

2022

L'ENSEMBLE PINOT NOIR

WILLAMETTE VALLEY



THE WINE

Since our first vintage, we have learned considerably more about the vineyards we harvest year after year. As those sites have matured, we have also come to know them more intimately, gaining a greater understanding of their identity and characteristics from vineyard, to block and down to the row. L'Ensemble encapsulates a strict temperament in channeling the raw beauty, tension and persistence from these top vineyard blocks and our most expressive barrels with vintage quality acting as our guide to levels of production. Jean-Nicolas Méo is a winemaker on a path of constant reflection, a devotion to learn and always at battle to improve with every vintage.

TASTING NOTES

A bright raspberry hued color along the edges, a dark core, and a certain viscosity as the wine swirls slowly around the glass that leans medium+. Aromas do not hesitate and seem to pour upward from the glass even before fully immersing yourself into the stemware. A sweet bark and earth aroma is layered with a prickly raspberry liqueur, a freshly cut straw dynamic and brown sugar rolled oats. There's an exotic edible red flower aroma and some crushed white pepper, toasted rosemary and an extremely sweet vine picked hood river cherry that is almost overwhelming to process all at once. Signature Jean-Nicolas Méo texture as this wine shifts and widens its stance across your palate. its racy out of the gate with tight granular tannins, white peach and tangerine flavors. As the texture broadens further a brigade of red and blue fruits emerge and push the structure ever further. It's exhilarating in its freshness but combines a raw juiciness that's simply exquisite. Jean-Nicolas' 4th iteration of this super blend of hand-chosen barrels may very well be his best version yet. Although approachable in the short-term, it's certainly a wine that will improve in your cellar for years to come.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2022 vintage was one of the most unique harvests in recent memory. Typical rainfall and winter temperatures kicked off the vintage, but winter was not yet over as temperatures plummeted in April. Bloom resumed, but with this delayed budbreak we found most of our sites not suitably ripe until October had already arrived. But this prolonged hangtime and extended cool evenings of September and October generated compelling and unique acid structures and textures. Pinot Noir shows classic, cool-climate aromatics reminiscent of vintages long ago. A delicate and ethereal structure shows elegance on the front end, but a generous complexity develops in the mid-palate with waves of citrus fruit acidity intermingling with a dark blackberry liqueur and minerality essence. Lifted and upright from start to finish with an unrelenting precision and energy throughout.

Harvested: October 4-18

Harvest Brix: 23

CÉPAGE: 100% Pinot Noir

CULTIVATION: Organic, bio-dynamic, LIVE

AVA: Eola-Amity, Yamhill-Carlton, Dundee Hills, Tualatin Hills

VINE AGE: Up to 47 years

Vendange: Hand-picked, 1/8 ton cherry bins, field and winery sorting

VINIFICATION: 100% destemmed, spontaneous native yeast, unfinned, unfiltered

ÉLEVAGE: 14 MONTHS, 35% new French oak

TA: 5.6 g/L

P H: 3.6

DATE BOTTLED: May 15, 2024

CASES PRODUCED: 1,348

