

2010 EROICA RIESLING

Launched in 1999, Eroica is a labor of love for two of the world's great Riesling producers. One from the Old World, Dr. Loosen estate of Germany, and the other from the New World, Chateau Ste. Michelle of Washington state. An intermingling of Old and New World philosophies and techniques enables the crafting an extraordinary Riesling from Washington state grapes. Named for Beethoven's Third Symphony, Eroica reflects not only its variety and site, but also its heritage: bold and forward from its Washington roots, elegant and refined from German inspiration.

TASTING NOTES

"The 2010 Eroica Riesling exudes mandarin orange and sweet lime aromas and flavors with subtle mineral notes. The mouth-watering acidity is beautifully balanced by flavorful Washington Riesling fruit. After a more than a decade we have truly found our "Eroica style," striving for beautiful bright fruit with crisp acidity and enhanced minerality."



Bob Bertheau, Winemaker

VINTAGE

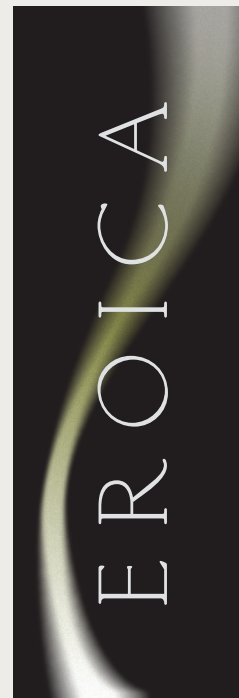
- ~ 2010 was one of the coolest vintages on record and a year that tested our winemaker's patience.
- ~ The ripening season was marked by a mild spring and cool summer, resulting in harvest starting three weeks later than normal.
- ~ Fortunately, a warmer September and October allowed grapes to ripen to maturity.
- ~ The cooler weather conditions resulted in grapes reaching optimum flavor ripeness to desired sugar levels.
- ~ The cooler vintage allowed Riesling to develop concentrated flavors and vibrant acidity.

VINEYARDS

- ~ Eroica begins in the vineyard with Ernst Loosen and Chateau Ste. Michelle winemaker Bob Bertheau collaborating on site selection, irrigation management, crop levels and canopy management.
- ~ They work with vineyard managers to adjust yields and manage fruit exposure to prolong the ripening season for added flavor development of these cooler climate vineyards.
- ~ Zillah Ranch in the Yakima Valley provided more than half of the Riesling for the blend contributing amazing acidity and minerality.
- ~ Evergreen Vineyard, near the town of George, Washington, also contributed to the blend, imparting crisp lime and delicate peach flavors to the wine.

WINEMAKING

- ~ To protect flavor intensity, grapes were harvested at night when the vineyard temperatures were coldest.
- ~ Berries went direct to press, avoiding the possible loss of freshness caused by a crusher/destemmer.
- ~ A cool fermentation created a seamless integration of fruit, sugar and acid. Fruit-driven yeasts with slower fermentation rates were used to slow down fermentation and heighten fruit flavors.
- ~ Ernst Loosen and Bob Bertheau considered dozens of small lots, each reflecting a slight difference in character depending on where the grapes were grown, resulting in the complexity of the final blend.



TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL ACIDITY.....	0.79g/100ml
pH.....	3.05
ALCOHOL.....	12.5%
RESIDUAL SUGAR.....	1.64g/100ml
BLEND.....	100% Riesling

FOOD PAIRINGS

FOODS: *Asian dishes, Indian curries, crab, scallops*

Chateau Ste. Michelle
&
DR. LOOSEN