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Subject: Oregon Pinot Noir and French Burgundy
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To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

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Here tomorrow we are celebrating the grape Pinot Noir! Come and join us for a grand tasting!

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro

When: Friday, March 18th

Time: 4-8 PM

Cost: Full pour \$30 Half Pour \$ 18

Special Entrée: Mushroom Stroganoff

The Wines:

2013 Beaux Frères Willamette Valley Pinot Noir \$67.50

Soft and supple, plush in texture, this open-weave style offers blueberry, red plum and thyme notes, blossoming with gentle insistence. The tannins are nicely absorbed. Drink now through 2023. **92 Points Wine Spectator**

2013 Cameron Arley's Leap \$47

“From younger vines planted in Abbey Ridge in 1990, the 2013 Pinot Noir Arley's Leap has a very pure bouquet with red cherries, kirsch and blood orange that is beautifully defined and (again) very Burgundian in style. It has medium-bodied with supple tannin, pure animated red cherry fruit with mandarin and marmalade hints toward the poised and intense finish. This is going to be sublime”. **92-94 Points Robert Parker**

Words from Parker:

“I'm having flashbacks. Here I am in Oregon...or is it Burgundy? I mean, I am in a dimly lit cellar surrounded by barrels, an upturned one serving as a temporary desk for my laptop. For the one and only occasion the winemaker is dipping his pipette into the bung hole and squirting Pinot into my glass, replacing the precious contents after I've written my thoughts. I undertook five weeks of that in the Côte d'Or. The winemaker is deeply philosophical about wine... Hmm...that sounds like Burgundy. But he is speaking English.”

“Burgundy or Oregon—what really matters is that Cameron produces some of the latter's finest Pinot Noir and in winemaker John Paul, one of its most erudite, principled, forward-thinking/traditional and charismatic personalities that I encountered during my time there. I meet him at the entrance of his small winery overlooking Dundee, along with assistant winemaker Tom Sivilli, his wife Teri donned in orange for a day working in the vines, and menagerie of animals that would embarrass Gerald Durrell. Apart from a fondness for pets, just have a look at their website to see that even those that purr, waddle or go cock-a-doodle-doo have a role to play in the working of the winery.”

2014 Illahe Estate Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$22

The aromas of the 2014 Illahe Vineyards Estate Pinot Noir begin with strawberry, tamarind, and blackberry then broaden along the palate to include chalk, tobacco leaf, chocolate, and earth. The acid supports a complete yet not overwhelming tannin balanced between skin and oak. The wine retains its velvet mouthfeel through a process of clarification by racking. For an entry-level pinot, this wine is a great value and will last 6 to 12 years under the best conditions.

2013 Naudin Ferrand Hautes-Cotes de Nuits \$29

The terroir is expressed by aromatic notes subtiles, spicy, liquorice and fruity, and the smoothness of the tannins. The vintage is characterized by a nose reserved and slightly melted and structure. An elegant and delicious expression of Pinot Noir.

2012 Regis Bouvier Marannay Les Longeroues \$30

Bouvier's vineyards in Marsannay are premier-cru quality.

This red is packed with black cherry, black currant and violet flavors, matched to a silky texture. Harmonious and refined, with a long aftertaste of fruit and mineral. Drink now through 2020. 260 cases imported. 91 Points Wine Spectator

2013 Domaine Mongeard–Mugneret Hautes Cotes de Nuits “ Les Damnes Huguettes \$35

Pure and clear primary aromas of cherry, plum, violet, and secondary notes of black tea, forest floor and hints of mushroom. Medium-bodied on the palate, with good acidity and fine tannin. Lots of red-berry flavors, with high-toned minerality and floral notes, along with very subtle earth. Bright and juicy, finely structured, and a clean juicy finish with decent length. Very enjoyable, great QPR.

See you soon!

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