SILVER THREAD

BLACKBIRD RED WINE 2018

OUR STORY

Owner-winemakers Paul and Shannon Brock represent the new generation of young winemakers propelling the Finger Lakes region to prominence. At the helm of Silver Thread since 2011, the couple has shepherded the 38-year-old estate winery to new heights with a focus on expressive, terroir-driven Riesling. Estate vines are farmed **bio-intensively**, a holistic, non-chemical approach. Small-batch wine production does not exceed 3,000 cases. Winemaking always embraces the characteristics of the vintage without any adjustments to the fruit or juice, resulting in pure and expressive wines. The **turtle image** on our label is a local Native American artifact that reminds us to care for the land and water that give us the gift of wine.

VINEYARD NOTES

Our lakeside vineyard features shallow, shale-heavy soil that limits vigor and yield. It was first planted in 2006 with Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon, and more Cabernet Franc and Merlot were added in 2013 and 2014. Established vines express a distinctive smoky note unique to the site.

TASTING NOTES

Medium ruby color with aromas of cherry, pine, eucalyptus and flowers. Medium body with palate-cleansing acidity and flavors of dried hay, tobacco and vanilla. Long finish shows flinty minerality. It has a unique energy and intensity from the bio-intensive farming. **Drink now or cellar up to 5 years.**

VINTAGE NOTES

2018 was the most challenging year in a generation due to tremendous rainfall late in the season, but our meticulous vineyard practices, including summer thinning, leaf removal and bio-intensive disease control produced a small but ripe crop. Hand-harvest and sorting at the vine occurred between October 14-21, 2018. Varieties were fermented and aged separately for one year. Then, barrels were blended and aged for one additional year.

Finger Lakes, New York

CASES PRODUCED: 133

BLEND: 62% Cabernet Franc, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot

ELEVAGE: 22 months in neutral oak barriques

BOTTLED: July 2020

ALCOHOL: 12.7%