



2012 Estate Pinot Noir - *Block M* *Estate Small Lot Collection - Sta. Rita Hills*

Formerly known as Carrie's, Block M is a wind swept mesa on our western parcel adjacent to our Terraces block. Sitting atop a sun exposed mesa with several feet of botella clay soil, the extremity of Block M is enhanced by the gravitational pull on three exposed sides forcing the roots to search deeper for sustenance. Block M is made up of equal amounts of clones 114 and 115. The lesser known 114 is lush, velvety and textural with an elegantly pliant internal core, while clone 115 delivers fruit at a higher pitch coupled with a more structurally pronounced personality. The marriage of these complementary components is what renders our Block M bottling so complete. 20% of the fruit was gently de-stemmed with 80% remaining as whole clusters. Yields were 2.9 pounds/vine (2.6 tons/acre). 577 cases produced.

Robert Parker: 97 points
Antonio Galloni: 94 points

***tasting notes:** Boasting a dark crimson hue, opulent fruit aromatics of apple cider, brandied cherries, strawberry gelatin and black currants are immediately apparent while more gentle nuances of toasted nori, soy, perilla leaf and cinnamon stick linger in the background. On the palate the wine is pristine and intense with a gorgeous purity that finishes with significant length and density.*

AVA: Sta. Rita Hills
100% Pinot Noir
Cases Produced: 577
Clones: 114, 115
Elevage: Aged in neutral barrel (5 to 20 year old French oak)
Fermentation: 80% whole cluster
Alcohol: 15.0%
Release Date: 02.03.14