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BLANKbottle, Myköffer (2019)

Producer	BLANKbottle
Distributor	Blue Crane Imports
Category	Wine - Still - Red
Grape variety	Cinsault
Region	Western Cape, South Africa
Subregion	Breede River Valley
Appellation	Breedekloof
Feature	Sustainable
Vintage	2019
Alcohol by volume	13.0%



Sizes

750 mL × 12 — BB-MK-75-19

Distributor's notes

As we move along in this adventure called life, we're (hopefully) increasingly exposed to fine and fascinating wines. We forget quickly and the days of getting excited when opening a bottle of Tassenberg are long gone. It was back in February, 1994 when I walked into a Stellenbosch liquor store and bought my first bottle of TAS for R3.50. In the (student) years to follow, I partook in a lot of Tassenberg drinking, to put it mildly, which gave me ample opportunity for reflection and I came to the conclusion that I wasn't particularly fond of the whole wine but there was one flavour component in the wine which I loved. That flavour component reminded me of fresh strawberries - a sweet, green, wholesome sort of freshness. In 1997 I completed a month-long harvest stint in the city of Tassenberg at the Eersterivier Wine Cellar, Stellenbosch where we made hundreds of thousands of litres of Tassenberg. This is where the light went on for me and I finally identified the grape which produces my mysterious fresh strawberry component. It was Cinsault! Ever since then I'd had the dream of producing a Cinsault that tastes exactly the way I would like to remember TAS. The first straight Cinsault I bottled was in 2007 from Wellington. The wine was good but not exactly the style I was after. Not long thereafter, I received a tip from a well-respected winemaker friend about a little vineyard located in the lesser-known Breedekloof Valley. At that stage, the grapes went to a big cooperative winery where it basically disappeared into cheap red blends. So I took the plunge and bought some grapes. Cinsault is known as a varietal which produces lots of grapes per hectare. Besides the fact that Cinsaut has huge bunches, it also has massive berries. You therefore have much less skin-versus-juice contact and therefore end up with a lighter coloured wine. I had the grapes ferment in small open-top French oak barrels and aged it in the same barrels for a year before being bottled. Today, seven vintages down the line, I'm releasing the new Mykoffer 2019 - a straight Breedekloof Cinsault - with cherries and strawberries, it has an elegance to it with a surprisingly intense personality. So with all the emotions connected to a first love, I present "My TASSENBERG", "My TAS" - BLANKbottle Mykoffer 2019 - a suitcase full of memories.

About the producer

Regarded as one of the most innovative producers in South Africa, in 2004 Pieter Walser pursued an ambition to make wine of quality, excitement and mystery - for those intrigued by what's in the bottle, not by what's on the label. Armed with an education in Agriculture, Viticulture and Oenology, and a nomadic, adventurous spirit, BLANKbottle was born. Pieter sought creative flexibility, and to be unconstrained when it came to style, region, vintage and cultivars. This led him to form alliances with vineyards, winemakers and wineries throughout the country, and the opportunity to craft unique blends of premium character. This versatility turned out to be the BLANKbottle edge.

Pieter's eclectic range is from vineyards positioned across the Western Cape, representing diverse regions, micro-climates, soil types, and varietals, ultimately leading to different wine styles and the ability to also introduce once-off limited runs of compelling wines. As Pieter tells it himself, "When I started BLANKbottle, my goal was to create an honest wine brand that had no limitations in order to break down any preconceived expectations....I've come to realize that the road I'm on does not necessarily lead to the perfect winery. Rather, it's an adventure, it gives me

stories to tell, and that I count as my true riches and success.” As it turns out, the BLANKbottle labels are in fact as exceptional as the wine, having recently won multiple awards, including the Grand Prix, at the 2015 Wine Label Design Awards.
