

# MEIOMI

## *Pinot Noir*

**Monterey County • Santa Barbara County • Sonoma County**

*Pronounced "may-oh-mee", the name means "coast" in the language of the native Californian Wappo tribe.*

From the dense fogs and brilliant sun, to the high winds, cool coastal air and diverse terrain; California's coast presents many challenges. And yet it's still one of the best winegrowing regions for producing world-class Pinot Noir. I enjoy tackling the elements head-on to ensure the grapes that go into Meiom Pinot Noir benefit from the long, cool growing season that's a hallmark of vineyards located along California's coastline. I look for intensity in the wines I make, and a longer hang-time on the vines is essential in achieving that goal. The hard work ultimately pays off with a style of Pinot Noir that I feel is a true reflection of California's cool coast: richly flavored, well-balanced and stylish, with layers of complexity.

While most traditional winemakers would shy away from creating a tri-appellation Pinot Noir blend, I want to showcase the best expression of each coastal region and make a super-balanced, consistent and expressive style of wine. I find it's the best way to create a layered, complex Pinot Noir that has broad appeal and pairs well with a lot of different cuisines. Santa Barbara County offers spice-filled aromas and a silky texture, Sonoma County brings bright berry flavors and minerality, and Monterey County rounds out the wine with opulence, earthiness and structure.

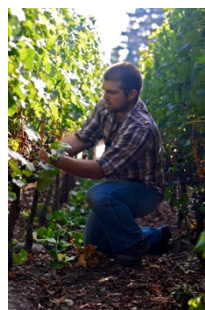
The 2012 vintage proved to be a very good year with ideal growing conditions for California, which was a welcome return after two successive vintages that were unusually cool with very low yields. After a relatively dry winter, bud break in all three regions was earlier than normal, followed by good fruit set and a textbook summer with warm, temperate weather. This vintage we were fortunate to have plentiful yields and exceptional quality, with ripe, concentrated fruit.

### **TASTING NOTES**

Deep, rich garnet color. The wine opens up with aromas of ripe berries, fresh cranberry, candy apple and malted vanilla, some of which carries through to the palate. There's a hint of Granny Smith apple on first sip that beautifully balances out the rich cream soda and cherry cola notes. It is an extremely layered wine, both in structure and flavor, with a slight earthiness and sweet oak on the finish. The wine almost contradicts itself, managing to display freshness and maturity all at the same time, which is achieved through careful blending.

**- Joseph Wagner, Winemaker and Viticulturist**

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**Wagner**  
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