



Reviews from the Sep/Oct 2008 edition of Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

By Josh Raynolds

2006 Heathcote II Myola, Heathcote

93 Points

(40% each of merlot and cabernet franc and 20% cabernet sauvignon) Bright ruby. Explosively perfumed, offering a sexy bouquet of ripe dark berries, incense and graphite. Muskier tobacco and sassafras qualities arrive with air and carry onto the palate. Sweet blackcurrant and cherry flavors stain the palate and are framed by velvety tannins, which also lend gentle grip. Clings impressively on the finish, echoing the tobacco and minerals. This could run with plenty of high-end Napa wines.

2006 Heathcote II Shiraz, Heathcote

92 Points

Opaque ruby. Expansive dark berry and mineral aromas are complemented by sexy oak spices and sandalwood. Sappy black and blue fruit flavors are impressively concentrated and pure, picking up dusty tannins and smoky minerality on the back end. Very suave and surprisingly accessible today, although I'd hold off on opening this for another few years, minimum.

2006 Heathcote II Shiraz H.D., Heathcote

93 Points

Inky purple. Powerful, somewhat brooding black fruit aromas become fresher with air, taking on exotic incense, spice and cured meat character. Dense cassis and blueberry flavors are firmed by chewy tannins and given lift and cut by smoky minerals. As dense and concentrated as this is, there's excellent energy, too, and the finish is pure and vibrant. I really like the streamlined personality of this wine.