

2016 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

TWO MESSENGERS PINOT NOIR



WINEMAKER: Louis-Michel Liger-Belair (consultant)
REGION: Willamette Valley, Oregon
VARIETALS: Pinot Noir (Clones: Pommard/114/115/777/Wadensvil/667)
MATURATION: 12 months in 100% French oak (25% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | TA: 5.5 | pH: 3.59

VINTAGE: An unusually warm spring gave way to moderate summer conditions, which provided even growing conditions through véraison. Though it was an intense growing season due to the early start, the fruit produced throughout the state resulted in wonderful concentration and complexity with characteristic natural acidity.

AVAs & VINEYARDS: Eola Amity - Eagle Crest, Eola Springs, Popcorn. McMinnville - Hyland. Yamhill Carlton - Fairsing, Gran Moraine, Stardance. Willamette Valley - Croft

WINEMAKING: The fruit was 100% de-stemmed and underwent an indigenous ferment in two and five-ton stainless steel open top tanks. The grapes were allowed to “infuse” as whole berries at a moderate temperature, in an oxygen rich environment until pressed. The wine then matured in 100% French oak barriques (25% new) for 12 months.

TASTING NOTES: Layers of cranberry, redcurrant and kirsch aromas are supported by subtle notes of holiday spice. Ripe red fruit flavors envelop the palate throughout its length with savory forest floor nuances adding complexity. Vibrant acidity brings energy and balance while supple tannins frame the flavors across the impressively long finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts/Best Buy Wine & Spirits, 91 pts Vinous

ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ: Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé, 'The House of the Messenger' traverses the globe with the intention of presenting the acme of regionality and winemaking styles. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley, Central Otago and Tasmania, they champion many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. This project has been a standout since its debut in 2011 including Wine & Spirits naming Maison L'Envoyé a 'Winery To Watch' in 2015.

