



Stephen Tanzer's

International Wine Cellar

## Long Shadows Vintners Collection

Nov/Dec 08

By Stephen Tanzer

### **2007 Poet's Leap, Riesling - Columbia Valley** **90**

Sexy aromas of lime, white peach, ginger and medicinal herbs, all lifted by white flowers. Vibrant and aromatic, with lovely verve to its high-pitched citrus flavors. Dense and fresh on the perfumed finish, showing a hint of quinine.

### **2005 Sequel, Syrah – Columbia Valley** **92+**

Bright ruby-red. Wild berries and flowers on the nose, showing little of Syrah's animal side. Dense, pure and intensely flavored, with superb retention of primary fruits. Finishes with notes of wild herbs and pepper and building tannins.

### **2005 Pedestal, Merlot - Columbia Valley** **91+**

Aromas of blackberry, cocoa powder and flowers. Lush, smooth dark fruit flavors are complemented by sexy sweet oak tones. I love this dense, fat wine's restrained sweetness, its almost medicinal reserve, and its slow-mounting finish.

### **2005 Pirouette, Red Wine - Columbia Valley** **91+**

Sappy aromas of medicinal black cherry, licorice, espresso and earth. Sweet on entry, then dense and bright in the middle, with lovely purity to its dark fruit flavors. In its fruit component, this one reminded me of a Napa Valley wine. Finishes with powerful, youthfully tough tannins and noteworthy freshness.

### **2005 Chester Kidder, Red Wine – Columbia Valley** **92**

Surprisingly expressive on the nose in light of the recent bottling, offering cassis, sappy spices, espresso, black pepper and wisteria. Dense, sweet and spicy, displaying an uncanny combination of fleshiness and vibrancy. Appears to gain in breadth and thickness toward the back, finishing with fine, palate-saturating tannins and lingering flavors of cassis and minerals. This blend is the baby of Gilles Nicault, who also serves as the resident winemaker for the Long Shadows project.

### **2005 Feather, Cabernet Sauvignon – Columbia Valley** **91+**

Aromas of blackberry, loganberry and bitter chocolate, with a youthfully medicinal licorice pastille quality. Juicy and tight but nicely aromatic; muscular today and not at all fleshy, but quite pure and fruit-driven. This one is Randy Dunn's project; like his Dunn wines, this will require substantial bottle aging owing to its firm tannic spine and serious structure.

### **2005 Saggi, Red Wine – Columbia Valley** **91+**

Sexy oak spices lift sour cherry on the nose. At once sweet and pungent, with terrific cut and intensity to the sour cherry, cranberry and pomegranate flavors. Very young, vibrant wine with a long, berry-dominated finish featuring fine-grained tannins.