Il Kêyôte Spirits Distilled from Agave
Released April 2013 40% ABV (80 Proof)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raw Ingredient</th>
<th>Maturation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% Blue Weber Agave Nectar</td>
<td>4-6 months - 10 Gal. Med. Toast Black</td>
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<td>Swan Cooperage</td>
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Accolades:
Bronze Medal American Distillery Institute 2015
Bronze Medal Great American Distillers Festival 2014

I've never been the biggest fan of tequila, but I love the flavor of Blue Weber Agave. My challenge was to distill a spirit that retained the original character of agave, hinted at a tequila, but was distinctly its own spirit. The title of "tequila" is restricted to spirits that are distilled in the Mexican states of Jalisco or Nayarit, using traditional practices. We are not in Mexico, and we do not follow those techniques, so the Il Kêyôte is not tequila. This is my interpretation of what can be done using the same base ingredient.

We use 100% Blue Weber Agave that is sourced out of Mexico, but we ferment, distill, and mature it in a fundamentally different fashion. Our fermentation method is very slow and controlled to produce a clean alcohol which allows the flavor of the agave to shine through. We distill Il Kêyôte at a much higher purity than its Mexican counterpart to reduce the spicy peppery tones that tend to dominate some tequilas. There is a distinct white pepper tone, but it is rounded out by the medium-toasted American white oak that the spirit is aged in. This is the same style barrel used to age brandy and wine, so we get a distinct buttery tone and thicker texture from the barrel. The final spirit is a balance of honey, caramel, white pepper, butter and oak.

Most of the time, we drink Il Kêyôte neat or over an ice cube. However, it works great in simple margaritas (lime juice and agave sweetener), classic Paloma’s, or a sunrise. I love adding a shot to cup of coffee, or experimenting with different fruit bitters in an agave old fashioned. No matter how you drink it, Il Kêyôte will be a great addition to your bar.

Mike Selberg
Head Distiller