



91

2008 Sleight Of Hand The Archimage

The 2008 Archimage is composed of 50% Merlot, 33% Cabernet Franc, and 17% Cabernet Sauvignon. It spent 23 months in 50% new French oak. Notes of balsam wood, tobacco, olives, Asian spices, cassis, and black currant are followed by an incipiently complex, layered, spicy offering with excellent volume and length. It will offer optimum drinking between 2012 and 2020. Sleight of Hand Cellars began in 2007 coming out of the chute with some superb values, wines which are easy to spot on retail shelves because of their bright, magician-themed labels. There are two white wines among the current releases. Tel. (509) 386-6566; www.softcellars.com

- Jay S Miller (August, 2011)

Copyright 2016, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission



92

2008 Sleight Of Hand The Illusionist

Blended with only 8% Syrah and thus varietally-labeled, the Sleight of Hand 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon The Illusionist is diversely sourced, inter alia from Phinny Hill in the Horse Heaven Hills, where the winery team is involved with a new planting project. Ripe, fresh cassis is inflected with charred red meat as well as hints of mint and fennel. Like the corresponding 2009, this was raised in 60% new wood but doesn't show it. Mint and thyme delightfully tinge a juicy, polished palate and a lick of salt serves for memorable and welcome saliva inducement in the finish. Given Sleight of Hand's garish magic- and rock-themed labels, one might be tempted to imagine that winemaker Trey Busch and his partners, Jerry and Sandy Solomon – whom he met by chance in 2002 – have such a sense of whimsy, humor, and visual artistic sophistication that the ambitious pursuit...

- David Schildknecht (December, 2012)

Copyright 2016, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission



92

2008 Sleight Of Hand Syrah Levitation

The 2008 Levitation Syrah (100%) was sourced from the Les Collines and Lewis Vineyards and aged for 18 months in 50% new French oak. Smoked meat, minerals, lavender, black raspberry, and blueberry aromas lead to a plush, layered, rich Syrah that displays outstanding balance and length. This pleasure-bent effort will drink well through 2020. Sleight of Hand Cellars began in 2007 coming out of the chute with some superb values, wines which are easy to spot on retail shelves because of their bright, magician-themed labels. There are two white wines among the current releases. Tel. (509) 386-6566; www.softcellars.com

- Jay S Miller (August, 2011)

Copyright 2016, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission



87

2008 Sleight Of Hand Red Wine The Spellbinder

The 2008 The Spellbinder is a blend of Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Merlot, and Sangiovese aged for 11 months in neutral oak. It gives up an intriguing array of fresh herbs, sage, olives, spice notes, and cassis. Friendly and easy-going, it is an ideal bistro wine. Sleight of Hand Cellars began in 2007 coming out of the chute with some superb values, wines which are easy to spot on retail shelves because of their bright, magician-themed labels. Tel. (509) 386-6566; www.softcellars.com

- Jay S Miller (August, 2010)

Copyright 2016, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission

