



91

2011 Sleight Of Hand Chardonnay The Enchantress

A step up is the old vine 2011 Chardonnay The Enchantress, which comes completely from the French Creek Vineyard, which was planted in 1978. Whole cluster pressed and aged, on lees, in neutral French oak barrels, it is an outstanding, Burgundy-like effort that possesses a slightly cloudy, pale gold color to go with a rich, yet energetic array of ripe apples, vanilla cream, white flowers and lime on the nose. The lees contact comes through on the palate where it shows a medium to full-bodied, rounded and supple texture that's cut by lively acidity, excellent purity of fruit and building richness on the finish. It benefits from air and opened up nicely over the evening. While not something I would hide in the cellar, it should drink nicely for 3-4 years. Drink now-2017. Winemaker Trey Busch has produced a bevy of brilliant 2010s and 2011s that make the most of the cool...

- **Jeb Dunnuck (June, 2013)**

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91

2011 Sleight Of Hand Grenache Upland Vineyard

Already in bottle, the 2011 Grenache Upland Vineyard is 100% Grenache that comes from the tiny Snipes Mountain AVA, which is one of the warmest terroirs in the state. Harvested on November 3 and aged all in neutral oak for 14 months, it offers up a light ruby color to go with perfumed cherry, flowers, strawberry and white pepper-like aromas and flavors. Pinot Noir-like in its perfume and texture, this medium-bodied 2011 has an elegant, yet rich mouthfeel, loads of fruit and a seamless finish. Already complex and evolved, it will drink nicely for 4-6 years. Drink now-2017. Winemaker Trey Busch has produced a bevy of brilliant 2010s and 2011s that make the most of the cool vintages. Leaning more towards the leaner, more focused side of the spectrum, his 2010s are easily the most traditional wines I've tasted from him, and while they will delight...

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88

2011 Sleight Of Hand The Conjurer

Starting off the reds, the entry level 2011 The Conjurer is a Bordeaux blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot and 13% Cabernet Franc that saw 14 months in a scant 26% new French oak. Perfumed, classy and with a traditional, herbal slant, it has loads of charm and a juicy, up-front and lightly concentrated feel. Showing plenty of currant bud, underbrush, smoked earth and mineral aromas and flavors, this medium body, fresh, focused and slightly lean 2011 opens up nicely with air and should be consumed over the coming 3-4 years. Drink now-2017. Winemaker Trey Busch has produced a bevy of brilliant 2010s and 2011s that make the most of the cool vintages. Leaning more towards the leaner, more focused side of the spectrum, his 2010s are easily the most traditional wines I've tasted from him, and while they will delight Old World wine lovers, they...

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92

2011 Sleight Of Hand The Funkadelic Syrah

Also already in bottle and one of my favorite Syrahs from Trey, the 2011 Syrah Funkadelic is a meaty, aromatic effort that's overflowing with dark cherry, river rock-like minerality, pepper, herbed meat and hints of flowers on the nose. This 100% Syrah comes from the Funk Vineyard (which lies in an old riverbed) and is medium-bodied, supple and gorgeously textured, with good acidity and plenty of ripe tannin. Enjoy it over the coming 7-8 years. Drink now-2021. Winemaker Trey Busch has produced a bevy of brilliant 2010s and 2011s that make the most of the cool vintages. Leaning more towards the leaner, more focused side of the spectrum, his 2010s are easily the most traditional wines I've tasted from him, and while they will delight Old World wine lovers, they have ample texture and richness, and are all around classy wines. The majority of them will...

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92

2011 Sleight Of Hand Syrah Levitation

Also superb, the 2011 Syrah Levitation has some underlying funkiness in its blackberry, blueberry compote, pepper and wild herb-styled aromas and flavors. Made in a forward, up-front and approachable style, this medium to full-bodied, rich and beautifully textured effort should be consumed over the coming 5 to 7 years. Created in 2007, and located outside of Walla Walla, Sleight of Hand is run by Trey Busch. He continues to produce rich, concentrated wines that never lack for character. His 2011s are solid (especially in the vintage), but his 2012s are a step up and should be the finest vintage yet for this estate. Tel. (509) 386-6566; www.sofhcellars.com

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88

2011 Sleight Of Hand Cabernet Franc Rose The Magician's Assistant

An amalgam of watermelon and blackberry tinged with mint and fennel, Sleight of Hand's 2011 Cabernet Franc Rose The Magician's Assistant is soft and loose on the palate but infectiously juicy and quite lusciously long. Enjoy it over the coming year, and chalk up one more piece of evidence for the mounting suspicion that Washington is a wonderful place to make pink wine, too, if one just remembers to go about it seriously. 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 of serious wine quality might be less of a focus. One taste reveals that such a supposition would be entirely wrong-headed. The Sleight of Hand...

- **David Schildknecht (December, 2012)**

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91

2011 Sleight Of Hand The Archimage

A blend of almost equal parts Merlot and Cabernet Franc, the 2011 Archimage comes from vineyards in Red Mountain and Walla Walla. Aged 23 months in 34% new French oak, it offers fabulous complexity with notions of blueberry, plum, smoked peat, lead pencil shavings and spice emerging from the glass. Medium to full-bodied, nicely textured, balanced, with excellent mid-palate depth and ripe tannin, it's a gorgeous effort to drink over the coming 8-10 years. Created in 2007, and located outside of Walla Walla, Sleight of Hand is run by Trey Busch. He continues to produce rich, concentrated wines that never lack for character. His 2011s are solid (especially in the vintage), but his 2012s are a step up and should be the finest vintage yet for this estate. Tel. (509) 386-6566; www.sofhcellars.com

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92

2011 Sleight Of Hand The Illusionist

A blend of 96% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Petit Verdot that comes mostly from Red Mountain, but also includes a small portion from Phinny Hill, the 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon The Illusionist saw 23 months in 56% new French oak prior to bottling. Medium to full-bodied, concentrated, rich and layered, with beautiful precision and focus on the finish, it gives up classic crushed rock-like minerality, dark currant and raspberry fruit, licorice, leather and liquid smoke on the nose. It can be consumed anytime over the coming 10 to 12 years. Created in 2007, and located outside of Walla Walla, Sleight of Hand is run by Trey Busch. He continues to produce rich, concentrated wines that never lack for character. His 2011s are solid (especially in the vintage), but his 2012s are a step up and should be the finest vintage yet for this estate. Tel. (509) 386-6566...

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