2015 Lazare Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvest date: 10-8-15

Fermentation: 100% destemmed, punchdowns 1 to 2 times per day

Aging: 15 months in 33% new French oak

Bottling date: 2-1-17 Alcohol: 14.3%

The 2015 Lazare Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is Sandler's second ever Cab, and the first since 2006. Amanda Lazare has been a long-time August West customer, and I first met her during a wine tasting at Beltramo's. She bought her two acre property in the Oak Knoll District in the early 2000s and planted it to two clones of Cabernet. For several years, the fruit went to Sineann in Oregon, and for a couple of years, to Joel Gott in Napa.

There were only three barrels of this 2015 Lazare Cabernet, and one of the three was new, so 33% new French oak. The aromas are classic Napa Cab, with a hint of old school mint as well. You could blind taste your friends and tell them it's a young Martha's Vineyard. Since this is Sandler's first vintage from this vineyard, my best guess at the drinking window is from 2018 through 2030.

