

Aperture



ABOUT



Aperture Cellars champions a range of stunning Bordeaux style wines from the Sonoma Valley. Founded in 2009 by winemaker Jesse Katz, Aperture wines are crafted from unique, cool-climate vineyards in Sonoma's top regions. Wanting to craft wines on par with the quality and refinement that are so integral to a Bordeaux, the winery set roots in Sonoma, believing it offers the best of both worlds: new world fruit and old world elegance.

FOUNDED

2009

LOCATION

Healdsburg, California

BARREL REGIME

Custom cooperages
New French oak

WINEMAKER

Jesse Katz

VINEYARDS

High-elevation
Volcanic soils

**AVERAGE CASE
PRODUCTION**

20,000 cases

TECHNICAL DATA

Barrel fermentation, extended
maturation; warm and cool
fermentation

APPELLATION

Alexander Valley
Bennett Valley
Russian River Valley
Sonoma County
Clarksburg

“We have a unique style within Alexander Valley. We can certainly have the powerful, rich fruit characteristics that people associate with the best of Napa. But then, there’s very fine and silky tannin , with elegance and freshness with a bit higher natural acidity and lower alcohol.” — **JESSE KATZ**, WINEMAKER



Cabernet Sauvignon is the signature wine of Aperture Cellars. The portfolio also includes a Red Bordeaux Blend, Sauvignon Blanc, Chenin Blanc and single-vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons.

The story of Aperture Cellars began over two decades ago, when Jesse Katz was growing up. His father, renowned photographer Andy Katz, brought him on visits to the most famous vineyards around the world, from the heart of Burgundy to the hills of Tuscany. Each wine label features an original Andy Katz photograph,

demonstrating every Aperture wine as an expression of art both inside the bottle and out.

Most recently, Aperture acquired the historic Ponzo vineyard, which has become the new site of the Aperture Estate, in Healdsburg, California. This land, with still thriving vines that were first planted in 1912, is home to a new state-of-the-art winery and hospitality center that opened to the public in the summer of 2020.

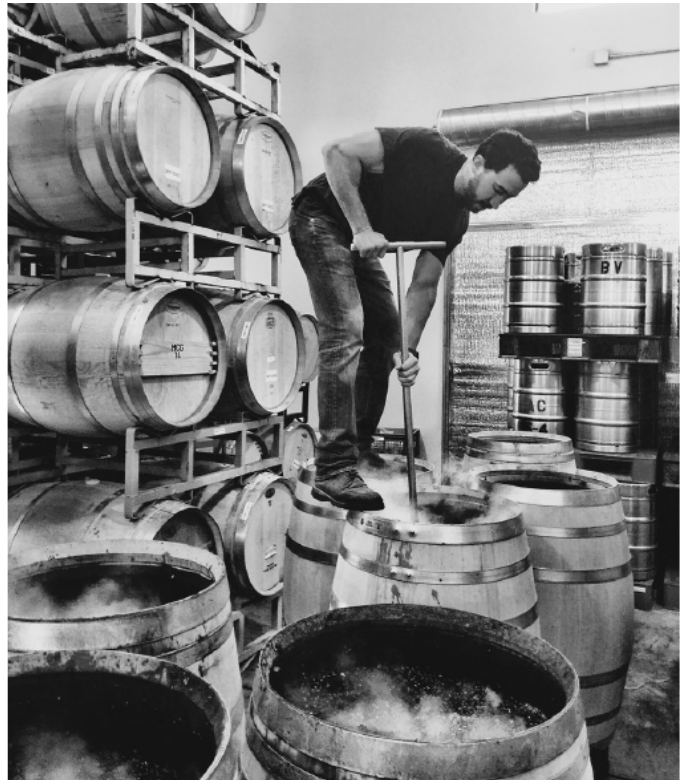
WINEMAKER *Jesse Katz*



Jesse's diverse experience spanning 24 harvests at wineries, along with his desire to travel, fed his aspiration to learn from the best in the industry, including Pétrus in Bordeaux, as well as time on the winemaking teams at Screaming Eagle Winery and Robert Foley Winery in Napa Valley, and Viña Cobos and Bodega Noemia in Argentina.

In 2010, Jesse was the youngest-hired head winemaker in the U.S. at Lancaster Estate where, during his five-year tenure, he orchestrated the building of the new Roth winery, production facility, and tasting room, and received 90+ scores on every wine scored by the Wine Advocate, and garnered Lancaster Estate's inclusion on the list of Wine Spectator's Top 100 Wines. In 2013, Wine Enthusiast named Jesse one of its 40 Under 40 Tastemakers and he was also the first winemaker on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list in 2014.

As a consulting winemaker for some of the biggest names in entertainment, including Von Miller, Tony Hawk and Justin Timberlake, in 2017, Jesse's wine collaboration with Shep Gordon, earned acclaim as the most expensive wine in the world.



Jesse performing a punch down on a barrel of 2016 Devil Proof Malbec.

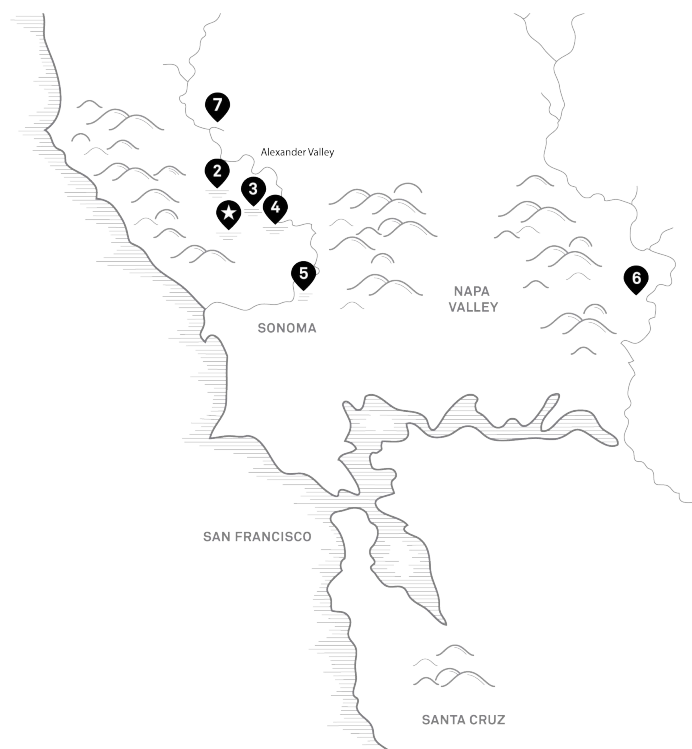


VINEYARDS

The focus always begins with the vineyards, more specifically the terroir. Aperture Cellars controls 140+ acres of vineyards in the Sonoma Valley, specifically sourced for their unique terroir and soil composition. Vineyards are under long-term leases or are owned by Aperture Cellars, which enables consistency and quality for all Aperture wines. In 2020 Aperture purchased Farrow Ranch Vineyard, adding 75 acres of Alexander valley Cabernet, Malbec, and Sauvignon Blanc to their estate properties.

Aperture partners with highly esteemed Viticulture Consultant Phil Freese for the entirety of their vineyard sites. Phil spent 13 years as Robert Mondavi's Vice-president of Wine Growing and was instrumental in the design of the first Opus One and Tokalon vineyards. Phil initiated the remote sensing project with NASA that has spawned a new wave of tools for viticulture analysis and quality enhancement. After establishing his own viticultural practice, he has consulted for some of the greatest estates worldwide. Today Phil exclusively consults for Aperture Cellars in California, splitting his year between Sonoma County and his home of South Africa.

- ★ Aperture Estate
- 2 Oliver Ranch
- 3 Del Rio Vineyard
- 4 SJ Ranch
- 5 Dry Stack Vineyard
- 6 Old Vine Chenin Blanc Vineyard
- 7 Farrow Ranch Estate Vineyard



Devil Proof

“Live well, drink well, and the devil can’t get you.”

– CUBAN PHILOSOPHY



PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES OF WHAT MAKES A WORLD-CLASS WINE

Devil Proof revolves around two single vineyard dry-farmed expressions of Malbec, one from Alexander Valley’s Farrow Ranch, and one from Rockpile Ridge vineyard.

Devil Proof holds the esteemed position as the highest-rated California Malbec by all the top wine critics, and the only Malbec to receive three separate 100 point scores.

"The best example of 100% Malbec I have ever tasted." **100 pts**
- Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*

"A magical wine...the finest Malbec I have ever tasted." **100 pts**
- Jeb Dunnuck

"Rich, seductive, and yet incredibly light on its feet...mind-blowing wine." **100 pts**
- *The Wine Independent*





Aperture



The Aperture Estate

Hospitality | Winery | Vineyards

In the summer of 2020 Aperture launched a new guest experience at their estate property with a custom designed hospitality space and modern winery located on Old Redwood Highway in Healdsburg, CA, just 2 miles from the downtown square.

The winery and tasting room buildings are designed by Signum Architecture, the same brilliant team that is responsible for the stunning designs of Odette Winery, Nine Suns, Cade, Melka Estate, Brand, and Hall Winery.

With inspiration driven from the physical aperture of a camera, the estate's buildings showcase dramatic angles, clean lines and a focus on natural light. The new 4,000 sq. ft. hospitality space is designed to include a seated tasting bar as well as private rooms for elevated experiences and an outdoor terrace overlooking the estate vineyards facing west towards the Russian River.

The gallery hospitality space features unique photographic art exhibits and hosts a variety of tasting experiences that explore the Aperture collection of wines, overlooking the estate vineyards. The space is also available to host custom experiences including private events, dinners and receptions.

The 42 acre site is home to 10 acres of old vine Zinfandel planted in 1912. New vineyard plantings, added to the property in 2019 and designed by winemaker Jesse Katz, include Merlot clones from Pétrus and Sémillon clones from d'Yquem as well as a collection of his favorite cool climate Cabernet clones and cover an additional 22 acres.

