

Novus Vinum

Powered by GAYOT.com

WINE OF THE WEEK

June 10, 2005

Z-52 2002 Agnes' Vineyard Old Vine Zinfandel



This week's selection from California's Central Valley comes from winemaker Philip Zorn, whose desire for small-lot, single-vineyard wine has driven him to open Z-52, a boutique winery specializing in the small case production of Zinfandel. In fact, Z-52, named for the letter "Z" shared in both Zinfandel and Zorn, has released only two bottlings this year. Fortunately, that means they have put extra attention and care into this particular wine, which was grown on Agnes' Vineyard near some of the oldest Zinfandel plantings in California.

The extra attention has paid off. Aged for nearly two years in both French and American oak, this Zin is both rich and robust with fruity flavors of blackberry and plum fruit, complemented with a hint of black pepper on the back palate. This summer, try it with some spicy barbecued ribs just off the grill.

Rating: 13.5/20

Price: \$16

www.z52wines.com