2006 Fuse Cabernet Sauvignon

91+ POINTS – "The inaugural vintage, 2006 FUSE is a non-traditional blend of 100% Napa fruit, a mix of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Syrah…. Not only is it exceptionally food-friendly, but it is quite approachable and extremely smooth in the mouth. The Syrah provides a spicy component to the nose, along with a meaty and smoky note that was quite pleasing. The palate exhibits a richness and wild berry concentration which was impressive, along with blackcurrant and plum flavors and round tannins. Beautifully balanced by ample acidity, this was a very tasty wine and although it's easy to drink now, I believe Fuse will be even better with another year in bottle and then should drink well for a decade or more." - **Roy Hersh**, Posted on **eRobertParker.com**

"New from California is **Fuse Cabernet Sauvignon 2006**. This Napa Valley red is fusing 25-per-cent syrah with 75-per-cent cabernet sauvignon in an intense meaty, cassis jam, black cherry, tobacco-scented red. The entry is supple with a whack of blueberry, pepper, coffee, vanilla, licorice root and savoury flavours. Good intensity in a young rustic red. Perfect for heavier fall dishes." - **Anthony Gismondi, The Vancouver Sun**, November 1, 2008

91 POINTS - "California law allows for up to 25% of another variety (or varieties) to be blended into the final wine without it being listed on the label. In this case the **Fuse** is *75% Cabernet with the addition of 25% Syrah* to round it out. This is a wine to sink your teeth into - dense and chocolaty with currents and black raspberry aromas, rich dark earth and warm spice, tobacco leaf and pencil shavings. The palate is voluptuous, weighted with sweet, plump fruit, cocoa and espresso flavours. It is a big, supple wine with smooth tannins and exotic spice lingering on the finish." - **Daenna Van Mulligen, WineScores.ca & WineDiva.ca**, February 2, 2010

4 STARS - "By California law, producers are allowed up to 25 percent of another variety (or varieties) to be blended into the final wine without it being listed on the label. In this case, FUSE is 75 percent Cabernet with the addition of 25 percent Syrah to flesh it out. This is a wine to sink your teeth into. It is dense and chocolaty with currants and black raspberry aromas, rich dark earth and warm spice, tobacco leaf and pencil shavings. The palate is volumptuous, weighted with sweet, plump fruit, coca and espresso flavours. It is a supple wine with smooth tannins and exotic spice lingering on the finish." - **Vines Magazine**, April/May 2010

"Grown up, complex. The Fuse team add Syrah to their Cabernet for extra flavor complexity (just as top Bordeaux châteaux of the 19th century did). Then 16 months in fine oak. Spicy red berry nose, lush plum and vanilla palate. Rich, dense, velvety -- blew the judges away."
- **Hugh Johnson, WSJ Wine from the Wall Street Journal**, May 2009

90 POINTS - "This Cabernet Sauvignon-Based Blend was inspired by Guado al Tasso from Tuscany, this is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah, sourced from 4 different vineyards throughout the Valley. The nose is full of deep, dark fruit, abundant dark baking spice, black licorice, and sweet but not exaggerated wood spice. Dry, full, soft, plush tannins, moderate acidity and quite interesting earthy-mineral and floral-violet character on the palate. This is highly pleasant and ready-to-drink Napa wine at a very attractive price."
- **John Szabo, Wine Access**, May 2009