

2023 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ

WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR



WINEMAKER:

Anne Sery

REGION:

Willamette Valley, Oregon (Chehalem Mountains, Dundee Hills and Eola Amity Hills)

VARIETALS:

Pinot Noir

MATURATION:

11 months in 100% French oak (15% new)

ANALYSIS:

13.9% alc/vol

VINTAGE: A wet and cool spring delayed budburst by ten or more days in many vineyards, although a warm May with increasing temperatures through the dry summer months saw the vines catching up quickly on their fruit ripening. A mid-August heat spike, followed by some light refreshing rains, set the tone for an early, condensed September harvest with fully physiologically ripe grapes. The overall warmer vintage resulted in thicker skinned berries with plenty of fruit character, acidities in check and slightly elevated tannins.

WINEMAKING: The fruit was handpicked and 20% fermented as whole clusters. The balance was de-stemmed, and underwent whole berry fermentation in two and five-ton open top tanks. A gentle punch-down was followed by manual watering of the cap to allow the fermentation to proceed as an 'infusion' of the berries in an oxygen rich juice. Pressing of the must occurred approximately 10 -12 days later, and the wine then spent 11 months in French oak barriques, 15% of which was new.

TASTING NOTES: Supple and handsomely structured, with multilayered raspberry and cherry flavors accented by dusty spice and savory forest floor notes. Medium-grained tannins, medium body and an elegant mouthfeel.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet rated.

ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ: Driven by a tireless hunt for elusive sites where Pinot Noir shines, Maison L'Envoyé seeks out the best of regions and winemaking styles. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Beaujolais and Willamette Valley, they champion the 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.

