



### **1988 Sean Thackrey Taurus Mourvedre**

A Mourvedre Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 90

Drink -

Cost: \$30

The 1988 Taurus is an impressive wine made from 100% Mourvedre. In contrast to the rich, spicy, black fruit character of the Orion, the Taurus is a more earthy wine with aromas of mushrooms, spices, and damp earth. It is sure to be controversial, but one has to admire its impeccable balance, layers of concentrated fruit, and smooth, moderately tannic finish. As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California.

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### **1988 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 93

Drink 1993 - 2003

Cost: \$35

As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California. The 1988 Orion builds on the great promise exhibited by earlier efforts. Sensationally rich, but soft enough to be drunk now, this full-bodied, raspberry and herb, peppery-scented wine has layers of fruit, excellent extraction, and an inner core of surprising depth. The tannins are fine and soft rather than aggressive and astringent. Drinkable now, although it still seems essentially unevolved and in its infancy, this wine could well last beyond a decade.

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### **1989 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 91

Drink 1993 - 2008

Cost: \$35

As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California. The 1989 Orion, from the Syrah grape, is a more elegantly stated wine, with impressive dark ruby color, the tell-tale cassis, bacon fat, roasted aroma, rich, graceful, medium to full-bodied flavors, surprisingly soft tannins, and a velvety finish. It is a beautifully made Syrah that may not be as powerful and intense as some of Thackrey's predecessors, but is probably the most elegant, authoritatively flavored Syrah he has yet produced. It should drink beautifully for 12-15 years.

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### **1989 Sean Thackrey Taurus Mourvedre**

A Mourvedre Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 90

Drink 1993 - 2010

Cost: \$30

The 1989 Taurus, made from Mourvedre, did not exhibit as much of a tree bark, truffle, earthy character as I am used to seeing from Bandols, the French wines from Provence, and the Mourvedre-dominated Beaucastel from Chateauneuf du Pape. In fact, if I had had this wine blind, I might have suspected it to be a Pinot Noir, as odd as that may sound. I say that because of the gorgeously rich, spicy, raspberry flavors, although there was a strong scent of mint in the nose that might have made me think of something other than Pinot. In any event, it is a wonderfully pure, beautifully made wine with deliciously rich, well-balanced and well-delineated flavors. Again, the lighter style of the 1989 vintage has produced a wine with uncommon elegance, yet one that is not lacking in intensity. Given the fact that Mourvedre evolves slowly in the bottle, this wine should last as well as the Petite Sirah and Syrah. As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California.

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### **1989 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Old Vines Marston Vineyard**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 90

Drink 1993 - 2008

Cost: \$35

The 1989 Sirius, made from old vines of Petite Sirah in the Marston Vineyard of Napa Valley, is a black-colored, dense wine. In addition to the impressive color, this wine gives up a huge bouquet of black-raspberries, spices, licorice, and even some fragrant floral scents. It is opulently rich in the mouth, with gobs of fruit, and has avoided the astringency and tannin that one often gets with such intensely flavored Petite Sirah. This beauty can be drunk now for its youthful exuberance, but it should evolve for 10-15 years or more in a cool cellar. As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California.

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### **1990 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Old Vines Marston Vineyard**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 93

Drink 1993 - 2010

Cost: \$30

As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California. The 1990 Sirius (Petite Sirah) is a real blockbuster. So viscous, it resembles purple 10-W-40 motor oil when it is poured from the bottle. The color is black/purple; the intensity and fruit extraction are amazing. It is a phenomenal example of just how rich, concentrated, and unctuous Petite Sirah can be when made in a traditional manner from extremely old vines. I would not be surprised to see this wine be at its peak by the turn of the century and last through the first decade or more of the 21st century. Just phenomenal!

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### **1990 Sean Thackrey Taurus Mourvedre**

A Mourvedre Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 90

Drink 1993 - 2003

Cost: \$35

The 1990 Taurus (Mourvedre) has a minty character similar to the Pleiades. While I do not see the same varietal character found in French wines made from this grape, there is plenty to admire in this deep, dark-colored wine. It offers a big, forceful perfume of mint and black-raspberries with a touch of minerals and earth. The overall impression is one of impeccable winemaking, and graceful, super-concentrated fruit wrapped in a medium to full-bodied format. It should age admirably for at least a decade. As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California.

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### **1990 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #89 (Oct 1993)

Rating: 92

Drink 1993 - 2008

Cost: \$35

As I have stated so many times before, Sean Thackrey's limited production gems are among the most original expressions of winemaking in California. Thackrey hit the jackpot with the 1990 Orion, another impressively-endowed wine with a gorgeous fragrance of smoke, blackberries, toast, minerals, and pepper. Rich, with layers of fruit, this multi-dimensional wine reveals gobs of tannin that are nearly concealed by the wine's superb extraction. Full-bodied and impressive, this great Syrah should age effortlessly for 12-15 or more years.

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### **1991 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Old Vines Marston Vineyard**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #92 (Apr 1994)

Rating: 93

Drink 1994 - 2014

Cost: \$30

The 1991 Sirius, made from the old vines of Napa's Marston Vineyard, is a blockbuster, massively-concentrated, chocolatey, meaty, cassis, spicy wine with exceptional body, superb richness, a supple texture, and a long, concentrated finish. The color is nearly saturated purple. It appears more precocious and flattering than prior vintages. Reminiscent of the great 1991 Petite Sirah made by La Jota, Sean Thackrey's exquisite 1991 Sirius can be drunk now or cellared for 20+ years.

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### **1992 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #102 (Dec 1995)

Rating: 92

Drink 1995 - 2010

Cost: \$30

Sean Thackrey continues to fashion compellingly extracted, rich, concentrated wines from old vineyards in Napa Valley. The 1992 and 1993 Orion are made from a vineyard planted in 1905 and believed to be Syrah. Both wines exhibit intense, blackberry/cassis characters. A touch of mint is thrown in for complexity. They are full-bodied, gorgeous, highly extracted wines with sweet tannin. The 1992 is slightly fatter and more flattering at present, but the more backward 1993 possesses formidable potential. Both wines should keep for 12-15 years. These robust, mouth-filling wines are

to be savored with flavorful food. Tel. and Fax (415) 868-1781

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### **1993 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #102 (Dec 1995)

Rating: 90

Drink 1995 - 2010

Cost: \$30

Sean Thackrey continues to fashion compellingly extracted, rich, concentrated wines from old vineyards in Napa Valley. The 1992 and 1993 Orion are made from a vineyard planted in 1905 and believed to be Syrah. Both wines exhibit intense, blackberry/cassis characters. A touch of mint is thrown in for complexity. They are full-bodied, gorgeous, highly extracted wines with sweet tannin. The 1992 is slightly fatter and more flattering at present, but the more backward 1993 possesses formidable potential. Both wines should keep for 12-15 years. These robust, mouth-filling wines are to be savored with flavorful food. Tel. and Fax (415) 868-1781

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### **1995 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #118 (Aug 1998)

Rating: 91

Drink 1998 - 2010

Cost: \$45

This dark ruby/purple-colored wine reveals intense aromas of licorice, peppery black cherry and currants, with smoky, earthy notes in the background. On the palate, the wine is seamlessly-textured, with medium to full body, outstanding concentration, and oodles of personality. Thick, rich, full-bodied, and impressive, it should drink well for 10-12 years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2000 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #148 (Aug 2003)

Rating: 95

Drink 2003 - 2023

Cost: \$107

The blockbuster 2000 Orion, which I assume is virtually all Syrah, possesses an opaque purple color in addition to a gorgeous perfume of liquid minerals, acacia flowers, blackberry liqueur, and graphite. Full-bodied, with tremendous intensity, purity, texture, and precision, this fabulous wine should be uncommonly long-lived .... 12-20 years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2001 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #154 (Aug 2004)

Rating: 94

Drink 2007 - 2020

Cost: \$107

The 2001 Orion (100% Syrah from the Rossi Ranch) is a massive, primordial offering boasting a saturated black/blue color as well as a big perfume of graphite, animal fur, blackberry liqueur, cassis, and hints of tar, earth, and truffles. This huge, full-bodied, textured, young Syrah needs 3-4 years of cellaring. This is wine gone wild ... and is all the better for it. Anticipated maturity: 2007-2020. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2001 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Eaglepoint Ranch**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #154 (Aug 2004)

Rating: 96

Drink 2006 - 2024

Cost: \$69

Petite Sirah lovers are in for a treat! The 2001 Sirius (100% Petite Sirah from Mendocino County's Eaglepoint Ranch) is a wine of legendary proportions. Huge, uplifted aromatics of graphite, blackberries, blueberries, acacia flowers, and crushed rocks are followed by a wine of classic proportions. A well-delineated, brilliantly concentrated, super-pure offering, it reveals floral notes intermixed with copious amounts of black fruits, this terrific, incredibly young red requires 2-4 years of cellaring. Watch it unfold over the next two decades. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2002 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Eaglepoint Ranch**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #159 (Jun 2005)

Rating: 90

Drink 2007 - 2014

Cost: \$70

The idiosyncratic Sean Thackrey (a helluva winemaker regardless of vineyard sources or varietals) has changed his label (which I do not like as much as the original), but he is still turning out high class, nuanced, complex, singular wines. The dense ruby/purple-tinged 2002 Sirius Petite Sirah Eagle Point Ranch displays licorice, acacia flower, and black fruit aromas, medium to full body, excellent purity, and firm tannin. While not complex, it reveals plenty of depth as well as richness. Give it another 1-2 years in the bottle before drinking. Anticipated maturity: 2007-2014. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2002 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #154 (Aug 2004)

Rating: (96-100)

Drink 2004 - 2019

Cost: \$107

A riveting example of Syrah is the 2002 Orion. It boasts a black/purple color with more mint and blackberry notes intermixed with exotic floral characteristics. With great intensity, full body, multiple dimensions, and superb purity as well as length, this blockbuster is incredibly well-balanced/harmonious. It should drink reasonably well young, yet keep for 12-15 years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2003 Sean Thackrey Orion Syrah**

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #166 (Aug 2006)

Rating: 95

Drink 2006 - 2016

Cost: \$90-\$132

The blockbuster 2003 Orion is 100% Syrah from Napa's Rossi Vineyard. It boasts an inky/blue/purple hue as well as a sumptuous perfume of creosote, blueberries, blackberries, graphite, and incense. Superb character and nuance are offered in a full-bodied, powerful, rich yet brilliantly etched style. This beauty should drink well for a decade or more. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2003 Sean Thackrey Aquila Sangiovese Eaglepoint Ranch**

A Sangiovese Dry Red Table wine from , Mendocino, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)  
WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)  
Rating: 92  
Drink 2009 - 2017  
Cost: \$36

Thackery's detour with the stubborn and largely unsuccessful Sangiovese grape in California is the gorgeous 2003 Aquila, which comes from the Eaglepoint Ranch in Medocino. Dark plum/garnet ruby, with a stunning nose of sweet kirsch intermixed with currants, fig, plum, and underbrush, the wine exhibits plenty of earthy, cedary, spice box notes, it has a good bit of glycerin and body as well as a silky, sumptuous finish. This is as good as Sangiovese can get in California. Drink it over the next 5-8 years. One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: -Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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### **2003 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Eaglepoint Ranch**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)  
WA # , #166 (Aug 2006)  
Rating: 93  
Drink 2010 - 2021  
Cost: \$60-\$70

From Mendocino's Eaglepoint Ranch, the 2003 Sirius is a powerful wine at 15.3% alcohol, but, as is often the case with very ripe Petite Sirah, none of that character comes through. A dense purple color is followed by aromas of graphite, acacia flowers, sweet blueberry, raspberry, and blackberry fruit, huge body, stunning ripeness, and loads of texture. This powerful, rich wine should be drinkable in 4-5 years, and last for 15 or more. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **2006 Sean Thackrey Sirius Petite Sirah Eaglepoint Ranch**

A Petite Sirah Dry Red Table wine from , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)  
WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)  
Rating: 95+  
Drink 2009 - 2029  
Cost: \$48

The stunning 2006 Sirius, a Petite Sirah from the Eaglepoint Ranch that produced the gorgeous Sangiovese, is about as good as Petite Sirah gets in California. Long-time readers know I am a big fan of this underrated varietal in the Golden State, which also has a terrific track record of aging for 20-30 or more years when made in the manner such as Sean Thackrey's Sirius. This wine has no hard edges but is stacked and packed with black and blue fruits, camphor, and hints of pepper and spice. Moreover, the purity of the wine, the incremental way it builds on the palate, with no hard



edges, creates a lavish, even extravagant flavor profile even for Petite Surah. This wine can be purchased now for its purity and beautiful fruit, but it will certainly last for at least two decades. One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: - Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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### **2006 Sean Thackrey Orion Rossi Vineyard**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from St Helena , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)

Rating: 98

Drink 2009 - 2024

Cost: \$75

As for Thackrey's flagship wine, the 2006 Orion from the Rossi Vineyard is a cuvee from a field blend of old vines planted in 1905. This wine, like so many of its previous renditions, has an inky purple/black color and a superb nose of blueberry and black raspberries intermixed with forest floor and floral undertones. Its striking aromatics are followed by a full-bodied wine with a multi-dimensional personality, terrific texture, purity, silky tannins, and a blockbuster finish. Everything is in perfect balance. The wine is superbly pure, very expressive, and a real attention grabber, but at the same time it is classic in every sense. This is a beautiful example of a wine that pays homage to pre-Prohibition pioneers and their field blends, which have fortunately been preserved in this legacy wine. Drink it over the next 15 or more years. One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: -Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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### **2006 Sean Thackrey Andromeda Pinot Noir Devil's Gulch Ranch**

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from , Marin, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)

Rating: 90

Drink -

Cost: \$60

The 2006 Pinot Noir Devil's Gulch Ranch has a nice foresty/earthy nose with hints of strawberry, black cherry, and spice. Dark medium/ruby, the wine displays nice fruit, a round texture, but for my taste, it doesn't have the personality or soul of the non-vintage Pleiades or the other cuvees from Thackrey. One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: -Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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## 2007 Sean Thackrey Orion Rossi Vineyard

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from St Helena , Napa, North Coast, California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)

Rating: 98+

Drink 2009 - 2029

Cost:

The just bottled 2007 Orion is spectacular. Essentially a clone of the 2006, but seemingly more seamlessly constructed, it will be a future icon of California, and should evolve effortlessly for two decades or more. (Not yet released) One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: -Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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## NV Sean Thackrey Pleiades Lot Xi

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #148 (Aug 2003)

Rating: 90

Drink 2003 - 2006

Cost: \$26

The non-vintage Pleiades Lot XI is apparently a field blend that has more in common with a wine from northern Italy than a Rhone Ranger. The blend includes Syrah, Petite Syrah, Zinfandel, Sangiovese, Carignan, and Barbera. A deep plum/ruby color is followed by an expressive, uplifting nose of exotic fruits, berries, spice, saddle leather, and a hint of dried Provencal herbs. Earthy and fruity, with steak tartar-like flavors, it is for readers who enjoy character and soul in a wine that tastes good and makes you think. Enjoy it over the next several years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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## NV Sean Thackrey Pleiades Lot XIII

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #154 (Aug 2004)

Rating: 90

Drink 2004 - 2007

Cost: \$29

The Pleiades Lot XIII is a blend of Syrah, Barbera, Zinfandel, Pinot Noir, Mourvedre, and Grenache. Lot XIII is decidedly southern Rhone-like. Pepper, tobacco, spice box, sweet kirsch, and berry fruit jump from the glass of this rich, medium to full-bodied, supple, complex red. Drink it over the next 2-

3 years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **NV Sean Thackrey Pleiades XIV**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #166 (Aug 2006)

Rating: 90

Drink 2006 - 2009

Cost: \$29

The “everything but the kitchen sink” blend of multiple grapes (Syrah, Sangiovese, Mourvedre, Barbera, Carignan, Pinot Noir and probably a white grape or two), the non-vintage Pleiades XIV, is a gorgeous bistro-styled red offering notes of Mediterranean herbs and sea breezes intermixed with sweet berries, earth, and spice. Elegant, broad, and soft, it is a terrific example of what a fine winemaker with a vision can create. Drink this complex, tasty effort over the next several years. Tel. (415) 868-1781

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### **NV Sean Thackrey Pleiades XVII Old Vines**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from California, USA,

Review by [Robert Parker](#)

WA # , #184 (Aug 2009)

Rating: 91

Drink 2009 - 2013

Cost: \$24

The non-vintage Pleiades XVII is a kitchen sink blend of Carignane, Barbera, Mourvedre, Syrah, Sangiovese, and a touch of Viognier. To quote him, -It is designed to offend the wine police.- Dark ruby-colored, with a vibrant nose of sweet black cherries, incense, spice box, a bit of pepper and earth, the wine is round, generous, savory, and all that a delicious, seductive, bistro/brasserie red wine should be. It cuts a relatively full, fleshy mouthfeel, but it is vibrant and super-pure, with outstanding ripeness and freshness. Drink it over the next 3-4 years. One of California's most iconic and mystical winemakers, Sean Thackrey has logged in 20 or more vintages of consistently stunning wines that perhaps say it all with the simple quote on his label: -Sean A. Thackrey, Vintner, Bolinas, California.- For availability and buying the wines, visit Thackrey's website, [www.wine-maker.net](http://www.wine-maker.net).

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