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Xtant is a singularly expressive opus; rooted in generations of winegrowing and one of Napa Valley's most storied vineyards.

Third generation vintner Jeff O'Neill pays tribute to Napa Valley in a wine that reflects its rich history, world class terroir and constant innovation. Winemaker Jeff Gaffner – also a third generation winegrower - has used exclusive access to some of Napa's best vineyards and “no-holds-barred” winemaking to achieve the ultimate expression of vineyard and varietal.

From the beginning, the foundation for Xtant has been Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot from the legendary Lewelling Vineyards; one of Napa Valley's most historic and revered vineyard sites, operated today by fourth generation Lewellings, Alan, Doug and Dave Wight. Cabernet Sauvignon from the Kletter Vineyard and Malbec from Oakville Station round out the blend.

Xtant unparalleled blend of vineyards and winemaking have resulted in a seductively rich and full bodied wine with a concentrated core of dark fruit, gracefully balanced by fine-grained, chalky tannins that give it the structure for years of cellaring potential.

Xtant's has garnered significant critical acclaim since its inaugural 2001 release, which received 92 points and was heralded as “outstanding” by the Wine Spectator, who named Xtant to their list of “Napa's Impressive Newcomers”.

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**XTANT Cabernet Sauvignon**  
Lewelling Vineyards 2010  
**93 points**

A dense, assertive style, with layers of rich flavors and a taut body and structure. A successful style, where the mix of mocha-scented dark berry, currant and anise flavors is framed by cedary oak. The fruit pushes through with ease. Drink now through 2028.

—James Laube, *Wine Spectator* 12/23/2015

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**XTANT Red Wine**  
Napa Valley 2007  
**92 points**

A showy style for the vintage, pure, rich, ripe and juicy, with lovely plum, blackberry, black licorice and subtle earthy touches. Firms on the finish. Should age beautifully. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Malbec. Best from 2013 through 2026.

—James Laube, *Wine Spectator* 11/15/2012

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**XTANT Red Wine**  
Napa Valley 2005

This impressive, Bordeaux-like wine possesses the fruit purity normally associated with a California Cabernet. Its deep ruby/purple color is accompanied by floral, raspberry, black cherry, and currant notes intermixed with notions of licorice, forest floor, and background wood. Round, seductive, and generous, it is ideal for drinking over the next 5-7 years."

—Robert Parker, *eRobertParker.com*

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## VINEYARDS

*For Xtant, we are fortunate to have access to some of Napa Valley's most distinguished vineyard sites, allowing us to create a Bordeaux-style wine noted for its classic blend of power, elegance and finesse.*

### Lewelling Vineyards, St. Helena

Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot from Napa Valley's historic Lewelling Vineyards have formed the foundation of Xtant since its inaugural release in 2001. We feel very fortunate to join an exclusive group of wineries – including Caymus and Harlan – who source fruit from this legendary Napa Valley site. Lewelling Vineyards was first planted in 1864 by pioneering vintner and horticulturalist John Lewelling, and is run today by his great grandchildren Doug, Dave and Alan Wight – making it one of Napa's oldest continuously-owned family vineyards. Located in western Napa Valley, just outside the town of St. Helena, the 28-acre Lewelling Vineyards is planted to a coveted section of benchland at the eastern base of the Mayacamas Mountains. Here, the vines enjoy an ideal climate marked by long, warm days, shielded from extreme heat by the nearby mountains. Lewelling is further distinguished by its deep, gravelly soils; part of a unique alluvial fan that juts out from the Mayacamas into select vineyard sites. This ideal terroir, combined with extraordinary stewardship by the Lewelling family has established Lewelling as one of Napa's most prized Cabernet Sauvignon sites, known for producing wines of exceptional richness and complexity. We source both Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot from dedicated rows at Lewelling Vineyards.

### Kletter Vineyard, St. Helena

After choosing to make Lewelling Vineyards the foundation for our Xtant red wine, we worked with Lewelling owner/grower Doug Wight to secure other similarly expressive sites to build both vineyard and varietal complexity into our wine. The first of those two sites is Kletter Vineyard, also in St. Helena. Like Lewelling Vineyards, Kletter enjoys exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon terroir and is farmed by Doug Wight. This premier vineyard is located next door to Duckhorn, tucked between Glass Mountain to the east and the Napa River and its riparian corridor to the west.

The moderating influences of both the mountain and the river form an ideal season-lengthening mesoclimate, cloaking the vines in long, warm – but never hot – days. The ground here is riddled with the obsidian that Glass Mountain is named for, making for well-drained soils that encourage deep root penetration and increased flavor complexity. Given its consummate mix of climate and soils, Kletter is typically one of the latest ripening Cabernet Sauvignon vineyards in Napa Valley, providing us with deeply concentrated and beautifully structured fruit for Xtant. We source Cabernet Sauvignon from dedicated rows at Kletter Vineyard.

### Oakville Station, Oakville

When it came time to source the Malbec for Xtant, winemaker Jeff Gaffner together with Doug Wight of Lewelling Vineyards set their sights high. Our third vineyard, UC Davis' Oakville Station, is per their website “the most significant vineyard in the state, if not the world.” Upon hearing that UC Davis wanted to establish a research center in Napa, local vintners rallied to help the university secure one of the valley's most prized pieces of land, located in the heart of its famed Oakville AVA. For more than 50 years, the department has conducted critical viticulture research at the 40-acre site, including trials of clones, rootstocks, vine spacing, pruning levels, and irrigation. The vineyard is planted to a variety of grapes including a small block of Malbec, which we were able to access by virtue of Doug's longstanding role as consulting viticulturist at Oakville Station. In addition to its unparalleled provenance, our Oakville Station Malbec benefits from the highest level of research and farming, resulting in exceptionally pure expression of varietal character and site signature.

We source Malbec from dedicated rows at Oakville Station.



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## WINEMAKER

### Jeff Gaffner

Xtant winemaker Jeff Gaffner is a third generation winegrower who began his career at Chateau St. Jean under the tutelage of renowned vintner Richard Arrowood. Jeff credits Arrowood with teaching him the importance of being as passionate about spending time in the vineyard as well as the cellar. While at Chateau St. Jean, Jeff was part of the winemaking team responsible for the winery's celebrated 1996 Cinq Cepages, Wine Spectator Magazine's Wine of the Year. In the years since, Jeff has become one of the most sought after winemakers for artisan labels, having gained critical acclaim and a loyal following for his vineyard focus and elegant style. The Wall Street Journal has said that they "love his vineyard voice", while the Wine Spectator has lauded his winemaking as "deft".

In 2001, Jeff O'Neill turned to Gaffner, who had been the winemaker at O'Neill's Edgewood Estate, to help him create Xtant; a singular Bordeaux-style blend from top Napa Valley vineyards, including St. Helena's historic Lewelling Vineyard. Xtant's inaugural 2001 release was heralded as "outstanding" by the Wine Spectator, which scored the wine 92 points, and named Xtant to their list of "Napa's Impressive Newcomers". In 2005 the winery introduced a second label, Petit Batard, crafted by Jeff from barrels not used in Xtant.

In addition to Xtant, Jeff consults with a number of high-end boutique producers and makes his own Saxon Brown wines; a limited production line of single vineyard bottlings that pay homage to his "Valley of the Moon" roots.

### Winemaking

Grapes from the Lewelling, Kletter, and Oakville Station vineyards are picked in the cool of early morning, and immediately transported to the winery. All lots – whether destined for Xtant or our second label, Petit Batard - are treated identically throughout the winemaking process, and all lots are kept separate to preserve the individual varietal and vineyard character.

After picking, the grapes undergo meticulous sorting both in the vineyard and again in the winery before and after destemming. Once destemmed, the fruit is transferred to small 4-5 ton fermentation tanks and cold soaked for three days to extract more elegant flavors. We inoculate with a cultivated Bordeaux yeast, monitor temperatures for a long slow fermentation, and punch down or pump over 3-4 times a day to optimize fruit and tannin extraction. At 0 brix, the wine is pressed gently - to minimize astringency - to barrel for secondary fermentation. Once the wine completes malolactic fermentation, we remove it from the gross lees and cold stabilize it to 35 degrees for one week before returning it to barrel for extended aging in 75% new French oak.

Throughout aging winemaker Jeff Gaffner constantly reviews the barrels, beginning the process of culling and blending those that meet the criteria for Xtant. After 40 months in French oak, Gaffner undertakes a last, exhaustive review of all barrels to determine the final blend. Barrels not selected for Xtant, are reserved for our second label, Petit Batard. Xtant undergoes an additional 12 months of bottle aging, and Petit Batard an additional six months, prior to release.

