonio Galloni, The Wine Advocate

### Vineyard Information

100% Estate Grown Cabernet Sauvignon at elevations of 1100–1450 ft. Sonoma Valley, Certified Organic & Biodynamic Vineyards

#### Production and Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.4% Production: 110 cases Release Date: February 2013