

NICOLAS-JAY ESTATE 2021 OWN-ROOTED PINOT NOIR, WILLAMETTE VALLEY

The Winery

Nicolas-Jay Estate is the story of a three-decade friendship between Burgundian winemaker Jean-Nicolas Méo and music entrepreneur Jay Boberg. Jean-Nicolas was the architect and innovator behind the rise of *Domaine Méo-Camuzet* as one of the most sought-after and collectible producers in the last 30 years. Wines of exquisite texture, persistence and density that also precisely represent the landscape and terroir in which they would come from. With this natural understanding of viticulture and wine, combined with the mastery of prestigious terroirs left by his family and developed by himself, Méo-Camuzet rests amongst an elite few in benchmark level wines and the lofty status the Domaine enjoys in Burgundy today. Jay Boberg would bring more than his share of innovation and inspiration to the table as the two set forth in the early 2010's on this quest to produce top-quality Willamette Valley wine together. Jay's visionary approach for his own craft, signing and producing iconic bands, would bring an eye and approach to the partnership unlike few other duos in the wine industry. The Co-founder of the seminal indy label *IRS Records* in the early 1980's to President of *MCA/Universal records*, would find him fostering and launching bands such as R.E.M, The Go-Go's, Blink-182, Mary J. Blige, Sublime, The Roots and B.B. King.



The Bishop Creek Vineyard (estate) Yamhill-Carlton
Planted 1988

The Wine

Our 'Own-Rooted' Pinot Noir showcases several old-vine sites in the Willamette Valley, each at least 30 years old, and planted at a time when rootstock was relatively rare in Oregon viticulture. Our own Bishop Creek Vineyard supplies a portion of the blend, showing off its characteristic black fruit and granite tannin structure. Hyland Vineyard, the oldest in the McMinnville AVA, sits atop a hillside looking over the Van Duzer Corridor, and its 46-year-old vines supply earth-driven tension in this wine. 1989-planted Pommard clones from the Nysa Vineyard completes this wine, supplying ethereal elements, red fruits and dusty spice.

Harvest

The beautiful 2021 vintage began with a warm dry winter followed by a wet and cool late Spring. Grape ripening slowed down and the very healthy and abundant fruit began showing signs of ripeness in early September. Harvest was beautiful and dry with only one small rain event toward the end, ideal for a successful vintage. The fruit was pristine and yields were abundant, leading to moderate alcohol levels and bright acidity.

Winemaker Tasting Notes

A medium-dark brooding wine quickly reveals dark forest floor aromas, Brooks plums and an outstanding candied orange zest. There's a high level of spice on the nose that alternates between dusty cinnamon, juniper and a sweet holiday Christmas spice. It's exotic aromatically, and seems to unfold differently with each pass. A high-profiled wine texturally, with forest floor elements intertwined with blackberry compote and delicate pine resin. The tannin structure begins to take hold with dusty cocoa powder, black current and sweet purple flower. It has a generosity in the mid-palate, but finishes with impressive length and tension. Just a spectacular vintage of this 100% ungrafted, old-vine, limited production bottling.

Vineyard	AVA	Vine Age	Contribution	Farming
Bishop Creek	Yamhill-Carlton	35 years	"Power, granite, blue fruits"	Organic
Nysa	Dundee Hills	31 years	"Elegance, red fruits, spice"	Organic
Hyland	McMinnville	46 years	"Ethereal, floral, red fruits"	Bio-dynamic



Farming: Organic, Bio-dynamic
Harvested: Sept 8-26
Harvest Brix: 22.5
Alcohol: 13.0%
TA: 5.3g/L, **pH:** 3.54
Winemaking: Spontaneous native yeast
Fining / Filtration: None
Cooperage: 50% new French oak, 16 mo.
Date Bottled: April 27, 2023
Production: 305 cases



97 Points

The favorite of the line-up, it excites in every way possible

96 Points

JEB DUNNUCK

The medium ruby 2021 Own-Rooted is gorgeous, with a floral, expressive perfume of herbes de Provence, cardamon, wild raspberry, and mossy earth.

TOP 10 of 2023

Forbes

if you want to taste the indulgent cherry fruit, silky tannins and bewitchingly complex character of this wine, better act fast.

Wine & Spirits

95 Points

Editors' Choice.

94 Points

Decanter

A blend from three different vineyards planted on their own rootstocks, Hyland in McMinnville, the estate Bishop Creek site in the Yamhill Carlton and Nysa Vineyard in the Dundee Hills. This concentrated effort shows sweet blue and black fruit aromatics with ample floral notes.