

# Wine & Spirits

October 2011

## *Thomas Fogarty*

WINERY & VINEYARDS



### 92 2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon (Best Buy)

Winemakers Michael Martella and Nathan Kandler buy fruit for this wine from three vineyards, the blend predominantly cabernet sauvignon (79 percent) with smaller amounts of cabernet franc, malbec and merlot. The complexity of the wine is immediately apparent, as is the silky texture, but most of the flavor is hidden behind dark, coffee-scented tannin. As it opens in the glass, the fruit begins to layer strawberry and cranberry scents with darker bluefoot mushroom notes. There's generosity to the flavor that needs bottle age to reveal itself more fully. (627 cases)

*Thomas Fogarty Winery, Portola Valley, CA*

### 91 2008 Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay (Best Buy)

A complex expression of chardonnay, this has the scent of crushed seashells and a greener note of thistle. There's also a darker note, like cheese rind, that adds some funk to the pineapple flavor. It's gentle and intriguing, a wine that goes its own way rather than being pushed into a predetermined style. Decant it for a shellfish stew. (2,958 cases)

*Thomas Fogarty Winery, Portola Valley, CA*

### 90 2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Lexington Meritage

2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Lexington Meritage  
A blend of cabernet sauvignon (58 percent), merlot and cabernet franc from the Camel Hill Vineyard above the Lexington Reservoir, Fogarty's Meritage is packed with black pepper-scented tannins in 2006. The fruit is equally black and saturated, but has not yet melded with those tannins. It's firm and sweet, showing a lot of oak influence and needs time in the cellar to mature. (522 cases) *Thomas Fogarty Winery, Portola Valley, CA*

