Longplay™ 2014 Pinot Noir, "Jory Bench Reserve," Lia’s Vineyard

Harvest: September 25, 2014

Vineyard: Lia’s Vineyard, Chehalem Mountains AVA

Vine Age: 20 - 24 years

Clones: 25 percent Wädenswil (UCD2A)
        75 percent Pommard (UCD5)

Yield: 2.2 tons per acre

Winemaker: Jay Somers       Alcohol by volume: 14.1 percent

Cellar: Spontaneous fermentation in 2.5 ton jacketed stainless tank and
        1.5 ton bin. Ten months in French oak, 18 percent new.

Case production: 156

Bottled: September 23, 2015

We’ve said wine is like music. There are many different genres and styles. And “best” is more a question of taste than absolutes. We craft authentic wines with character that reward those with the patience to explore a wine and watch it develop and change as the evening unfolds.

Lia’s Vineyard is a series of slopes and benches. Our "Jory Bench Reserve" highlights fruit from own-rooted Pommard and Wädenswil vines growing on a fine bench of Jory soil at the top of the vineyard. This fruit is destined for the "reserve" bottling from the beginning of the season and is farmed with greater attention and care, meaning multiple passes to drop any less than perfect fruit and repeated passes for shoot positioning, lateral removal, etc. Reflecting the warm growing season, this is a more full-bodied pinot noir than we usually see from the cool northwest corner of our vineyard. The forward notes of cherry/raspberry coulis on the palate is balanced with a hint of tannin and taught oak spice. The texture is a balance between tension and richness. The finish is satisfying.

This wine reminds us of music our favorite blues-psych music from the late 1960s and early '70s - rich, plush, and delivering flow and balance from start to finish.

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