

2018 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

STRAIGHT SHOOTER CHARDONNAY



WINEMAKER: Felipe Ramirez
REGION: Willamette Valley, Oregon
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 50% matured in seasoned French oak for 10 months
ANALYSIS: 13.3% alc/vol | TA: 6.5 | pH: 3.46

VINTAGE: Spring was relatively cool and wet with bud break happening slightly later than the last few years. A warmer than average summer caught things up. Veraison was early and the hot weather continued, accelerated ripening until a cool change in September gave the grapes a needed respite. The cooler temperatures allowed the slow development of flavors until harvest. Overall 2018 is looking to be a very sound vintage.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were harvested in the cold of the morning and transported to the winery. Bunches were immediately pressed and the juice was transferred to stainless steel tanks for cold settling. After being racked off solids the juice was allowed to warm naturally and was then inoculated with cold tolerant yeasts. After fermentation, 50% of the wine was matured in seasoned French oak for ten months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES: The wine expresses standout primary aromas of yellow fruits and citrus zest followed by meringue, nougat and lemon verbena notes. The palate is fruit-driven and balanced while also light on its feet. The pronounced meyer lemon and bosc pear characters are sustained by a vibrant acidity through the long finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 90 pts/Editors' Choice Wine Enthusiast, 90 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 90 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.

