

— ARTIST #15 —

THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON
LA MAISON DU WHISKY

The Artist #15 range, The Dark Side of the Moon, explores sherry cask maturation through six single casks distilled between 1989 and 2015. Ranging from Oloroso to Pedro Ximénez, it highlights the Andalusian influence on whisky. Its title, a nod to a 1970s classic, also echoes a series of Glen Grant whiskies bottled by Velier in the 1990's, a symbolic starting point for this new collection. This series continues the tradition of sherry cask ageing, a practice that dates back to the 18th century, when distilleries reused casks imported from Andalusia. Even today, some producers maintain direct ties with Spanish bodegas. Featuring single malts from Speyside (Benrinnes, Linkwood, Mortlach, and an unnamed distillery) and the Highlands (Ben Nevis, Ardmore), the series is illustrated by South African artist Sthenjwa Luthuli. One of his works adorns the label of The Dark Side of the «M» bottling and belongs to the private collection of Luca Gargano. Inspired by Zulu culture, Luthuli reinvents traditional motifs and objects through a contemporary aesthetic. He hand-carves, polishes, and paints wooden panels into hypnotic compositions that verge on abstraction and optical art.

BEN NEVIS 2015 - AGED 10 YEARS

PRODUCTION



Untitled - Sthenjwa Luthuli

Distillation	2015
Bottling	2025
Cask Number	202
Age	10 years old
Cask Type	1st Fill Sherry Butt
ABV	58,3 %
Number of bottles	655

An ode to sherry cask maturation, this young, top-flight single cask launches the 15th edition of the Artist range. Ben Nevis was so popular in the late 19th century that in 1878 a second distillery was built on the same site to meet growing demand. Named simply 'Nevis', it would remain in operation until 1908, when it merged with its older sibling and opened in 1825. Wonderfully embodying the West Highlands style that makes Ben Nevis so unique, this bottling stands out for its generous and authentic character. The palette of flavours and aromas evokes Andalusian grape harvests, with intense fruit, vivacity and a deeply expressive temperament.

TASTING NOTES

Profile: rich, silky. Camphor, mango, curry.

Nose: rich, deep. Opening on mineral (slate), medicinal and camphor notes, the nose also reveals unctuous notes of chocolate, fruit (orange zest), heady florals (iris) and plants (straw). Allowed to breathe, it becomes hot (Espelette pepper), autumnal (chestnut, date) and balsamic (Oregon pine) as a lovely rancio gradually takes shape (apricot, brandied cherries).

Palate: lively, stately. Latte coffee, tropical fruits (mango, passion fruit), quince jelly and marmalade bring the palate great consistency and freshness. An array of honeys (heather, lavender) and red fruits (strawberry, raspberry) mixed with fragrances of rose petal and orange blossom delicately flood the taste buds.

Finish: silky, slightly tannic. Revealing numerous dried fruit and nuts (date, almond, sweet chestnut) and a jumble of dried leaves, the finish paints a poetic image of a bright autumn day warmed under the last rays of sunshine. Finding a second youth, it then takes up its pilgrim's stick and heads to the south of Spain. From here, it overflows with flavours of walnut, curry, salted almond, apricot and mango fruit paste.

Peat: no