

I first made wine from the famous Rochioli estate back in 1999. I consider myself lucky to be their neighbor on Westside Road and superlucky that they honor me with the opportunity to purchase their grapes.

This wine comes from a Russian River Valley hillside vineyard called "Sweetwater" vineyard, we call "Mystos" - the name of a surf spot known only to the locals who surf the Sonoma Coast. Sorry, we can't tell you where it is....

To me, the road to crafting a good Pinot Noir is marked by gentle layering of aromas and flavors that complement each other. I thus avoid over-extraction by handling the wine as minimally as possible. This wine is released unfined and unfiltered. My job is made easy by impeccable vineyard practices that the Rochioli Family employs. While this block matures relatively early because of the low crop inherent to hillside vineyards, it nonetheless never fails to produce a Russian River Valley beauty that deserves to be called "Classic".

This Pinot Noir is one that makes you think of great friendships - quiet, constantly evolving and complex; it makes you stop and look deep inside yourself. Yes, it is only a wine, but the vintage, the location, the resident-yeast fermentation and the delicate oak selected for long maturation - all worked in unison to produce a uniquely balanced wine with great acidity that begs you to design a perfect meal around it. It will age well, like good friendships tend to do.

Cheers!

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2019

Pinot Noin

MYSTOS

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir Rochioli "Sweetwater" block Pommard Clone.

Appellation: 100% Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

Fermentation: 3 Day cold-soak, Open top fermentation

Ageing: 12 months in French Oak barrels, 35 % New

Analysis: Alcohol 13.8 % TA 6.44 g/L pH 3.65

Production: 110 Cases