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SIMON VAN DER STEL



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# MURATIE

s t e l l e n b o s c h



## Ronnie Melck Syrah Family Selection 2008

*Expressive, Intriguing, Unharnessed*



### RONNIE'S STORY

As a direct descendant of Martin Melck (who owned Muratie from 1763 to 1781), Ronnie rekindled a centuries-old love affair and fulfilled a lifelong dream when he bought this gracious old wine farm in 1987, welcoming it back into the Melck fold. Humble, honest and full of integrity, he lived for Muratie and is the only owner whose remains rest here, under the trees on the highest part of the farm.

### VINEYARD

From a very old, low-yielding vineyard (2 tonnes per hectare), planted in 1977, this wine is made in extremely limited amounts, with each bottle individually numbered.

### VINIFICATION

Made in traditional open fermenters and matured for 16 months in 100% French oak (100% new), this wine honours his warm personality, 'photographic palate' and instinctive flair for winemaking.

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

Intensely concentrated berries result in a wine displaying the bold refinement reminiscent of a northern Rhone Syrah. Rich blackberries, currants and cherries burst onto the palate, while hints of black olive, pepper, smoke and even bacon add savoury appeal. Tannins are firm but fine grained and a very long finish promises great ageing potential. A tribute to Ronnie Melck (1933-1995), a respected and endeared participant in the South African wine industry.

### ANALYSIS

Alcohol	13.5%
Residual Sugar	1.7g/l
Total acid	5.7g/l
pH	3.75

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads 'R. Melck'.