



VOLKER EISELE

FAMILY ESTATE

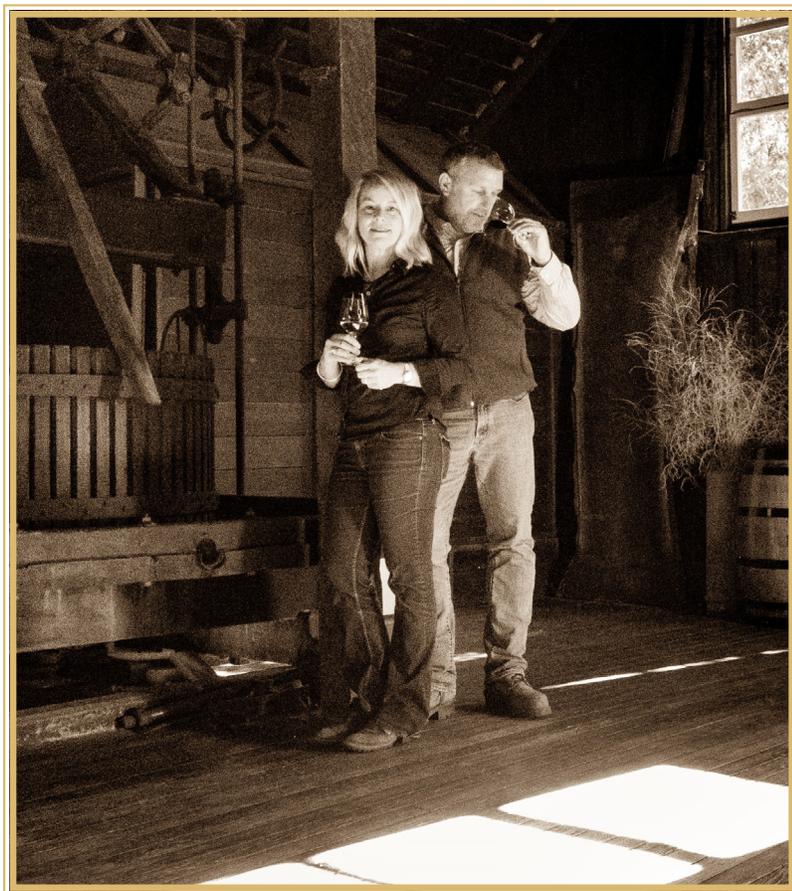
est. 1974

BIOGRAPHIES

Alexander Eisele grew up on the vineyard and as a small boy he often snacked on the juicy fruit right off the vine, refining his taste buds at an early age. His career choice of winegrowing was no surprise. Alexander, who is fluent in German and Spanish, obtained his degree in International Business and manages the challenge and complexity of a family vineyard and winery.

Alexander learned the art of winegrowing from his accomplished father, Volker Eisele. He gained experience working in the field from a young age and has a deep understanding of the unique character of the site.

Over many years Alexander has developed a thorough understanding of the vineyard by block and by varietal as well as the varying microclimates within the vineyard. Being a strong believer in staying true to the vineyards' terroir, he approaches grapegrowing in a holistic way, which includes taking care of the land, the vines, and our year-round vineyard crew.



A keen love for the land inspires him to continue in his father's footsteps by growing high quality organic wine grapes and producing elegant estate wines.

Catherine, Alexander's wife, is a Napa native and has been exposed to wine and vineyards since childhood. Since their meeting in 2001 she has developed an appreciation of the energy and dedication it takes to not only run a small family wine business but also to farm organic winegrapes.

Catherine's degree in Global Studies from Sonoma State University, extensive world travel and years working at an accounting firm in St. Helena have prepared her to wear many hats at the winery from sales and marketing, to educating and inspiring the trade and consumer. Her conversational grace and ready laugh complements her focus on building the business for the next generation of the Eisele family. She is the heartbeat of the winery.



WINEMAKER Molly Lippitt was raised in the Sonoma Valley. Her career in the wine industry began after receiving a degree in Biology from the University of San Diego. Molly's first jobs were lab and cellar positions - long-houred, filthy-clothed, wet-boots type of positions that left Molly hungry to experience more. Since her days of starting out, Molly has been fortunate to work under and alongside top echelon winemakers. Working with Heidi Barrett at Paradigm Winery taught Molly classic, timeless technique. Working with Philippe Melka at Moone-Tsai Vineyards gave Molly an eye for modern refinement. Assisting Julien Fayard in his many projects left Molly with a sense of timing and balance. Additionally, Molly past positions include positions at Duckhorn Vineyards, Relic Wine Cellars, Talisman Wines, as well as Whitehaven Winery in New Zealand.

Molly uses a light hand to preserve the expression of the site and the varietals. Winemaking 'buzz' tends to focus on the corrections for imperfect sites or seasons, and manipulations for the sake of style or press. None of this applies to Molly's winemaking. The Volker Eisele vineyard crew with decades of experience on the estate empowers a block by block, row by row approach to harvest and winemaking by flavors. Her 'analog' winemaking requires the simplicity and wisdom of paying attention to flavors and understanding what the flavors tell you about the trajectory of the wines.

FOUNDERS

Volker Eisele was a sociology graduate student at the University of California in Berkeley during the early 1970s. He found weekend respite from the pressures of academia in the tranquil foothills of the Napa Valley. By 1974 he and his family moved from Berkeley to plant their seeds in the 400 acre Chiles Valley District site.

Volker became a scholar of grape growing. Renowned as one of Napa Valley's finest quality grape growers, he dedicated four decades to the art of sustainable organic viticulture. Volker served as president of the Napa County Farm Bureau and the Napa Valley Grape Growers. He was presented with the Earl Thollander Environmental award in 2007, Napa Valley's 2008 Agriculturalist of the Year award as well as the Leader of the year award from the California Association of Wine Grape Growers posthumously in 2015. Volker's approach to fine winemaking was simple: exceptional fruit produces exceptional wine.

Liesel, Volker's wife, winery partner and landscape architect, brought an entirely different dimension to the winery. She concentrated on the aesthetics of the family estate as well as the horticultural wellbeing of Chiles Valley. Her firm designed the landscape plans for many residential and commercial projects including wineries in the region. With her love of the land and deep sense of the "terroir" that makes wine unique, she is an indispensable partner in Volker Eisele Family Estate.

