

Barcode

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P
ESSAGNO
WINERY



2009 PINOT NOIR

CENTRAL AVENUE VINEYARD
Monterey

THE VINEYARD

Located south of the Arroyo Seco appellation of Monterey County, Central Avenue Vineyard produces striking, yet friendly wines because of its moderately warm days, cool nights, and shaley loam soil. The vineyard is planted to several recently imported French Dijon Pinot Noir clones. Each clone was harvested separately at ideal maturity and then fermented and aged in separate lots.

THE VINTAGE

2009 comes to a close with our assessment that yet a fifth consecutive great Vintage has been brought to “the Barn” (our 80+ year old former Swiss Italian dairy, now winery). January and early February saw unprecedented warm temperatures that caused an early budbreak. During flowering in the middle of May the thermometer again reached the upper 90 °F mark. The balance of the growing season up through harvest was, in contrast, very moderate to even slightly cool. We were now preparing for a late season with grapes not expected until late Fall. In anticipation of heavy rains from the remnants of Typhoon Melor (the worst to hit Japan in two decades), we scrambled to bring in all the fruit during the middle of October. The long hours paid off and incredible quality wines are now finishing fermentation and resting gracefully in the winery.

THE WINEMAKING

Handpicked fruit was gently crushed on top of approximately 10% whole cluster grapes and allowed to “cold soak” for 72 hours. A highly specialized yeast provided a slow, cool fermentation to help preserve the delicate aromas and flavors characteristic of Pinot Noir. Pressed directly into French oak barrels, the wine was then aged for nine months before blending bottling.

TASTING NOTES

A deceptively complex Monterey County Pinot Noir which focuses on a light and dry body style, with bright flavors of cherry and strawberry that accentuate the woody and herbacious finish.

Steve Pessagno, Winemaker



Harvest Date

October 3, 2009

Harvest Brix

27.2

Months in Oak

Five

Alcohol

14.4%

pH

3.72

TA

5.2 grams/liter

Rs

Dry

Bottled October 26, 2011

698 cases