

# CASUAL ENCOUNTERS

## 2016 SGMT

**Varietals:**

37% Syrah, 28% Grenache,  
25% Mourvèdre, 10% Tannat

**Appellation:**

California

**Vineyards:**

White Hawk, White Cliffs, Luna  
Matta, Chelle Mountain, Slide Hill,  
Paderewski, Rolph, Bien Nacido,  
Shadow Canyon, Larner

**Vinification:**

25% Whole Cluster

**Production:**

458 cases made

**Oak:**

55% New French Oak

**Time in Barrel:**

24 months

**Alcohol:**

15.4 %

**Cellar potential:**

6-8 years

**Release date:**

September 8, 2018

**TASTING NOTES**

Saturday night at Craft is the place to be. Valet the Excalibur and drop yourself into one of the luxurious leather booths. Cigar smoke lingers in the air as the aroma of exquisitely prepared cuts come from the kitchen. The dinner captain carves you a generous portion of peppercorn-crusted prime rib right at your table as you take in the rich earthy colors and textures of the dining room from another era. Lazaretto cherries come to mind as the wine marries well with the meat.

**NOTES**

Casual Encounters takes its name from the orgiastic nature of its origins as a blend of small cofermented lots. By giving up control and embracing game-day decisions during harvest, Casual Encounters best captures the lengths Russell will go in setting orthodoxy aside and letting flavor take full stage.

**SERVING**

Temperature: 65°F

Decant: 45 minutes

**ABOUT**

Proprietor and winemaker Russell P. From began Herman Story Wines in 2001 with 7 barrels stashed in his employer's cellar. What started as a modest homage to his rancher grandfather has become a beacon to those seeking opulent, structured Syrah and Grenache. To maintain balance while giving flavor full stage, Russell works with 30 top-tier vineyards in over 7 distinct growing regions between Santa Barbara and Paso Robles. Vineyards of particular note include: Bien Nacido, Slide Hill, Larner, Shadow Canyon, Chelle Mountain, Luna Matta and White Hawk. These are no nonsense, balls to the walls wines that are not for the faint of heart or the pinky raising set.

**HERMAN  
STORY**

**CONTACT**

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