

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, Jesse 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 completed on all varietals

APPELLATION

Alexander Valley
Bennett Valley
Russian River Valley
Sonoma County
Clarksburg

“Like my father’s ability to tell amazing stories through his photography, My greatest joy is bringing together and interweaving the intricacies of space, place, and time that make an exceptional bottle of wine.” — 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.

ART & WINE

Rooted in his early adventures to legendary vineyards and wineries around the world with his father, photographer Andy Katz, Jesse cultivated an enviable international wine education while sipping with luminaries and exploring storied cellars. He was inspired by the terroir, balance, and creativity of wine making that has set him on a path he has pursued ever since. Each wine label features an original Andy Katz photograph demonstrating every Aperture wine as an expression of art both inside and out. This unique collaboration between father and son offers a sensory dance that marries art and wine, inviting enthusiasts into their world where creativity and nature converge. Drawing inspiration from the precise and varied array of lens filters in a professional photographer's toolkit, Aperture identifies diverse vineyards, each harboring specific qualities that imbue their wines with varying shades of complexity. Today, Jesse creates distinct and nuanced wines for his brands, Aperture Cellars and Devil Proof Vineyards, that have earned multiple 100-point scores across both portfolios.



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. Aperture is the only Cabernet Sauvignon in the history of the Alexander Valley region to ever have received a perfect score. 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 of the top wine critics, and the only Malbec to receive multiple 100 point scores.



WINEMAKER *Jesse Katz*

Jesse's diverse experience spanning 25 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 2021 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 2021 Aperture purchased Farrow Ranch Vineyard, adding 80 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.

★ 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 numerous 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 gallery 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.

Most recently, Aperture acquired the historic Ponzio 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.

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.

The Aperture Estate

Hospitality | Winery | Vineyards

In the summer of 2020 Aperture launched their guest experience at the 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 4,000 sq. ft. luxury 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



WINE TASTING EXPERIENCES

Visit us in beautiful Healdsburg for a taste of our exceptional Bordeaux-style wines crafted by winemaker Jesse Katz.

Choose from three lush experiences offered in the stunning hospitality center.



SOIL SERIES EXPERIENCE

\$50 per person

A stunning introduction to the breadth of the Aperture portfolio. Our Soil Series collection consists of Bordeaux-inspired blends from exquisite vineyards in Alexander Valley and greater Sonoma County with unique soil profiles perfectly suited for these varieties.

SITE SERIES EXPERIENCE

\$75 per person

A rare opportunity to dive deep into the curated vineyards of Aperture Cellars while exploring the notion of terroir. Our Site Series experience focuses on unique cool-climate vineyards in Alexander Valley, showcasing the site-driven wines from our single-vineyard locations.

PRIVATE LOUNGE EXPERIENCE

\$125 per person

An in-depth showcasing of our most sought-after wines. While sipping some of the most esteemed wines in the country served alongside robust charcuterie boards, enjoy one of our immaculate private galleries, featuring floor to ceiling windows and a breathtaking view of our estate.

Details

- Available by appointment Thursday - Monday
- To schedule, please visit aperture-cellars.com or Tock
- Payment required for booking
- Call or email for parties larger than 6
- All visitors must be at least 21 years of age
- We do not allow pets
- Fees are refundable up to 2 days prior to the tasting. Within 2 days, fees are never waived or applied to purchases

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