

2023 Landing in Place

Much of the rhetoric in wine is in service of going deep into some aspect of its provenance. We focus on the parts: the place, the vintage, the people - but separately, as components. Having moved entirely in 2021, and personally being most concerned with the role of the natural world in writing the greatest wine story ever told, it is natural that, upon our first fully realized harvest where we have now landed, I have questions in my heart.

What does it mean within my philosophy, for sense of place - for a wine, to be moved, and then to land, and to be landed? When I wrote the 'place' section for my website, I wove many definitions of **hope** and **well** into the narrative story of Hope Well's **where**. And here we are, geographically near, but in a new place, and yet still, **here we are**.

*Hope Well is **wherever** we say thank you with our hands, our hearts and our minds for the true and priceless gifts.*

*Hope Well is a noun **and** a verb. Hope Well is the borderless, dimensionless, six-sense experience of love.*

And so I submit that we have landed, in place, in love, where we belong. Because we do not seek the components. We seek the connections. Where we work, we love, when now is a million moments of listening and smelling and closing your eyes in the embrace of the life around you so that, in great pauses, we can truly see we are owned – we are landed.

The dictionary says this of *landed*, adjective: 'owning much land, especially through inheritance,' to which here, I offer a new definition, and a welcome addition to the Hope Well philosophy

'To be owned by much land'

In 2023 we found Hope Well quite landed in place, being immediately owned by this land.

Human. Nature. Hope Well



Hope Well 2023 Chenin Blanc Estate Grown, Eola-Amity Hills

Harvested October 5, 2023

100% Chenin blanc

100% organically farmed

Whole cluster pressed

Barrel fermented in neutral french oak

No commercial yeasts or bacteria were used

Alcohol 12.1%

184 six-pack cases produced

Bottled February 2024

2023 was an enchanting goldilocks of a vintage, with graceful long autumn days that accommodated the Chenin's request for a deeper October. The runway was not quite long enough for a Hunter's Moon, but I will not argue with the results. The verve of this Chenin blanc is so powerful, one wine will speak for the overall potential of this place for the variety.

Friends, the improbable wine we made in 2022 was a sparkle in the eye of a true beauty. In 2023 she is revealed. There is little I can say of our role here: at each step along the way we merely tried our hardest to build a backdrop for her to shine from.

Here she is, and here we are.

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