

March 2008

Elsbeth Malbec - Trophy At Royal Easter Show

Mills Reef took top honours last Saturday night at the 55th Royal Easter Show Wine Awards with Elspeth Malbec 2006, receiving the Auckland A&P Association Trophy for "Champion Wine of Other Varieties".

The Malbec was produced from grapes grown on the winery's acclaimed Mere Road Vineyard in the Gimblett Gravels of Hawkes Bay, home to many of Mills Reef's Trophy-winning Elspeth wines during the last decade.

Of the 2006 vintage, Mills Reef winemaker Tim Preston commented that "the vintage was exceptional with great weather and ripe fruit, producing wines with terrific expression and texture".

Tim describes the 2006 Malbec as "powerful and complex, with an abundance of intense blackberry, coffee, dark chocolate and forest floor flavours, integrating with soft supple tannins and delicate oak, leading to a satisfyingly long dry finish."

The Mere Road Vineyard has developed quite a reputation for producing fine Malbec wines, with each Elspeth vintage produced, since the first in 2000, achieving high praise of Gold, Five Star or Trophy status.

Tim further commented that the "2006 Elspeth Malbec has only just been released so it's exciting to see it performing so fantastically early on. It will get even better with bottle age!".

Stocks of this fine wine are available, but with the recent Trophy win, Malbec fans will need to act quickly to secure some of this award-winning wine before it's completely snapped up.

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