



### A.T.RICHARDSON

# HARD HILL ROAD Mule Variation

#### Region

Great Western, Victoria, Australia

#### Winemaking

Inspired by the Tom Waits album of the same name, our Mule Variation is a blend of our most enigmatic red varieties: Nebbiolo, Tannat, Durif, and Shiraz. Like Waits' music, our Mule Variation is an unexpected take on an otherwise regular theme, creating a surprisingly harmonious yet subtly powerful wine.

Each variety was harvested separately at optimum flavour intensity, and fermented in open-topped fermenters and vinified initially with wild yeast and finished with an inoculated yeast. The slow and uninterrupted six-week fermentation created a uniquely complex structure and a massive array of flavours. The wine then rested in older 500L barrels for 12 months.

#### **Tasting Notes**

Deep garnet colour with lifted cooking spices, tar and floral notes on the nose. The palate is focused, intense with complex layers of blackberry, plums, and dark cherry. A full body wine with supple fine tannins and a plushness to the long finish. A generous, yet serious wine built to last.

## **Cellaring Potential**

The Hard Hill Road Mule Variation is a serious and age-worthy wine that, although drinks remarkable well in its youth, will continue to evolve and reward with decades in the cellar.

#### Technical Data

Typically harvested in April Bottled in December the following year 14.5 % Alcohol | 3.65 pH | 6.20 Total Acidity Less than 120 Dozen Produced