Dave Phinney founded Orin Swift Cellars in 1998, but it wasn't until 2000 that the success of 'The Prisoner,' a Zinfandel blend, enabled Dave to focus on Orin Swift Cellars full time. The 'Mercury Head,' 'Veladora,' 'Saldo,' 'Papillon,' and 'Palermo' labels soon followed, each label demonstrating Dave's interest in art and his ability to create surprising, unconventional blends that consumers were wanting. Looking for a new wine project, Dave visited Maury in the Roussillon region of Southern France in 2008 after hearing about it from a friend. Amazed by the area's potential he made his first wine, a Grenache blend named D66, from the area in 2009.

The concept of 'Locations' is quite simple but ultimately made complex while retaining 'fun' at the core. Simple in that the ethos is to make the best possible wine from a given country or location. The complex is tracking down vineyards that contribute to the blend while keeping the soul of the wine in place. The fun is travelling around the world and meeting incredible people while tearing down the 'rules wall', making the wine his own way.

The result is quite impressive and the highly regarded critic Robert Parker had this to say of Dave's latest project: "If you judge wines on how they taste and the degree of pleasure they offer, they are all incredible efforts. The three new cuvees I tasted are among the finest wine values one could hope to find. If there are better wines for under $20 a bottle in the world today, please share that information with The Wine Advocate."

- Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate #213, June 2014

The wines are all non-vintage by law, despite the fact they are from a single vintage. This is due to EU standards that 'table wines' are not allowed to carry a vintage. These are not your carafe wines at a cafe in Paris but much more intense and serious offerings. They are multi-grape and multi-regional blends showcasing the characteristics of indigenous or site appropriate grapes from select countries' most regarded regions all through the Phinney lens.

The interplay of provenance, artistry, freedom, and creativity is what inspires the team at Locations. With the Iberian Peninsula serving as a backdrop, this fertile ground pressed these attributes into the fourth release of the Spanish offering. Much like generations of craftsmen before, Dave and the team were able to capture the nobility of Spain through its geographic diversity. Fruit with Mediterranean and Continental influences was sourced from five regions in particular: Priorat, Jumilla, Toro, Rioja, and Ribera del Duero. Old vines, low yields, and a palate attuned to excellence, work in harmony helping to reach the goal of producing a great wine, from the best locations in the world.

**Composition**
Garnacha - Carignan - Monastrell - Tempranillo

**Élevage**
10 months in French barrique

**Tasting Notes**
A sensational effort, it reveals some toasty oak in the nose, but blackberry and black currant fruit as well as hints of licorice, truffles and spice box are also present in this full-bodied, ripe, deep, supple, velvety-textured, elegant, opulent, voluptuous, lusty red.

**Reviews**
None on Current Vintage - E-2, The Wine Advocate (Robert Parker) | 93 points

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