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Subject: Spanish Reds and Pork Tenderloin
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To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

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Good Evening Wine Enthusiast's ! The nice weather is here! We are stocked up on many great dry Rose and other refreshing white wines for you to enjoy on the patio, at the lake, by the pool. Saturday we will be tasting six great wines from the June Cheap & Cheerful six-pack from noon until 4

I hope you can make it. I know it's graduation weekend, don't let this stop you! Yes, I'm whining again....and it taste good.

Wine Tasting: high scoring... Spanish Reds

When: Friday, June 5th

Time: 4-8 P.M.

Cost: Full Pour \$24 2 oz of each Half Pour \$14 1 oz pour of all six

Wine Pairing Entrée: Roasted Pimenton Pork Tenderloin w/ Spanish Polenta & Lime butter Brussels \$12

We are keeping it cool in here... come on down and bring your wine friends! Reservations? ok, call 503-589-0775

The Wines:

2005 La Rioja Alta Vina Arana Reserva \$35.50

The 2005 Vina Arana Reserva has a fresh bouquet of orange blossom, quince, violets and dark cherries. The palate is succulent on the entry with vivacious maraschino cherry, red currant and blood orange. It displays a very fine build and a silky smooth texture that segues to a poised, mint-tinged, bright and animated finish. Drink now-2020. 93 Points Robert Parker

2012 Mas d'En Comte Black Slate Priorat \$22

From one of Priorat's coolest micro-climates, this 2012 Black Slate is composed of 60% old vine Grenache (60+ years) and 40% old Carignan (80 years), and aged 12 months in concrete tanks, old wood foudres, and two-year-old barrels. It reveals lots of licorice, crushed wet rock, sweet blueberry and black raspberry fruit characteristics along with a full-bodied, moderately tannic mouthfeel. The tannins are sweet and well-integrated, and the wine is drinking beautifully already. For a relatively expensive Spanish appellation, this is an outright steal! Consume it over the next 3-6 years. 93 Points Robert Parker

2012 Bernabekeva Arroyo del Tortolas Granache \$35

The 2012 Arroyo del Tórtolas is one of their single-vineyard reds, in this case it's a north facing-slope of 1.25 hectares, planted with 2,200 plants per hectare that are 65 years old. The soil is quite thin and poor, rich in granite. Fermentation is carried out in oak tinas (vats), with stems, but on a higher or lower proportion depending on the vintage, and foot trodden. Malolactic fermentation is in used barriques of different sizes (from 225 to 600 liters) made of French oak where the wine ages for one year. This is the plot of vines that gets more complete ripeness, the nose is very sharp and focused, with notes of good ripeness, some pine cone traces, red berries, flowers and dry herbs. The palate is really supple, straight, vertical, with very good acidity (this is harvested earlier than other plots, as the grapes ripen earlier which somehow provides for better acidity)

with fine, velvety and elegant tannins. This is a great expression of Garnacha and, even though it's not cheap, it still represents good value. Bravo! **94 Points Robert Parker**

2012 Alejandro Fernandez Tinto Pesquera Crianza Ribera Del Duero \$36

Pesquera Tinto Crianza 2012 is 100% Tempranillo aged in new American oak barrels for at least 18 months with an additional 6 months in bottle before release. This Spanish red offers aromas of dark fruit, oak, spice, licorice and vanilla on the nose. On the palate, concentrated flavors of dark fruit and oak with excellent balance, fine, silky tannins and a long, lingering finish. Pairs well with roast meats, poultry and goat cheeses.

2011 Artadi Tempranillo Rioja \$18

The 2011 Tempranillo is a new entry level red from Artadi, 100% Tempranillo like all their reds, from young vines (around 15 years old) that used to be part of Vinas de Gain, fermented in open vats and aged in barrique for a year. Clean and pure, modern, with well-integrated oak, flavors of red fruit and licorice, fresh, very drinkable. They produced over 100,000 bottles of this wine, at a very affordable price. Drink 2014-2018. **89 Points Robert Parker**

2013 Tres Picos Granacha \$15.50

The 2013 Tres Picos is the bodegas top cuvée of 100% Grenache from older, head-pruned vines planted on the hillsides of the Moncayo Mountains. Yields were less than two tons of fruit per acre. This was the first of the Grenaches to spend some time in a combination of older French oak barrels (for 10 months) as well as stainless steel. There are 6,000 cases of this outstanding wine. Its dense ruby/purple-tinged color is followed by notes of kirsch liqueur, licorice, pepper and spice box, and a medium to full-bodied, richly fruity, sensual wine with beautiful finesse, complexity and purity. Sometimes Grenache can take on a complex, Pinot Noir-like sensitivity, and this cuvée appears to have done that. Consumers should take advantage of these lovely wines offered at ridiculously low prices. Drink now-2017. **90 Points Robert Parker**

See you soon!

Thank you,

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