PATRICIA GREEN CELLARS

2023 Notorious Pinot Noir
Willamette Valley AVA

Wine History: This is what we consider on a year-in, year-out basis our most unique and exotic wine. This is, as always, our only wine that is made in 100% new barrels. This wine is a textural experience beyond any of our other wines. Rather than attempting to show, in pain-staking detail, the individual qualities of the vineyards we work with the Notorious bottling is about a particular style of wine that is richer, more intense, denser in texture and more lifted aromatically than our other bottlings. The last twelve vintages (2007-2019-there were no 2013 or 2020 bottlings) of our Notorious bottling have received scores of 94, 93, 94, 93, 94, 95, 94, 94, 95, 96, 95 and 97 from Josh Reynolds of *The International Wine Cellar/Vinous.com* and the 2021 and 2022 received 96 and this 2023 received a 97 from Audrey Frick of JebDunnuck.com

Nature of the Wine: The capacity of this wine to absorb and integrate the new barrels into the fruit flavor and structure of the wine is one of the aspects of this wine that makes it stand out in a certain way beyond our other wines. Wines need depth of flavor and structure to take the 100% new barrel regimen even when the barrels are of the nature that we use which, in general, are a lighter touch than many other cooperages. Still, the spice and structural component in the barrel will be found in the wine, especially at a younger age. In short, a wine balanced at a beautiful point of power, largesse, deftness, mass and elegance. This is a unique environment to find barrels that honor the character and quality this bottling has historically delivered a wine that should be a benchmark bottling even within the context of a wine routinely rated as one of the top Pinot Noirs produced in Oregon. The different sites contribute incredibly explosive barrels to the mix and a diverse selection of whole cluster fermentation regimens provides an element of complexity within the blending process. This wine is intended to show the exotic places Pinot Noir can go to and still be immediately identifiable as Pinot Noir. The stable of vineyards we work with is unmatched in the state of Oregon and we select only the barrels that instantly say Notorious to us in our tastings. The oak is present but deft and will eventually drop to the background and serve only as a framing element. This wine is built to be great, comes from the best of the best sources and delivers every single vintage. To date the oldest versions of this bottling (2000 and 2001) are still drinking very well and are surprisingly youthful. Yes, this is an esoteric wine in the sense of how it is made, how it differs from all our other wines and that it is frequently our top wine of any given vintage despite being a blend rather than from a single vineyard. That is a bit of the fun of this bottling to go along with the pure deliciousness of the wine.

Composition:

Balcombe Vineyard (Dundee Hills): Three barrels, 1 each coming from the famed Block 1B and Block 1A (directly above Block 1B). All the barrels were selected from 60% whole cluster fermentations. The 2 Balcombe Block 1A barrels were sourced from a Cadus Vosges M+ toast with toasted heads and a Francois Freres Medium Tight Grain M+ toast. The Block 1B barrel was a Cadus Bertranges M+ toast. Balcombe Vineyard is the second most important vineyard behind our Estate and has been the most common and consistent source of Notorious barrels over the years.

Corrine Vineyard (Chehalem Mountains): One barrel from the Anklebreaker Block. This was our last vintage with Corrine Vineyard. This barrel, done in a Darjaud & Jaegle Selection 2 Medium toast barrel from a 60% whole cluster fermenter was easily one of our favorite barrels of the year. This extremely rocky section of vineyard has produced some of the most eclectic, controversial and outstanding wines we have produced since 2012. As unique a flavor profile as existed in the cellar in 2023.

Durant Vineyard (Dundee Hills): Three barrels were selected, 2 from the Bishop and one from the Madrone Block. From the Bishop Block, these were both aged in Francois Freres barrels with Very Tight Grain and Very Special

Grain wood selections respectively, both with Medium Plus toast levels. The Madrone Block barrel was a Chassin Jupille/Allier barrel that we thought was absolutely thrilling. The Bishop Block is the original 1973 planting of Pommard that we began our relationship with the Durant Family with in 2010 and the Madrone Block is a Dijon 115 planting we began getting fruit from in 2012. Each of these sources are bottled individually. One of the Bishop Block barrels came from a fermentation that was 50% whole clusters and one from a 100% whole cluster fermentation. The Madrone Block barrel was from 100% whole clusters.

Estate Vineyard: 5 barrels, 2 from the First Vines Block, 1 each from both sections of the Wadensvil Block and 1 from the block we now refer to as Sammy's Block. Obviously, our Estate Vineyard is the prime site in our wide selection of site. The five barrels chosen represent the pinnacle of a selection of best barrels from best blocks. The Winery Block still includes some number of the original 1984 vines and the two barrels selected were Cadus Bertranges M+ and Volume M+. The two barrels of the Wadensvil Block are actually one each from the Confluence Block at the NW end and the Fenceline Block at the NE end of the block. They were a Vosges M+ and Bertranges M+ respectively. The Sammy's Block (so named for Margaret Barry's faithful and wonderful Boxer who passed away in 2023) was originally planted in 1987. Most of the vines there now are from the 2000 interplanting. This barrel was a Vosges M+ with toasted heads.

Freedom Hill Vineyard (Mt. Pisgah): Four barrels were sourced from this legendary vineyard, two from the Wadensvil Block and one each from both the Pommard Clone Block and Coury Clone Block. The Coury Clone and 1 of the Wadensvil Clone barrels were selected from 100% whole cluster ferments and both were in Cadus Limousin M+ toast barrels. The other Wadensvil barrel was from a completely destemmed fermenter (the only such barrel in the Notorious bottling) and was in a Cadus Vosges M+ toast barrel. Lastly the Pommard was from a 60% whole cluster fermenter barrels and was also a Cadus Vosges M+ toast selection. Since, 2012 Freedom Hill Vineyard has been the second largest contributor of Notorious bottling behind Balcombe Vineyard.

Hyland Vineyard: One barrel from this old historic vineyard was selected from the 1972 original section of Coury Clone. This barrel comes from the Tonnellerie O cooperage and was a Bertranges M+ and one of the most delicious barrels in the entire cellar. This is our final vintage with Hyland Vineyard which is sad, but also the way things go. Our addition of the 1972 block back in 2021 transformed a bottling that was already excellent in 2017-2019 to something extra elite. This barrel was a special barrel in a cellar of over 800. This was sourced from a 50% whole cluster fermentation.

La Belle Promenade Vineyard: One barrel was selected from the Block 4 section of Wadensvil Clone. This was our first year receiving fruit from this somewhat innocuous looking section of the vineyard. Despite the looks, this block and the 75% whole cluster fermentations done on them were easily the favorite cuvées during harvest. The wines, in turn, responded and the La Belle Promenade, Wadensvil Block bottling is in the top tier of our 2023 wines. The one barrel selected for Notorious was a Cadus Bertranges M+.

Lillie's Vineyard (Dundee Hills): Located on Worden Hill Rd. and nestled next to Weber and below Arcus Vineyard, this site has quickly become one of the top vineyards in our cellar. with 60% whole clusters. While only around 2.5 acres in size we divide this sneakily steep block into an upper and lower portion. The 2 barrels selected for this bottling come from the upper portion which is the more red-fruited and elegant of the two portions. These barrels were from the Francois Freres cooperage, with both being M+ toast but with one being a Very Special Grain selection and the other a Medium Tight Grain selection.

Weber Vineyard (Dundee Hills): 3 barrels were selected from Weber Vineyard, which is our longest running vineyard non-Estate (including Balcombe) relationship, having begun in 2005. Our block has always been the prized top of the hill section planted in 1983. Two of the barrels were selected from the 100% whole cluster fermentations and one was selected from the 50% whole cluster fermenters. The two barrels from the 100% whole cluster fermenters were aged in Francois Freres barrels one of which was a Very Special Grain M+ toast and the other was a Medium Tight Grain M+ toast barrel. The 50% whole cluster was aged in a Cadus Bertranges M+ toast barrel.

Tasting Note: *Please be aware that I am loathe to write tasting notes on our wines. Each person has an individual palate and therefore unique experiences with every wine. Also, what a person has tasted in their life and what they enjoy informs them on what a wine is like. If I tell you a wine tastes like cherries and you either have never had a cherry or don't like cherries what I am saying is irrelevant information. That being said I have been asked to include my thoughts on each wine (since we have so many).*

The 2023 Notorious Pinot Noir is, as usual, a stylistic endeavor unlike any of our other Pinot Noir bottlings. At the same time this is a version of this wine that has taken even us by surprise. This is, far and away, the largest bottling of

this in its 22 vintages of being bottled (2013 and 2020 were skipped). The combination of a cellar so dense with incredible historic vineyard sites and a vintage that may well be the best vintage in the history of the Willamette Valley enabled us to have an incredible amount of selection material. While being as selective as possible we still ended up choosing 24 barrels and in no way sacrificed the quality of this wine, if anything each additional barrel contributed an extra level and layer of excellence to this wine. This is the largest selection of vineyard sources, blocks within sites and cooperage diversity we have had for Notorious as well which has helped add to this bottling's incredible nature. This has the deep black and red fruits that make this bottle so impossibly compelling and delicious. In 2023 the brightness of the vintage shines through, working with the new barrel program, to give this wine a crunchy fruit freshness that has never been seen in a previous Notorious bottling, even the 2016 vintage which was famous for that very characteristic. This wine has three plus decades of goodness written all over it.

This finished with a TA of 5.3, a pH of 3.50 and was bottled with under 30 ppm free SO2 and less than 75 ppm total SO2.

PRODUCTION: 584 cases

ABV: 13.8%