

JEB DUNNUCK

JebDunnuck.com April 2020

Long Shadows Vintners

2016 Chester-Kidder Proprietary Red	Columbia Valley, WA	94 points
An interesting blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Syrah, and the rest Petit Verdot, all aged 30 months in 85% new French oak. Jammy blackberries, cassis, graphite, scorched earth, and crushed flower notes all emerge from the glass, and it's full-bodied, with a layered, opulent texture, subtle vanilla oak, and a great finish. It's a beautiful, powerful yet impeccably balanced wine that will evolve for 15-20 years.		
2017 Pirouette Proprietary Red	Columbia Valley, WA	96 points
The 2017 Pirouette checks in as 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 13% Malbec, and the rest Petit Verdot. Gorgeous crème de cassis, crushed flowers, white chocolate, and espresso notes all give way to a full-bodied, thrillingly textured, layered red that has terrific tannins, no hard edges, and a great, great finish. It can be drunk today but will develop additional complexity with 3-4 years of bottle age and keep for two decades or more.		
2017 Sequel Syrah	Columbia Valley, WA	93+ points
Put together by John Duval, the 2017 Sequel (100% Syrah fermented with 30% stems) is a ripe, sexy wine that's in the same ballpark as past vintages. Rocking notes of black currants, blackberries, peppered game, licorice, and subtle chocolate all flow to a powerful, full-bodied Syrah that has good purity of fruit, ripe, chewy tannins, a big mid-palate, and a great finish.		
2017 Pedestal Merlot	Columbia Valley, WA	95 points
Beautiful cassis, chocolate, leafy herbs, and earth all emerge from the 2017 Pedestal, a ripe, sexy, opulent wine that does everything right. A blend put together by Michel Rolland and aged 22 months in 86% new French oak, it's beautiful today yet is going to cruise in cool cellars for 15 years or more.		
2017 Feather Cabernet Sauvignon	Columbia Valley, WA	95+ points
I always love this wine, and the 2017 Feather is no exception. Made from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon and brought up in 88% new French oak, it has loads of black fruits, dark chocolate, graphite, and charcoal aromatics as well as a full-bodied, concentrated, backward style on the palate. It's terrific, but don't open bottles for at least another 3-4 years.		
2017 Saggi Proprietary Red	Columbia Valley, WA	92 points
The 2017 Saggi checks in as 59% Sangiovese, 24% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 17% Syrah that spent 18 months in 60% new oak. Its deep, saturated purple color isn't reminiscent of Sangiovese, yet it boasts rocking notes of jammy blackberries, raspberries, toasted spices, and dried flowers, with just a kiss of dried earth. Medium-bodied, with subtle oak, notable balance, and a great finish. It's another impeccably made wine by this estate that has loads to love.		
2018 Poet's Leap Riesling	Columbia Valley, WA	90 points
The 2018 Poet's Leap sports a lively gold hue to go with classy notes of sugared green apple, sappy herbs, mint, and hints of minerality. Medium-bodied, off-dry, and beautifully balanced, with a vibrant finish, it will evolve gracefully for over a decade.		
2017 Dance Chardonnay	Columbia Valley, WA	90 points
2017 Chardonnay Dance comes from two vineyards (French Creek and Boushey) and was fermented in a mix of oak and concrete before spending 17 months in a mix of concrete eggs, new barrels, and neutral oak. Loads of honeyed orchard fruits, spice, flinty minerality, and a kiss of brioche all emerge from the glass, and it's medium-bodied and offers subtle background oak, nicely integrated acidity, and a great finish.		

2016 SHOUP**Columbia Valley, WA****98 points**

The 2016 Shoup, another inky colored effort from this estate, checks in as 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Petit Verdot, and the rest and even split of Malbec and Merlot, all aged in new French oak. Wonderful crème de cassis, cedar pencil, unsmoked tobacco, and chocolate notes all soar from the glass, and it's wonderfully textured and super-concentrated on the palate. Building with time in the glass, with ample tannins and a great mid-palate, this is another magical wine from this estate that's up with the top handful of Bordeaux blends in Washington.

2015 Feather "Vintage Select" Cab Sauv**Columbia Valley, WA****96 points**

The 2015 Feather Vintage Select is made by Randy Dunn and is all Cabernet Sauvignon aged in new barrels. This rocking effort has tons of dark, cassis and currant styled fruits interwoven with notes of chocolate, graphite, and lead pencil-like aromas and flavors. Rich, full-bodied, and concentrated on the palate, it stays beautifully balanced, has ripe tannins, and is a straight-up gorgeous Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink it any time over the coming two decades.

2015 Pedestal "Vintage Select" Merlot**Columbia Valley, WA****95 points**

A blend put together by Michel Rolland, the 2015 Pedestal Vintage Select checks in as 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 8% Malbec, and the rest Petit Verdot. Its saturated purple color is followed by a full-bodied, seamless, incredibly textured effort that has lots of blackcurrant, chocolate, spice, and tobacco-like aromas and flavors. Rich, mouthfilling, yet always light on its feet, with sweet tannins, drink this pleasure-bent effort over the coming 10-15 years.

2015 Pirouette "Vintage Select" Red Wine**Columbia Valley, WA****94+ points**

Made by Philippe Melka, the 2015 Pirouette Vintage Select Solo Dancer is a dark, brooding, powerful effort that boasts a dense purple color to go with tons of black fruits, scorched earth, graphite, and dark chocolate. With full-bodied richness, a stacked mid-palate, and ripe tannins, it fills the mouth with fruit and has present yet sweet tannins and a blockbuster finish. I suspect it will evolve gracefully for 10-15 years, if not longer.