2019

La Linea Pinot Noir

Dundee Hills AVA

Willamette Valley, Oregon

Vintage:

This year saw a growing season cooler on average than what the last few years had us accustomed to, bringing a total heat accumulation similar to 2005, one of my favorite Willamette Valley vintages. Regrettably, precipitation, which was fairly moderate prior to harvest, increased by mid-September especially at our estate vineyard in Dundee. The decision to harvest had to be hastened, as Botrytis was showing its ugly head. A slow and painstaking sorting process in the vineyard and winery allowed us to only keep the most pristine clusters. Our quest for quality affected yield, resulting in 20% less wine from our old Dundee vines that year. The silver lining is that our Trovato vineyard in Yamhill was not hit as hard by the rains, which means there will still be plenty of Furioso wines to go around. Looking back, we think the decision to harvest earlier was the right one, as we avoided catastrophe, not only from the rain but also from the migratory birds which came earlier that year and devastated some vineyards in Oregon. Altogether, this will be a vintage to cellar for Pinot Noir as the wine, tight and austere in it youth, will need a few years in the bottle to fully express itself.

Tasting Notes:

The brilliantly refreshing 2019 La Linea is the flagship wine from our old vine Dundee Hills estate vineyard. Rich and heady notes of earthy dark cherries, stewed strawberries, and potters clay greet you. This is a classic Dundee Hills Pinot Noir, from a classic Oregon vintage. Blood orange and bubblegum mingle with crunchy leaves, mossy hillside, and dried tobacco. The palate brings flavors of blueberry and fresh rosemary, followed by bitter orange with enveloping tannins and well-integrated acidity.

Vineyards:

Furioso Vineyard, Dundee Hills, Willamette Valley, Oregon (estate)

Winemaking:

Case Production: 251 cases
Production: 100% destemmed, wild fermentation, 100% free run juice, bottled unfined and unfiltered
Barrel regimen: 10 months in 20% new French oak, 85% neutral French oak
ABV: 12.5%
Drink 2021-2030

Suggested Retail - $116

91 – Wine Enthusiast Magazine

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