

# DUCKHORN WINE COMPANY

## ZACH RASMUSON

*Chief Operations Officer - Duckhorn Wine Company*

As chief operations officer since 2012, Zach Rasmuson has played an integral role in establishing Duckhorn Wine Company as one of North America's preeminent luxury wine brands. His vision and experience have helped to guide the evolution of the company's world-class estate program. At the same time, his decades of winemaking expertise inform every aspect of an acclaimed portfolio that spans multiple appellations, brands and styles. A master winemaker in his own right, Zach works closely with winemakers Renee Ary (Duckhorn Vineyards), Don LaBorde (Paraduxx), Michael Fay (Goldeneye), Bo Felton (Migration), Brian Rudin (Canvasback) and Dana Epperson (Decoy) to oversee every aspect of production, including winemaking, grower relations and an estate program that spans Napa Valley, Anderson Valley, Sonoma County and Red Mountain in Washington State. Zach also works alongside President and CEO Alex Ryan to chart the future of the company, implementing initiatives for strategic and sustainable growth, while always honoring the history of integrity and excellence that define Duckhorn Wine Company.

After a career that included such notable wineries as Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, Robert Sinskey Vineyards and Husch Vineyards, Zach joined Duckhorn Wine Company in 2003, as the winemaker and general manager for Goldeneye. In the story of great winegrowing appellations, there are few individuals who helped to raise the bar and chart the course for an entire region as Zach did in the Anderson Valley. There, Zach spent a decade helping the Anderson Valley achieve its full promise. While doing so, he has contributed to the valley's reputation as one of the world's preeminent locations for growing cool-climate Pinot Noir and established Goldeneye as one of North America's great Pinot Noir wineries.

At Goldeneye, Zach dedicated himself to creating what has become the valley's most diverse and expansive estate Pinot Noir program. This estate program established new standards of excellence in the appellation through the introduction of cutting-edge viticultural practices. Zach also oversaw a thoughtful evolution of the Goldeneye style, moving away from the big, ripe wines that marked the winery's early offerings to a more terroir-inspired expression of Pinot Noir.

While in the Anderson Valley, Zach also established himself as a respected member of the community and an advocate for ethical and sustainable practices. Under his stewardship, Goldeneye was one of the first wineries to earn the Certified California Sustainable Winegrowing distinction from the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance. Zach also spearheaded the building of Goldeneye's state-of-the-art Pinot Noir winemaking facility, which was only the second winery in California to achieve LEED Gold certification. Beyond Goldeneye, Zach played a key role in developing a pioneering program to build farm worker housing on winery land, and he served as the vice president of the Anderson Valley Winegrowers Association.



As a result of his countless contributions, business acumen, skillful leadership, and more, in 2012 Zach was promoted to chief operations officer for Duckhorn Wine Company. "Zach is an individual who leads by example," says Alex Ryan. "He possesses that ideal mix of experience, ethics and integrity. These are qualities at the heart of our company's identity. They are also qualities that will carry us into the future, and ensure it is a future we can be proud of."