



### **2011 Deep River Blend**

**Columbia Valley AVA | 94 Cases Produced**

#### **Vineyards**

Windrow Vineyard, the oldest commercially planted Walla Walla vineyard, gives us the Malbec on this blend. We usually get a ton of cigar leaf and orange rind with flowers on this Malbec. The Cabernet Franc is coming off of our favorite “Rocks District” vineyard, Old Stones Vineyard. The heat that emanates off the rocks from this site helps cook out the pyrazines from Cabernet Franc in this cold vintage.

#### **Winemaking**

2011 was a hard year to make wine in general and this blend was the one I was looking forward to the least. Cabernet Franc is so famous for needing full growing seasons that we switched to a much hotter site this year, assuring that we were getting that spice, cherry and tobacco that we knew it could give us if we looked hard enough. Our D254 yeast gave us the hot ferments that we were looking for. I aimed for nice hot ferments to accent the darker notes that the fruit was giving us.

#### **Tasting Notes**

56% Malbec, 44% Cabernet Franc. Bordeaux’s gnarled undercurrent surfaces in this new world creation. Angsty and seductive- winter leaves, Malbec’s black jam and tree bark meet Cabernet Franc’s cherry cola with a hint of paprika and a kick full of spice on the mid-palate. Dried figs and perfume linger. A wine for the curious.