

21 Grams 20**06**



MAKOTO FUJIMURA
Water Flames - Azurite

Azurite, Oyster Shell White and Silver Powder on Kumohada Paper
89x66 inches

In the early 1900's, Dr. Duncan MacDougall hypothesized that 21 grams was the weight purportedly lost by a human body when the soul departed from it upon

THE WINE

The purpose behind 21 Grams is to produce the most exceptional blend of Cabernet Sauvignon from world-class vineyards in Washington State.

This is a very limited release made predominantly from older vines.

As such, this wine will need time to evolve to greatness, and is at least a 15- to 20-year wine. However, if you must open a bottle before then (we certainly understand why), we recommend at least two hours of decanting.

While quality will never be compromised, we also make the wine to showcase the essence of the vintage. The varietals and vineyard lots selected for the final blend are determined after two years of barrel aging in the cellar and rigorous blending trials based purely on sensory evaluation.

The 2006 vintage of 21 Grams is made from 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot and 2% Malbec. The color extraction displays a stately ruby in contrast to the blackness of the 2005 vintage. The aromatics and flavors are defined by earthy, dusty notes of gravel, mushroom, truffle and cedar. Ripe figs, cassis, black cherry, raspberry and black olive compliment the forward earthiness, with a touch of vanilla and baking spices on the finish.

As with all wines made by Waters and Gramercy, firm acidity and moderate alcohol are the prime directives, favoring elegance over explosiveness. This wine offers silky, integrated tannins which enhance the overall balance, depth and complexity of this opulent wine.



2006

21 grams

death. While scientifically unproven, this figure has become synonymous with the weight of the human soul.

THE ART

"In the summer of 2008, Judy and I spent a few days in Walla Walla visiting Waters and Gramercy and tasting the next few vintages of 21 Grams from the barrel. I was able to spend some quiet time in the vineyards sketching the grapevines and the surrounding landscape. I remember distinctly the clear blue skies of August as I sat under the vines, with the grapes almost ready to be harvested.

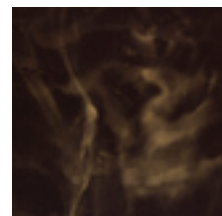
Thinking about what painting to select for the 2006 bottle of 21 Grams, the image for "Water Flames - Azurite" echoed in my mind. Like I experienced under the vines on those warm summer afternoons in WallaWalla, where the natural light and heat were infused into the grapes to provide nourishment and substance to the wine, the expression of this very organic painting is equally enhanced by natural light and first-hand experience.

"Water Flames – Azurite" is a large image (89" x 66") created by blending layers of light azurite and malachite with flames painted in silver and oyster shell white. I placed over fifty layers of pigment directly onto the Kumohada paper (Japanese hand made paper), with each layer taking over a day to dry. This reminds me of just how much Nihonga painting is like winemaking – both requiring patience and an organic, arduous process to achieve beauty and expression. The azure image on the label, I hope, will contrast nicely with the rich, deep body of the wine inside the bottle."

- Makoto Fujimura, New York City

"The idea of forging a new kind of art, about hope, healing, redemption, refuge, while maintaining visual sophistication and intellectual integrity is a growing movement, one which finds Fujimura's work at the vanguard."

- Robert Kushner



Winery photos: Brandon Sawaya, Makoto Fujimura portrait: Brad Guis

THE STORY

21 Grams is a unique artistic collaboration between Waters Winery, Gramercy Cellars and Makoto Fujimura that reflects the inspiration of the soul in creating both fine wine and fine art.

This exclusive, 100-case bottling is made from the finest lots of Washington State Cabernet Sauvignon from the cellars of Waters and Gramercy. The final blend from each vintage must portray exquisite balance, intensity, layered complexity and a long finish – the components of true quality.

The label changes with each vintage and showcases one of Fujimura's modern abstract paintings and the art of Japanese Nihonga.

Waters and Gramercy also donate 20% of the sales of 21 Grams to the International Arts Movement (IAM).

IAM, a New York City-based non-profit organization founded by Makoto Fujimura, gathers and engages artists and creative catalysts to wrestle with the deepest questions of art, faith and humanity, and to inspire them to create the world that ought to be.



waterswinery.com



21gramswine.com

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