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Subject: Washington Reds Friday night
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To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

DR

Good Evening, Washington Reds Tomorrow night!

Special TBA!

When: Friday, April 22nd

Time: 4-8

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro

Cost: Full pour \$30 Half \$18

The Wines:

2013 Mullan Road Red \$43

Tasted out of barrel and a perfumed, floral, lively blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc and a splash of Malbec, the 2013 Columbia Valley Red Wine offers ample black raspberry, sweet cassis, spring flowers and sappy herb-like aromas and flavors. Coming from a mix of Stillwater Creek, Seven Hills and Lawrence vineyards, this rock-star barrel sample has medium to full-bodied richness, fabulous purity and fine tannin that frame the finish. It should be relatively civilized on release, yet evolve gracefully for 15 years. **92-94 Points Robert Parker**

2013 Tenet GSM (40% Grenache, 35% Syrah and 25% Mourvedre) Red \$60

The real superstar in the lineup is the 2013 Tenet GSM, which checks in as a mix of 40% Grenache, 35% Syrah and 25% Mourvedre that spent 12 months in neutral French oak. Ripe, voluptuous and thrillingly textured, this beauty boasts fabulous aromatics of red and black raspberries, melted licorice, pepper and assorted floral characteristics. These all come together nicely on the palate where the wine is full-bodied, has no hard edges, a big, layered mid-palate and blockbuster length. Count me impressed. This Chateaufneuf du Pape look-alike will have a decade or more of longevity. **95 Robert Parker**

Rhone superstars Philippe Cambie and Michel Gassier's first foray into Washington, Tenet is a joint project with Bob Bertheau at Chateau Ste. Michelle, where all three collaborate on vineyard selections, farming and blending. They do to classic Syrahs, one from Michel's estate in Costieres de Nimes and one from Columbia Valley, with the idea to present a textbook example of each region, and it's a treat to taste these side by side. In addition, the top cuvee is the GSM blend, which comes from different sites in the Columbia Valley. These are all high-quality wines well worth checking out.

2013 Gramercy L'Idiot du Village \$45

A wine that's seeing a longer elevage in barrel, the 2013 L'Idiot du Village is a stunner, and could possibly eclipse the 2012. It exhibits perfumed notes of spring flowers, blackberry, blueberry and crushed rocks, medium to full-bodied richness, impressive concentration and building tannin that start on the mid-palate and show up nicely on the finish. A complete, balanced Syrah, it will have 10-15 years of longevity. **92-94 Points Robert Parker**

2012 Dunham Trufino Red Blend \$29

2012 DuBrul Trutina Red Blend \$20

The 2012 Trutina is a medium to full-bodied, elegant and pretty blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 10% Malbec and the rest Syrah and Petit Verdot. Aged 16 months in barrel, it gives up lots of black raspberry, vanilla bean, crushed flowers and mint, offers a seamless, rich, yet weightless texture and should drink well for a decade.

91 Points Robert Parker

2014 Owen Roe Yakima Valley Red Blend \$28

2013 VINTAGE RECAP FROM DAVID O'REILLY The 2013 vintage in Yakima Valley was hotter than normal through most of the growing season. Long, warm days sped up the ripening process through the end of August, and abruptly came to a screeching halt in early September. From this point until harvest, the late ripening varieties gained full flavors without excessive sugar accumulations. After barrel aging and bottling, it became readily apparent that 2013 was an exceptional vintage for the Bordeaux varieties. The massive ripe flavors are beautifully balanced with nice acidity and gorgeous aromas. This is a vintage that will improve for over a decade, or possibly even two, with cool cellaring.

Aged 10 months in French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The initial aromatics show bright Cabernet Franc spice notes of cinnamon, anise and pink peppercorn. A blast of pretty plum fruit and firm tannins boasts a well-rounded mouthfeel with hints of subtle oak toast and dusty earth. Pair this bold red wine with smoked ribeye for the ultimate luxury as we wrap up the winter.

VINEYARD SOURCES: DuBrul Vineyard- Farmed by Hugh and Kathy Shiels

Elerding Vineyard- Farmed by Dr. Steve Elerding

Outlook Vineyard- Owen Roe estate vineyard

Red Willow Vineyard- Farmed by the Sauer Family

Union Gap Vineyard- Owen Roe estate vineyard

2012 Hence Cultivar \$20

Hence Cellars Cultivar. Plum, Red Cassis, Blood Orange, Savory Herbs, Raspberries, Blackberries, Mocha, Asian Spice, Sun Dried Tomatoes. A Cultivar is a cultivated variety of a plant that has been deliberately selected for specific desirable characteristics, such as the color and form of the flower, the yield of the crop, disease resistance, or other desirable characteristics 64% Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 26% Walla Walla Valley Merlot 10% Walla Walla Valley Syrah 275 Cases

Hope to see you here!

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