Reviews from the July/August 2006 edition of Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

2004 Heathcote II Shiraz, Heathcote

91 Points

Inky violet. Intensely spiced aromas of tarry blackberry, cassis, kirsch, licorice and graphite. Powerful and strong in extract, with dark berry flavors accented by sexy, toasty oak spices and a note of chewing tobacco. Quite sweet, with supple tannins building on the finish but melding nicely with the lush blackcurrant and blackberry flavors. Impressive.

2004 Heathcote II H. D. Shiraz, Heathcote

93 Points

Saturated ruby. Imploded aromas of kirsch, black raspberry, boysenberry and blueberry, with notes of bitter chocolate and iron. Lush, creamy and powerful on the palate, the dark berry flavors showing a striking balance of weight and finesse. Smoky meat and mineral tones come up on the back end, adding to the wine's complexity. Finishes on notes of creme de mure, blackcurrant and candied licorice, with superb length and a hit of sexy oak spice.