Vintage
Generous rains returned to Paso Robles in 2016, with the Gean Ranch receiving over 22 inches of precipitation prior to budbreak. We saw above average heat summation through the spring which supported healthy vine growth, followed by moderate summer temperatures leading into veraison. The crop was thinned in early August. At harvest, we made two passes through the vineyard for the Mourvèdre. In the first pass, about a week or two prior to the main harvest, we removed and declassified any clusters affected by sunburn or low color development. This allowed the vine to focus on bringing the remaining fruit to the luxury-class ripeness we love in the 2016 Gesture Mourvèdre.

Vineyard
The source for our Mourvèdre is the J. Lohr Gean Ranch, which is the westernmost vineyard in the entire Paso Robles AVA. This planting, located in the Adelaida district, was established in 2009 and now produces wines of the balance and intensity demanded by our limited release Gesture program. The overall farming plan brings the crop to just one cluster per shoot prior to veraison, and in order to intensify flavor, these large-clustered varieties require trimming the wings and shoulders off the clusters as well.

Winemaker’s Comments
This exceptional 2016 vintage of J. Lohr Gesture Mourvèdre is dark to the rim of the glass, with complex aromas of tobacco, bay laurel, coffee grounds, and soy. Firm tannins and bright acidity invigorate the palate, leaving black walnut and spicy cardamom on the finish.

—Steve Peck, red winemaker

Food Pairings
This wine is excellent with many of the specialties of southwestern France and Catalonia, such as pork roast or a platter of prosciutto tapas, dried almonds, fresh figs and aged cheeses.