

NICOLAS JAY



2019 L'Ensemble Pinot Noir

Willamette Valley - Oregon

WINERY

Nicolas-Jay Estate is a Pinot Noir and Chardonnay venture located in the Dundee Hills region of Oregon's Willamette Valley. Celebrated Burgundian winemaker, Jean-Nicolas Méo of Domaine Méo-Camuzet, and renowned music and media entrepreneur, Jay Boberg, lend their individual talents and shared dedication to the winery, where traditional French winemaking meets quintessential Oregon terroir.

THE WINE

After years of working with 8 of the top vineyard sites in the Dundee Hills, Eola-Amity, McMinnville and Yamhill-Carlton AVA's we could not resist creating a SUPER BLEND to show our BEST OF THE BEST. L'Ensemble is truly a cuvée comprised of the most expressive barrels from each vineyard. Blended for extraordinary depth, complexity, ageability, and finesse. Harvested in small cherry bins, native yeast fermentation and bottled unfiltered and unfiltered. This wine receives an additional 6 months in barrel to escalate structure and lengthen its aging potential. This blend is comprised of either Bio-dynamic, organic or LIVE certified vineyards only.

VINTAGE

2019 began with a cold late winter that warmed quickly into a warmer than average spring. The defining feature of the growing season, however, was not in the timing of rainfall, but the amount. 2019 gave us record rainfall in late June and July, causing a delay in ripening and an abundance of growth in the vineyards. The low temperatures were normal to above average but without the usual heat spikes and intensity of the usual record Oregon summer heat waves. A beautiful dry August pushed the grapes toward maturity while maintaining balance and acidity through ripening. Early rains in September slowed things down, finally abating and finishing the growing season with a long, cool and dry Fall. The resulting wines have elegance, finesse and balance in what is one of the first cool Oregon vintages we've seen at the domaine. The aromatics and bright nature of these wines make them compelling to drink now and also speak to their aging potential as they open up and develop in bottle. We bottled this vintage a few months earlier than usual to preserve the beautiful elegance of the vintage.

WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

Although just our second interpretation of this cuvee, we have been envisioning this wine's construction since our very first vintage. This really is the collection of the best blocks and barrels of everything we farm. The 2019 L'Ensemble showcases Christmas spice, currants, blueberries and sweet forest floor notes. The front end brings strawberries, then chalky granite complexities, and subsequently shifts back to a fresh cranberry and hood river cherry. A framing of gentle vanilla weight from extra aging in French oak completes the palate. The fruit is cascading in effect, it forms in waves, with precise integration and symmetry that supports the wine's finesse and power.

STATS

Farming: Bio-dynamic, Organic, LIVE

Harvested: September 14-26, 2019

Harvest Brix: 21-22.5

Alcohol: 13%

TA: 5.1g/L

pH: 3.61

Fermentation: Native Yeast

Cooperage: 35% New French Oak

Date bottled: February 5, 2021

Cases made: 1,329

Winemakers:
Jean-Nicolas Méo
Tracy Kendall

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