



New World Pinot Noir - Virtual Event!

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Tasting: 6:30 PM

Members' Fee: \$65; Guests'/Non-Members' Fee: \$80

Very Limited Tickets Available

After a ten-month hiatus due to COVID-19, TVC is pleased to announce a tasting of Pinot Noirs from our cellar. As we have no idea how long it will be until we can host in-person tastings, we decided to launch a virtual event. Instead of you coming to the Faculty Club, the wines will come to you! This is new for our club and should be fun!

How will it work? On the day of the tasting, each participant will receive a kit with our eight featured Pinot Noir wines. Those living within the GTA can arrange for individual pick up from or delivery by one of four TVC directors. Those outside of the GTA must arrange to pick up their wines. *Pick up and delivery details will be provided after tickets are purchased.* The kit will contain eight mini-bottles labelled A to H with two-ounce pours of our featured wines. Each contains 50% more wine than our usual event pours. Prior to the tasting, a Zoom online meeting link will be emailed out. The event will start with opening remarks and introductory comments about the wines followed by our usual blind tasting. **Timothy Reed Manessey**, our guest speaker from the Living Vine agency and instructor with George Brown Wine & Spirits program, will provide his commentary, and finally we will reveal the wines.

What will you taste? We will feature Pinot Noirs from the tucked away corners in Oregon, California, New Zealand, Canada, Australia and Chile. Pinot Noir produces a pale-coloured, translucent red wine. Light to medium bodied, it has aromas of strawberry, cherry and raspberries with hints of vanilla and leather. If the grapes are grown in a cooler climate, this can lead to fresher fruit flavours. Pinot Noir grown in warmer climates can have heavier tannins. These wines can often benefit from ageing which adds layers of complexity and flavour. The main difference is that New World Pinot Noir tend to be riper and more fruit-forward than the Burgundian wines. **New Zealand** delivers a distinctive style that has crisp texture and vivid fruit flavors. You should expect mouth-watering acidity and a lighter style than what you are likely to find from Oregon or California, purer fruit than the general run of red Burgundy. In **California**, Pinot quality is due primarily to location, location, location. Vintners have gained a better understanding of the soil and climatic conditions that are crucial to creating great Pinots; they are seeking cooler regions, often near the Pacific coast, where growing seasons are longer and help Pinots express an exquisite balance of fruit, acidity and structure. **Oregon's** Pinot Noir style combines the transparency and light texture of Burgundy with the ripe flavors of California. **Chilean** Pinot Noir exudes cherry, cranberry and strawberry, and tends to follow the much-lauded mantra of "less is more" as they pursue a balanced, subtle wine. **Australian** Pinot Noir is typically low in colour pigmentation, has a perfumed nose, and shows red fruit such as cherry, raspberry and blood plum flavours balanced by smooth tannins. Finally, **Canada** has started to enjoy success with Pinot Noir. With the variety of soils and maturing vines, Canadian producers are creating wines that range in style from delicate and fresh to earthy and savoury.

This event is limited to 24 spots. The registration form allows a maximum of two (2) tickets (2 members, or 1 member and 1 guest). We require a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 24 tickets/people, including our speaker, so early registration is strongly recommended.

[REGISTER/ BUY TICKETS](#)

Register/buy tickets online at https://form.jotform.com/tvc_wine/nwpm-virtual. You must register online and then can pay by credit card or by cheque. **ALL ticket sales/reservations are final.** Cheques must be received by **Friday, November 20**. If you tried to register but did not receive your confirmation, please contact winetastings@torontovintners.org before trying to register again. Just prior to the tasting, you receive an email with the Zoom link and any other details for the event.



Tasting Notes and Information – New World Pinot Noir

(Prices are as of the date of purchase)

Maya: "So why are you so into Pinots? They're like a thing with you."

Miles: "It's a hard grape to grow, as you know. It's thin-skinned, temperamental, ripens early. It's not a survivor like Cabernet that can grow anywhere and thrive even when neglected. No, Pinot needs constant care and attention, you know? And in fact it can only grow in these really specific, little, tucked away corners of the world. And, only the most patient and nurturing of growers can do it, really. Only somebody who really takes the time... to understand Pinot's potential... can then coax it into its fullest expression. Then, I mean, oh its flavors, they're just the most haunting and brilliant and thrilling and subtle and... ancient on the planet"

From the movie "Sideways"

2014 Brittan Vineyards Gestalt Block - Oregon, USA \$99

"The dark purple color is impressive with aromas of blackberries and blueberries galore. Yet there is restraint and tone to this young red with a fantastic texture and intensity on the finish. Always tight and toned. Better in 2019. Score - 95." (James Suckling, jamesuckling.com, Nov. 2, 2016

2016 Lange Classique - Oregon, USA \$40

"It would be hard to find a better Oregon Pinot Noir at this price. With a lovely, silky mouthfeel, even at such a young age, it brings expressive strawberry and cherry fruit to a full-bodied midpalate. Details of spice and mint add interest and texture, and if you put this in a blind tasting with wines costing more than twice as much, it may well emerge as the favorite." Editors' Choice. Score - 91. Paul Gregutt, Wine Enthusiast, July 1, 2019

2015 Stephen Ross Santa Lucia Highlands - California, USA \$32

"Properly ripe and fruity, with moderate, well-integrated oak influence, this is well-balanced, fresh and lively pinot from Ross here. I love the bright acids, the pure fruit flavours and the very good to excellent length. This is a really excellent Santa Lucia pinot noir." Tasted August 2018. Value Rating: *** Score - 92 points. John Szabo, Winealign

2016 Hidden Bench Felseck Vineyard - ON, Canada \$42

"This has a somewhat reserved nose with savoury, spicy, herbal notes and quite ripe dark raspberry/cherry fruit thanks to the warm 2016 vintage. The weight is amped up a bit too - it's solid, cohesive, solid, firm and very well balanced. The flavour concentration is excellent. The Felseck needs some down time in the cellar. Best 2021 to late 2020s." Tasted April 2019. Score – 91 points. David Lawrason, Winealign

2017 Burrowing Owl - BC, Canada \$40

"A fairly bold and full-bodied pinot noir here from Burrowing Owl, though admittedly better balanced and fresher than previous vintages. Wood is quite well managed and length and depth are solid to be sure. Still very much a 'west coast' style Pinot, with ripe red and even some black berry fruit, and suave acids. Nicely done." Tasted October 2019. Value rating: ** Score - 90 points John Szabo, Winealign

2017 Errazuriz Aconcagua Costa Las Pizarras - Aconcagua, Chile \$93

"I love the aromas of smoked meat, dried strawberries and spices. Some resin and pine-needle undertones. Full-bodied, layered and rich with plenty of fruit and linear tannins running through the middle of the wine. Juicy and refined. Purity and greatness. Drink on release or hold. Score - 98-99." James Suckling, jamesuckling.com, Jan. 7, 2019

2017 Pyramid Valley - Central Otago, New Zealand \$86

"The new owners have expanded Pyramid Valley's production to include an offering from their vineyard in Central Otago. Formerly known as Lowburn Ferry, it's been renamed Manata. The 2017 Pinot Noir delivers bold black cherry and subtle earthy notes, a medium to full-bodied palate and hints of mocha and plum. With its suave, silky texture, it's drinkable now, but it shows the concentration and length to drink well through 2026." 92 points Robert Parker's Wine Advocate (JC) (3/2019)

2018 Giant Steps Wombat Creek - Victoria, Australia \$61

"Wow. This is complex and structured with dried strawberries and fresh flowers. Full body. Wonderful depth and intensity. The texture is so impressive. Give it time, but hard not to drink it. Score - 97." James Suckling, jamesuckling.com, June 26, 2019