{ EXPERIMENT }

No. M2.6

experiment: *n.* 1) a scientific procedure undertaken to make a discovery, test a hypothesis, or demonstrate a known fact; 2) a course of action tentatively adopted without being sure of the outcome; 3) a series of wines from ***Ovid Napa Valley*** celebrating experimentation in grape growing and winemaking.

At Ovid, we are committed to the idea and practice of experimentation in many facets of grape growing and winemaking, in order to learn more about our land and what will make the very best wine. We conduct formal experiments in order to investigate specific topics, and we participate in a variety of academic and applied studies as well. And we sometimes just indulge our curiosity by trying things several ways, in order to push what we know to be possible in both the vineyard and the winery.

Our Experiment wines are a product of this process. Each vintage, we will offer small amounts of different wines that are of special interest to us, allowing you to taste and experience new aspects of our vineyard and winemaking.

2016 RED EXPERIMENT M2.6

Sourced from our one-acre block of Merlot, this grape often plays a supporting role in our blends. It provides nice richness and roundness in the mid-palate. As a tiny but integral part of Ovid and Hexameter, Merlot is often overshadowed by its brawnier siblings, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.

Knowing that our Merlot is noble in its own right, this Experiment is an exploration of the age-ability of mountain Merlot. This wine exhibits voluptuous notes of plum, black cherry and cedar which are complemented by notes of violet candies, mulberry, black olive and orange rind. As a counterpoint to the other expressions from our estate, this broad and expansive offering achieves an equally authentic sense of place.

AUSTIN PETERSON *Winemaker*