Technical Notes

2021 MAESTRO

ESTATE RESERVE PINOT NOIR CHEHALEM MOUNTAINS AVA

Named in honor of Maestro John Williams, whose beloved cinematic scores—featuring multiple French Horn themes—have moved audiences for seven decades.

Retail: \$56 (Fanfare Club Exclusive)

Production: 77 Cases

Clones: 50.0% 943 - 6-year vines

27.8% 667 - 8-year vines 22.2% 113 - 6-year vines

Soil: Jory

Harvest: Sept. 12, 2021 (943/113) | Sept. 26, 2021 (667)

Harvest Brix: 24.0 (average)

Cooperage: Aged 12 months in French oak (6% new)

 Bottled:
 Dec. 5, 2022
 Released:
 April 1, 2023

 Alcohol:
 13.3%
 pH:
 3.62
 TA:
 5.2 g/L

The Willamette Valley's 2021 growing season presented unique challenges. We experienced a three-day "heat dome" in June, with record temperatures hovering around 115-degrees during berry development. The result was a profusion of small berries and small cluster weights, driving significant color and flavor intensity. While we thought this might mean lower yields, that proved not to be the case. The rest of the summer was warm and dry, and harvest was quite spread out—some vineyards ripened earlier than anticipated and some later. The resulting wines are luscious and complex with fruit-driven flavors and balanced acidity.

Maestro is Bells Up's estate Pinot Noir made from Dijon clones 113, 667, and 943 grown in volcanic Jory soil. Our vineyard rises from 420 to 630 feet in elevation; these three blocks are situated at approximately 550 and 500 feet. Maestro is composed to highlight the high-toned characteristics of the 943 clone, which is exceedingly rare in the Willamette Valley, while displaying balanced structure and acidity. It will likely require a year in bottle (or some time in the decanter) to show at its peak.





Micro-boutique, un-domaine and always open by appointment, Bells Up composes Oregon Pinot Noir, Rosé, Pinot Blanc, Seyval Blanc, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon from our estate vineyard and micro-sites in the Willamette Valley and Eastern Oregon. Established in 2013, our first wines were released Memorial Day 2015. We make ~600 cases annually.

The 9-acre estate in the Chehalem Mountains AVA is being planted in phases. Three acres of Pommard and Dijon Clone 667 were planted spring 2014 with 1,000 plants in these two blocks field grafted to Clones 115 and 777 in Spring 2021; 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 was fall 2017. In fall 2020 and 2021 the Seyval Blanc block was expanded to meet demand. Schioppettino was planted in fall 2020 in a new 0.5-acre block. Pinot Blanc (0.75-acre) was planted in fall 2021.

The name "Bells Up" refers to a dramatic moment in a classical music score instructing French horn players to raise their instruments' bells 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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