

# Longplay

Lia's Vineyard \* Chehalem Mountains

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## **Groove Club Shipment #24 - What's in the Box?**

This club pack revisits the 2018 vintage in "fall back mode." 2018 was widely heralded as an exceptional vintage for the Willamette Valley. The weather throughout the growing season and harvest was about as good as we could hope for, and the vines reached a complete and balanced ripeness - although some sugars were a bit high. Broadly speaking, it was probably difficult for a semi-competent winemaker to make a "bad" wine from the 2018 vintage; the vines, fermenters and barrels were very cooperative.

These wines are still showing a bit young, despite having hit five years past vintage date, which is typically a good spot for Oregon pinots. It's fine to save these bottles for another two or three years. If you find something you like in this pack, buy more and lay it down. It will keep.

## **Longplay 2018 Chardonnay, "Jory Slope," Lia's Vineyard**

This is a brighter style of Chardonnay. A lot of lime notes on the palate and finish. I'm really appreciating how it has evolved over the past few years and still might benefit from additional time to add weight and to mellow the acid. The nose is classic, and the finish has a nice flinty note.

## **Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, Lia's Vineyard (2 bottles)**

A look at the entire vineyard with a little bit of everything. Predominantly 115 clone but also some Mariafeld, 777, 114, and a bit of grip from a 30 percent whole cluster Wädenswil fermenter and the 100 percent whole cluster "Experience" 115 fermenter. I think this bottle really shows how combining various lots can elevate a wine, with the sum of the parts being superior to the components. Probably one of the best "Lia" bottlings so far. One new barrel, so just five percent new oak.

## **Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, "Jory Bench Reserve," Lia's Vineyard**

Block 1, my favorite block of Pommard selection, and Blocks 4 and 5, old Wädenswil selection, are the cornerstone of this bottling. In 2018 we included one barrel of 115 clone to add a bit of "lift" to the wine. It has the classic Jory soil hallmarks of red fruit, floral nose and a broad, fat palate. There is one new barrel

in the mix, so just 10 percent new oak, which is a bit less than usual. This is a full-bodied wine that will benefit from a bit more time in bottle.

**Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, "Hi-Tone," Lia's Vineyard**

This is a subset of the Wädenswil from the Jory Bench. I love this wine for its texture and the red fruit notes. For the first time since 2014, a new barrel was used in the Hi-Tone bottling so we're 25 percent new wood (same as 2014). This is almost always my favorite bottle from the vintage.

**Longplay 2018 Pinot Noir, "Experience," Lia's Vineyard**

This bottle highlights a fermenter of 115 that we did as 100 percent whole cluster. I included some wine from a destemmed lot of 115 in the final bottling because otherwise it would be just too much of a good thing. The nose on this wine shows that classic "wet-stone" whole cluster aroma. A lot of pepper on the palate and a nice long, sappy finish. This is a more serious wine that pairs well with rich foods.