



## 2017 Sequence Pinot Noir

### Santa Cruz Mountains

**HARVESTED:** August 17th-September 26th, 2017

**VINEYARD LOCATION:** Portola Valley, Saratoga, La Honda on either clay or sandy loam soils.

**BOTTLED:** February 2018, 500 cases

**COMPOSITION:** 100% Pinot Noir (Dijon clones 114, 115, 117, 666, 667, 777)

**ALCOHOL:** 13.7%

**WINEMAKER:** Colin McNany

**NAME:** 'SEQUENCE' of vineyards along Skyline, and part of Silicon Valley's vines/science heritage.

#### VINTAGE NOTES

The winter rains brought a joyful end to a 5 year drought, with coastal areas of the mountains receiving as much as 100 inches. The wet winter brought incredible growth and healthy vigor to the vines. The vineyard crews had to balance the workload between canopy management, floor management and weed control. Bud break came in mid-March and bloom followed in late May. Harvest came mid-August, spurred by a heatwave in the triple digits lasting several days. Harvest was quickly sent into overdrive with grapes flying into the winery by the truckload. All told, the quality looks and tastes amazing.

#### WINEMAKING NOTES

We harvest our Pinot Noir sequentially with co-fermentation in mind, filling open top tanks and T-bins with vineyards matching in fruit profiles. This year we experimented with some whole cluster fermentation (roughly 20% of the fruit), providing extra structure and tannin to the final cuvee. The rest of the vineyards were destemmed whole berry and hand sorted on the shaker table. All fruit is cold soaked prior to fermentation to deepen color, followed by either inoculation of commercial yeast strains or native yeasts. The ferments are punched down by hand 3 times a day with peak fermentation temps hitting roughly 90 degrees F. The wine is left on skins for a total of 15-20 days. We press on taste, separating free run and basket pressed wine into designated French and Hungarian barrels, of which 50% are new. The wine undergoes 100% native malolactic and is barrel-aged for 14 months. Unfined and unfiltered, always.

#### TASTING NOTES

Elegant aromatics of strawberries, wild raspberries, and coastal mountain flora find their way into the wine. A fun, juicy palate slakes one's thirst, but the wine's fine grain tannin sparks it yet again, sending one back to the glass for more. A long finish and evolving aromatics keeps things interesting. With this wine you get the best of Pinot Noir; the drinkability you expect and the complexity you can only hope for.

#### CELLARING

Recommend aging potential of 3-5 years.

