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## KEPLINGER

### 2018 CALDERA, EL DORADO

#### TASTING NOTES

Yin and yang balanced aromas of black plum pastry, brooding roasted meat, fresh rose, wet slate, black licorice, mission fig, red earth, and dried aromatic herbs. The entry is insanely silky, with blue and black fruit, intense black licorice, slate and savory and then violet notes which persist through the seamless, silky midpalate to the extended finish.

#### TECHNICAL DATA

VINTNERS	Helen Keplinger and DJ Warner
WINEMAKER	Helen Keplinger
VARIETAL	77% Mourvedre, 19% Grenache, 4% Counise
APPELLATION	El Dorado, Sierra Foothills
PRODUCTION	150 Cases
ALCOHOL	14.7%
AGING	16 months in 100% Neutral Demi-Muids, (600L) French oak



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#### BACKGROUND

Helen Keplinger moved to California to attend the MS program in Enology at UC Davis. She has worked with Heidi Barrett at Paradigm in Napa Valley, Kathy Joseph at Fiddlehead in Santa Barbara, Michel Rolland, and David Abreu in Napa Valley. Since 2004, she has made wine for some exciting projects, including Cellers Melis (Priorat, Spain), Kenzo Estate, Arrow & Branch, Bryant Family Vineyards, and is currently crafting wine for Grace Family Vineyard, Carte Blanche, and Kerr Cellars.

Helen met DJ while he was managing a Spanish wine shop part time which led the two to meet over a bottle of 1995 Pago de los Capellanes, Reserva on DJ's recommendation. Helen's time in Priorat working with Grenache and finding unique singular vineyard sites for Melis was the inspiration for Keplinger wines.

In 2006, Helen founded Keplinger and the couple launched their first vintage in 2008 with a focus on small production, single-vineyard Rhone varietal wines.

Keplinger focuses on making seamlessly-crafted, terroir-driven, Rhone varietal wines from unique and diverse sites in Napa, Sonoma & Sierra Foothills. All the vineyards are hillside or mountain sites, carefully farmed by hand for small berries and concentrated flavors, in close collaboration with Helen. Each wine comes from a singular vineyard to represent the characteristics of the grape or grapes in the wine from their respective vineyard's terroir each vintage. The wines are made in small lots, with careful attention paid to every detail.