

2018 “Notorious” Pinot Noir



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“This is what we consider on a year-in, year-out basis our most unique and exotic wine. Rather than attempting to show, in painstaking 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. This wine is intended to show the exotic places Pinot Noir can go to and still be immediately identifiable as Pinot Noir.” - Jim Anderson, Winemaker

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Eight Barrels make up the 2018 blend...

Balcombe Vineyard (4): Pommard planted in 1990 and fermented with 0%, 33% and 60% whole cluster from Blocks 1A, 1B and 2B)

Estate Vineyard (2): 1 each from a 1990 planting of Pommard done with 50% whole clusters and from a 2001 planting of Dijon 114 from the Etzel Block done with 50% whole cluster.

Mysterious (2): barrels, 1 each from a 1990 planting of Pommard done with 0% whole clusters and 100% whole cluster).

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Cooperage: 100% New French Oak

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.

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.