



# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

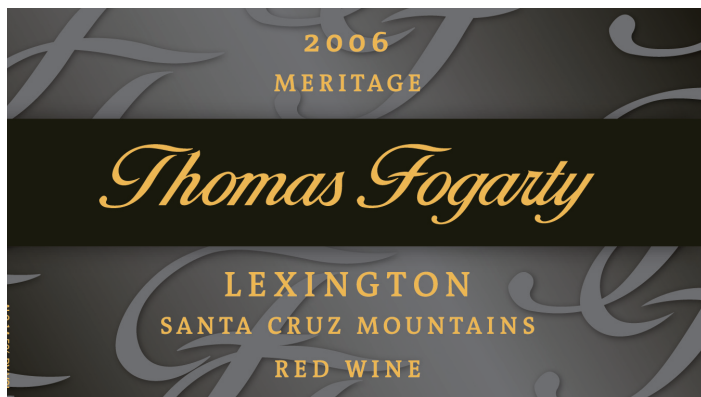
## MAGAZINE

### *Thomas Fogarty*

WINERY & VINEYARDS

#### 94 2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Lexington Meritage

An extraordinary wine, Fogarty's best Bordeaux-style wine ever. A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc, it shows the classic profile of a young wine capable of extended aging. The tannins still are serious at the age of nearly five years. There's good acidity, and the core of blackberries, cherries and cassis is potent. Give it at least another six years. —S.H. Price: \$50 abv: 14.5%



#### 93 2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon

Just terrific, a classic Santa Cruz Mountain Cabernet from this consistent producer. It's bone dry, fine in balancing acidity and very tannic, with a sandpapery, lockdown mouthfeel. Yet it's wonderfully rich in blackberries, currants, cassis and chocolate. This outstanding young Cabernet should easily develop beyond 2015. Cellar Selection. —S.H. Price: \$30 abv: 14.5%

#### 91 2006 Santa Cruz Mountains Merlot

Feels classy and vital from the very start and all the way through. Lots of ripe, complex, bone-dry blackberry, cherry, cola, cassis, herb, chocolate and cedar flavors that finish long and spicy. Even nearing five years of age, the tannins are significant, giving the wine a tough astringency. Hard to tell if the fruit will outlast the tannins. If you drink now, give it a good, long decant. —S.H. Price: \$34 abv: 14.4%

#### 90 2008 Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay

Made Chablis style, very dry, acidic and aloof. There's a golden core of pineapples, peaches, oranges, minerals and oak—it tantalizes before withdrawing into dryness and spice. Could easily develop over the next six years. —S.H. Price: \$29 abv: 14.1%

#### 89 2009 Monterey County Gewürztraminer

A wonderfully interesting Gewürz. Just when it makes you think it's sweet, it withdraws into utter dryness. Teases with tangerine, Asian pear and grapefruit flavors, but then the acids kick in, as well as a scour of tannins. Editors' Choice. —S.H. Price: \$18 abv: 13.1%