

Quench

with KERRY SKINNER

ILLAWARRA
MERCURY

Winemakers' European pedigree

The Australian wine industry owes a great debt to its migrant population.

Names like De Bortoli, Pizzini, Tyrrell, Penfold, Gramp and Seppelt pioneered the industry in Australia, bringing with them the know-how that has seen the industry grow into a multi-billion dollar export juggernaut.

In the Hunter Valley the Iannuzzi and Tsironis families, owners of Mount Eyre Vineyards, may not be as well-recognised as some of the industry's heavyweights but they have a rich winemaking pedigree going back centuries to their roots in

Greece and Italy.

And like many of the pioneers who came before them it is this heritage and desire to succeed that has been the backbone of Mount Eyre's success story.

Mount Eyre (www.mounteyre.com), established in 1970, operates out of two vineyards where it has more than 30ha of vines.

Its Three Ponds vineyard at Broke produces semillon, chardonnay, chambourcin and shiraz and the Holman Estate in Pokolbin provides outstanding shiraz, merlot and viognier.

Mount Eyre 2009 Three Ponds Shiraz \$24.95:

Matured in a combination of new and used French oak, ripe plum and berry fruit on the nose and palate, integrated spice, nicely balanced, supple tannins and the potential to cellar for a decade or more.



Mount Eyre 2011 three Ponds Semillon \$19.95:

Semillon is the variety that you associate with the Hunter Valley - the two are like peas in a pod. This is bright and tight, with citrus lemon and lime flavours, brilliant acidity and a crisp, dry finish.



Mount Eyre 2010 Three Ponds Chardonnay \$22.95:

An elegant, fruit-driven chardonnay, melon and stonefruit on the nose and palate, background French oak characters, lively acidity and a clean, creamy finish.



Mount Eyre 2011 Three Ponds Verdelho \$19.95:

The verdelho variety thrives in Australia and especially in the Hunter. This release is clean and crisp with citrus and tropical fruit flavours, a hint of spice and zippy acidity. It works nicely with Asian dishes.

