

Meshach William Burge (1843 – 1942) was Grant's great grandfather and a central figure in establishing the Burge family's winemaking tradition. He was 11 when his family moved from Hillcot, in Wiltshire, England, to the Barossa Valley and established what has grown into a thriving viticultural, wheat and sheep property near Lyndoch.

In tribute, Grant has selected his finest Shiraz to bear his name and be his flagship wine. Since the first vintage in 1988, Meshach has won several of Australia's top trophies and many medals. It is generally regarded as one of the country's best dry reds.

THE FRUIT

The fruit for this wine was handpicked from my Filsell Vineyard, where the vines are almost 100 years old, along with a small portion of fruit selected from my even older premium vines in the Barossa. The age of these vines means Meshach is made from fruit with tremendous concentration and intensity, especially when allowed to ripen to the desired Baumé of 14.5°. The 2003 growing season was a drier season, with warmer weather just before picking which provided fruit of richness and intensity from the aged vines.

THE WINEMAKING

After crushing, the juice was fermented down to a Baumé of approximately 1°, then pressed before being transferred to barrel, mainly American and a small portion of French oak hogsheads, to complete primary and secondary fermentation. After the wine was racked and the barrels cleaned, the wine was returned to the same oak for 22 months maturation. The wine was then bottled and aged for another three years before release.

(2003 Meshach SHIRAZ)

The wine is deep garnet in colour with a purple hue alluding to the youthfulness of this 2003 Meshach Shiraz. The wine exudes a complex and intense nose with aromas of white pepper, mint and earthy characters with rich plums and hints of sage and thyme. The elegant palate shows complex layers of concentrated berry fruit with stewed plums, Christmas cake and mocha; nestled amongst the complex oak and a hint of leather.

The elegant finish of this Iconic wine is complimented with fine grain tannins and lingering length. This stunning wine is Barossa Shiraz at its best, concentrated, big and bold, and will cellar for 20 years or more.

