

APOLLO'S PRAISE DRY ROSÉ, NUTT ROAD VINEYARD



100% Cabernet Franc. Equal parts generous and serious. Aromas of pomegranate, raspberry and tomato jump out immediately, and lead to a densely structured midpalate - dare we say slightly tannic? - that is enrobed with generous berry and grapefruit flavors. A burst of apricot leads to a long mineral and slightly bitter finish. These contrasts make for a wine that is excellent with food or on its own; it keeps drawing you back for more.

Nutt Road Vineyard, on the northwest side of Seneca Lake, Dresden Bench, minutes away from the village of Dresden in the Finger Lakes region of New York State, is a wonderful planting, grown by Peter Martini of Anthony Road Wine Company. Gentle east-facing slope and well exposed fruit zone. Crushed into a stainless-steel tank, the fruit and juice were allowed to cold soak for 72 hours prior to draining and pressing off. All the juice and pressings were combined together, resulting in an almost red color at the start of fermentation. A mix of very low rates of Rhone4600, GRE, and Vin13 yeasts resulted in a cold fermentation for aromatic development, but a steady fermentation that allowed it to finish before any risk of a spontaneous malolactic fermentation. The wine then rested on the fermentation lees until February, when it was racked, pad filtered and bottled.

Apollo's Praise was founded in 2023 in the Finger Lakes region of New York, by married couple Kelby James Russell and Julia Rose Hoyle. They are both expert winemakers who spent 15 years making wine for other local vineyards. The winery's history is tied to the famous Lahoma Vineyard, which they bought to create their first vintage. Their philosophy is that the best wines are art. They believe wine should tell a story about where and when it was made. Instead of trying to make a "perfect" wine every year, they embrace the changes that come with each harvest season. They use minimal-intervention methods to let the natural traits of the fruit shine. They compare their role to salt in food. They want to guide the wine to its true self without their work being too noticeable.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:

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