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## CL Butaud, Tempranillo, Texas, USA, 2017



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Tasted by **Tina Gellie** (at Decanter HQ, 13 Oct 2019)

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Randy Hester spent a decade in California learning the ropes of winemaking before he and his wife Brooke returned to Texas to start up this winery, named for his great-grandfather, in 2014. Released in June 2019, this is the third vintage of his 100% Tempranillo (the inaugural 2014 vintage won Texas Wine of the Year in 2016) and just 10 barrels were made. Fruit comes from contract growers in West Texas, and the wine is aged for 15 months in a mix of French and American oak with regular lees stirring, giving smooth, milk chocolatey tannins. They like it big in Texas: the palate is warm in alcohol with lots of extraction but well balanced by concentrated wild strawberry fruit, seasoned leather tones, tarry minerality and firm acidity. Unique and attractive



Drinking Window 2020 - 2023