# SOJOURN

#### NEWSLETTER AND WINE OFFERING

**FALL 2013** 

# "Life is but a Sojourn. Enjoy the best of it."—Plato

ONE OF THE TRICKIEST ASPECTS of running our business is determining how much wine to produce, and therefore how much fruit to secure, often several years before we release the wine. This is especially true when we are expanding into new vineyards. While our lead times cannot be compared with pharmaceuticals or biotech, we are not exactly making chocolate chip cookies either. There is no "crank up the ovens" to replenish the inventory. As we evaluate new vineyard sites, we look at the potential wine quality and the fit within our portfolio, as well as assess future demand for the wine. All this estimation makes for very risky business indeed, so we often test the waters with smaller bottlings that end up selling out quickly through our mailing list.

In 2011, Sojourn ventured into the extreme west Sonoma Coast with famed grower Ulises Valdez in search of new Pinot noir vineyards. We found two sites that blew us away, and with the SOJOURN CELLARS FALL 2013 RELEASE, we are proud to introduce two new vineyard designate wines: the 2011 Campbell Ranch Vineyard Pinot noir and the 2011 Silver Eagle Vineyard Pinot noir. Both of these wines are less than 200 case bottlings.

Campbell Ranch Vineyard is located near Annapolis, and the 2011 wine is impressive, showcasing intense dark fruit aromas, tropical notes and high levels of concentration at lower alcohol levels. Silver Eagle Vineyard was originally developed under the direction of Mark Aubert. Our 2011 Silver Eagle Pinot noir has depth and complexity with a wonderfully balanced structure, silky tannins and an aromatic mix of red and purple fruit with earthy notes.

Ridgetop Vineyard, owned by Fred Schrader and Thomas Brown, is the source for their highly acclaimed Aston Pinot noir wines. The Sojourn **2011 Ridgetop Vineyard Pinot noir** delivers lush tropical fruit, hints of orange and a sexy, velvety texture. Our **2011 Wohler Vineyard Pinot noir**, awarded 93 points by the *Pinot Report*, exhibits a dark fruit flavor and ripe,

Erich Bradley
Winemaker



lush mouthfeel. Our **2011 Russian River Valley Pinot noir** is a blend of two vineyards, including a new site in Occidental that showcases the Mt. Eden clone. *Pinot Report* awarded this wine 94 points and described it as having "Rich cherry flavors with spice and cola notes; good structure and balance. Rich, flavorful Pinot that is a delight to drink."

Rounding out the Fall 2013 Release are two stellar Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons. Our 2010 Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon recently received 91 points from Stephen Tanzer and delivers exceptional value at only \$59. And once again in 2010, Erich blended a Napa Valley Proprietary Cuvée that combines the intense fruit and lush texture of Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III with the dark fruit and intense structure of the Spring Mountain District. The resulting blend is a world-class wine with depth, concentration and exceptional balance.

Harvest is upon us here in Northern California. We will be doing a bit more traveling over the next several months, and we hope to see you soon either on the road or in our Tasting Salon here in Sonoma.

Craig Haserot

Proprietor

Curio Waren



#### 2011 Campbell Ranch Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Winemaker Erich Bradley describes the grapes from Campbell Ranch as "the best fruit I have ever tasted!" Flavors developed at lower sugar levels in 2011, giving this wine the lowest alcohol by volume in the Sojourn lineup. Aromas and flavors explode from the glass, with a complex array of fruit, earth and forest floor. 2011 was our first vintage sourcing fruit from Campbell Ranch Vineyard, farmed by renowned grower Ulises Valdez. The vineyard is located in the remote coastal mountains along the northern Sonoma Coast near Annapolis. Clones 115 and 777 were blended to produce a wine with focus and zest showing the expressive aromatics of red and tropical fruits common to the region.

93 POINTS PINOT REPORT 92

92 POINTS STEPHEN TANZER

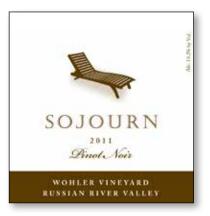


#### 2011 Silver Eagle Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

We are thrilled to present our inaugural 2011 vintage Pinot noir from Silver Eagle Vineyard. It is a stunning site near Occidental on the western edge of the Sonoma Coast. Famed vineyard manager Ulises Valdez owns and farms the vineyard to perfection, employing the same attention to detail and meticulous farming practices we know and love.

This Pinot noir is a blend of multiple clones unique to this site, including a specialized Vosne-Romanee clone, Calera, and Pommard. Cool, coastal breezes and fog help control yields for excellent balance and concentration. This wine is bright ruby-red with a sultry aroma that immediately lures you in. It has depth and complexity, with aromas of red and blue fruit, Asian spices and a touch of earth. This is a powerful and energetic Pinot with great structure and balance.

92 POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST 91 POINTS PINOT REPORT



#### 2011 Wohler Vineyard Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley

2011 was our third vintage producing wine from Wohler Vineyard near Forestville in the heart of the Russian River Valley appellation. The 2011 vintage shows nice complexity and depth. Wohler has matured into a premier vineyard that showcases its renowned Russian River Valley terroir and unique Goldridge loam soils.

In 2011, we chose the alluring Wadensville 2A clone to serve as the foundation of the blend, providing complex flavors of dark red fruit and earth. Clone 828 adds depth and lush texture, while clones 667 and 115 balance out the wine with structure and additional aromatic complexity. This wine has sold out on release the last two years, so don't hesitate to secure your allocation.

93 POINTS PINOT REPORT



#### 2011 Ridgetop Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Ridgetop Vineyard is located in the remote coastal mountains along the northern Sonoma Coast. Ulises Valdez cares for this extreme vineyard site with precise attention to detail. The vines grow in Goldridge loam soils and remnants of ancient seabed. This wine shows exotic red and orange fruit aromas overlaying bold strength, concentrated flavors, and lush mouthfeel.

Our 2011 Ridgetop is a sultry and sexy wine that it is certain to please those who seek immediate satisfaction. This wine was recently reviewed and described as, "Complex, earthy cherry aromas with bacon and savory spice notes; silky, texture, good structure and balance."

93 POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST 92 POINTS PINOT REPORT

# SOJOURN 2011 Pinot. Nois

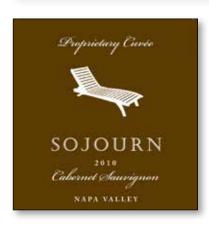
#### 2011 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

The Russian River Valley has been the epicenter for high quality Pinot noir in California since the 1970's and remains a prominent source for New World Pinot noir. Our 2011 Russian River Valley Pinot noir is a blend of two vineyards and again offers a beautiful expression of the varietal and the appellation's cool climate and loamy soils.

In 2011, we added Riddle Vineyard to the blend. Located in the Green Valley appellation, Riddle is a young vineyard with exceptional Goldridge soils. It sits high up on a ridge overlooking many of the iconic Pinot noir vineyards in the region. The resulting blend has a firm, balanced structure and multiple layers of red fruit and earth. It has a medium-deep ruby color with bright red cherry flavors, herbal notes and a lush, silky texture. A respected wine critic summed up this wine as, "Rich and flavorful Pinot that is a delight to drink."

94 POINTS PINOT REPORT

91 POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST



#### 2010 Proprietary Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

The Sojourn Cellars Proprietary Cuvée is our optimal blend of Cabernet Sauvignon from renowned Napa Valley hillside and valley floor vineyards. We produce a Proprietary Cuvée only in vintages when we can create a blend of exceptional quality and ageing potential. The 2010 vintage is a blend of two exclusive vineyards in Napa Valley: famed Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III from Rutherford and Wurtele Vineyard in the Spring Mountain District.

2010 was the coolest vintage on record in Rutherford, where the Beckstoffer Georges III Vineyard is located. The fruit had long hang time allowing for the development of juicy, ripe flavors and bold structure. This wine possesses gorgeous red and dark fruit aromas that lead to flavors of dark cherry, earth and mouth-watering chocolate. The resulting wine is as balanced as the Olympic Fab Five during the all around competition and equally as impressive. Enjoy it now or sock it away for the next Summer Olympics. Only 150 cases produced!



#### 2010 Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

We produced the 2010 vintage of our Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon using grapes sourced from Wurtele Vineyard mid-way up the rugged mountain slopes west of St. Helena. The vineyard was planted in the early 1990's. The elevation is between 600 and 1,000 feet featuring 360 degrees of exposure and has two different soils, volcanic and sedimentary. This place is literally wild. Imagine a drastically varied terrain, extreme slopes, towering redwoods and all the critters and creatures that enjoy living in such extreme conditions. Wear your boots when visiting this vineyard.

Our vines are dry farmed and grow on steep, southern facing slopes that produce concentrated flavors and bold mountain structure. The 2010 vintage shows massive depth and character, with strong berry, mocha and dark chocolate aromatics that seamlessly dance you into ripe cassis and keep a strong hold with fine tannins. "Intense aromas of blackberry, cassis, pipe tobacco and bitter chocolate. Nicely structured Cabernet with a long, focused finish."

91 POINTS STEPHEN TANZER

# LET SOJOURN HELP WITH YOUR HOLIDAY & CORPORATE GIFTS

Sojourn Cellars offers a personalized Corporate and Holiday Gift Program. We invite you to consider Sojourn wines for your corporate contacts, clients, employees, friends, family and holiday entertaining. Options include single bottles, verticals, and large format bottles. Create your own custom gift packs too. Contact us for options and pricing.

#### **BUY A BARREL**

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to own an individual barrel of luxury wine created for you by Sojourn Cellars' winemaker, Erich Bradley. Once your barrel is finished ageing, you can create a private label for your bottles. You may also bottle the wine using your company logo and message. There are a limited number of barrels available. Each barrel produces 288 bottles of wine. Contact us for a list of available barrels.

#### TRIFECTA!

## THREE LEGENDARY VINEYARDS FARMED BY ULISES VALDEZ

"If you want quality, you gotta be aggressive..." Ulises Valdez

Sojourn has partnered with famed vineyard manager Ulises Valdez to bring you three fabulous Pinot noirs from the extreme Sonoma Coast. Our Fall Release includes brand new wines from Campbell Ranch Vineyard near Annapolis and Silver Eagle Vineyard near Occidental. It also includes our third vintage of Ridgetop Vineyard Pinot noir. Ridgetop is owned by Fred Schrader and Thomas Brown and is farmed for them by Ulises.

These coastal vineyards are very remote. The vines struggle to survive and yield only a few small clusters each year. The resulting wines are stunningly complex with depth and concentration.

Ulises is uncompromising and it shows in the high quality of grapes and wines produced from the vineyards he farms. Legendary Pinot noir can be made only from grapes grown in extraordinary soils, in ideal locations, under optimal growing conditions, and farmed by meticulous souls striving for greatness. We have found a meticulous soul and master Pinot noir farmer — Ulises Valdez.

### Disit Us in Sonoma!

We welcome the opportunity to host you at our Tasting Salon located just off the Plaza in downtown Sonoma. Sojourn Cellars offers a unique, comparative tasting where guests explore the nuances of terroir and distinctive vineyard sites. Our seated tastings feature flights of single vineyard and appellation Chardonnay, Pinot noir and Cabernet Sauvignon served in elegant Riedel stemware and shared in a relaxed setting. To ensure a quality, educational and intimate experience, we offer tastings daily by appointment only.

SCHEDULE YOUR TASTING: 707.938.7212 or SALON@SOJOURNCELLARS.COM.

# Durchasing Our Wines

The best way to acquire our wines is to purchase them direct from the winery. We have implemented a secure online ordering system accessible at www.sojourncellars.com. We also welcome orders via phone, fax and snail mail using the personalized order form included in this newsletter. To ensure fulfillment of your allocation, please log in or return your order form as soon as possible. If you would like additional bottles, please fill in the "Additional Bottles Requested" column and we will do our best to accommodate your requests.

