2014 INNOCENT BYSTANDER PINOT NOIR

Review Summary

95 pts “Hand-picked, 25% whole bunches, 40% matured in stainless steel, the remainder in new and used French barriques for 9 months. Spun like a silk scarf from Rajasthan, the colors shifting endlessly, the cloth as light as a feather, yet warm on a cold night. Artistic skill of the highest order - and a steal (as in Rajasthan if you’re on the spot).”

James Halliday
Australian Wine Companion
July 2016

90 pts “Light red. Intensely perfumed nose combines red berries, potpourri and Asian spices, with a hint of musky sassafras in the background. Juicy and incisive on the palate, offering sappy raspberry and cherry flavors and a strong suggestion of spicecake. Shows excellent clarity and lift on the floral, firmly tannic finish. This is a wonderful value in Pinot Noir.”

Josh Raynolds
Vinous
March 2016

90 pts/BEST BUY “Steve Flamsteed’s pinot noirs just keep getting better, this one benefiting from the low yields of 2014 in Yarra, and from 25 percent of the blend fermented as whole clusters. That provides what is, for now, a prominent stemminess, enhancing the red fruit and allowing the brightness of wine to shine through. The texture is silky, the earthy tannins lending the wine a structural clarity that should develop well over the next several years.”

Joshua Greene
Wine & Spirits Magazine
February 2016

89 pts “It’s difficult to find $20 Pinot Noir this good from anywhere in the world. Floral notes on the nose yield to ripe black-cherry fruit on the palate, which finish finishes with crisp acids and soft, dusty tannins.”

Joe Czerwinski
Wine Enthusiast
February 2016