Technical Notes

2020 PRELUDE

ESTATE ROSÉ OF PINOT NOIR CHEHALEM MOUNTAINS AVA

Named for Franz Liszt's "Symphonic Poem No. 3: Les Preludes"

Retail: \$28



Production: 109 Cases

Clones: 50% Pommard - 7-year vines

50% 667 - 7-year vines

Soils: Jory

Harvest: Oct. 3, 2020

Harvest Brix: 23.9

Cooperage: Aged 6 months in neutral French oak

Bottled: March 1, 2021 Released: March 15, 2021

Alcohol: 13.5% pH: 3.20

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 smmer and fall weather ripened the fruit beautifully, and our wines show no smoke impact. The resulting wines are well-rounded and complex with fruit-driven flavors and balanced acidity.

For the 2020 Prelude Rosé, we harvested fruit from the Pommard and Dijon 667 clones—the first plantings in our estate vineyard—grafted on 3309 rootstock and established in volcanic Jory soil. Our vineyard rises from 420 to 630 feet in elevation; these two blocks are situated at approximately 550 feet.

This equal-parts field blend was cold-soaked for 24 hours then lightly pressed before being fermented in stainless steel, then barrel aged four months in neutral French oak. The resulting full-bodied, highly complex, savory Rosé features evenly balanced acid and fruit, making it equally suitable for enjoying with or without food.



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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