

Technical Notes

2020 HELIOS ESTATE SEYVAL BLANC CHEHALEM MOUNTAINS AVA

*Named for Carl Nielsen's
"Helios Overture, Opus 18"*

Retail: \$40



Production:	15 Cases		
Clones:	100% Seyval Blanc - 5-year vines		
Soils:	Jory		
Harvest:	Oct. 3, 2020		
Harvest Brix:	20.7		
Cooperage:	Aged sur lie 6 months in stainless steel		
Bottled:	March 1, 2021	Released:	March 15, 2021
Alcohol:	11.8%	pH:	3.30

We are proud to have the Willamette Valley's first planting of Seyval Blanc (and just the second in Oregon), a varietal with which winemaker Dave Specter had much success during his days as an amateur in Cincinnati. It grows in a 0.5-acre on the western side of our estate vineyard at approximately 500 feet in elevation. The 2020 Helios represents our third commercial harvest of these vines, planted in spring 2015; additionally, we added another three rows in fall 2020 to expand this block further.

The Willamette Valley's 2020 growing season presented several significant challenges. Cool, wet weather in June—at bloom—created difficult fruitset conditions, resulting in lower harvest yields. Then, smoke from regional wildfires in September threatened the integrity of the entire crop. Fortunately, the warm, dry summer and fall weather ripened the fruit beautifully, and our wines show no smoke impact. The resulting wines are well-rounded with fruit-driven flavors and balanced acidity.



BELLS UP
WINERY

Micro-boutique, un-domaine and always open by reservation, Bells Up Winery composes handcrafted, classically styled Oregon Pinot noir with grapes sourced primarily from our estate and other micro-growers in the northern Willamette Valley.

Established in 2013, our first wines were released Memorial Day 2015. We make approximately 500 cases annually, including a small selection of other Oregon-grown varietals.

The 9-acre estate vineyard in the Chehalem Mountains AVA, just north of Newberg, is being planted in phases. Three acres of Pommard and Clone 667 were planted spring 2014; the Willamette Valley's first planting of a 0.5-acre of Seyval Blanc in spring 2015; and 2.5 acres of Wadenswil, 113 and 943 planted in spring 2016. The first estate harvest occurred in fall 2017. In fall 2020 the Seyval Blanc block was expanded and an obscure Northern Italian varietal added in a new block.

The name "Bells Up" refers to a dramatic moment in a classical music score instructing French horn players to raise the bells of their instruments and project sound with maximum intensity. Winemaker and owner Dave Specter—a French horn player for 20+ years—calls the winery his "Bells Up" moment.

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