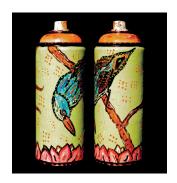




2009 Pinot Noir

SASCHA MARIE
Russian River Valley

Label Artist: Marlene White



Tasting Notes A new wine in honor of our almost-3-year-old daughter, we see this as the Pinot counterpart to our Kalen's Big Boy Blend Syrah. Our aim is to create the most complete and intriguing Pinot we can from the many blocks and vineyards with which we work. The inaugural blend includes 40% Stiling Vineyard low-elevation block, 20% Stiling Vineyard hillside block, 20% Cleary Vineyards from Freestone and 20% Swan clone from Roberts Road vineyard in the Petaluma Gap, combining quiet power with finesse, offering layers of fruit, spice and earth with amazing acidity and structure.

This does **not** mean a "massive or hedonistic" Pinot as some might expect. (Our Stiling Vineyard designate coming out in the Fall is a "bigger" wine.) In many respects, this bottling represents a classic Pinot, oh so charming yet sly (just like Sascha!), with layers of complexity and genuine depth that coyly ask for a bit of patience as they take time to reveal all their glory. Check out our recommended drinking windows and be the judge for yourself!

Drinking Windows

Prime drinking: mid- to late 2012 through 2016
Graceful ageability: 2018+

Analysis

pH: 3.52 TA: 6.6 g/L Alcohol: 14.2%

Bottling Date: December 2, 2010

Release: Spring 2011
Total Produced: 112 cases

Philosophy We prefer to follow the grapes' lead and offer gentle care as the wine emerges from the juice. If a wine asks for help, we provide it. If a wine is happy on its own, we simply let it be and celebrate its unique evolution.