

# **APPELLATION**Monterey County

#### **AVA COMPONENTS**

Chula Viña, Monterey 60% / Tondre Grapefield, Santa Lucia Highlands 26% Hilltop Ranch / Carmel Valley 14%

## BLEND

100% Pinot Noir

#### **AGING**

14 Months in French Oak Barrels, 33% New

#### **ALCOHOL**

14%

#### **BOTTLED**

March 8, 2014

### WINEMAKER

Annette Hoff Danzer

#### SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

Pima Pollina

# - MONTEREY COUNTY -

## PINOT NOIR

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VINEYARD NOTES - The grapes included in this blend were harvested from three distinct sites over the course of the 2012 harvest: two vineyards on opposite sides of the Salinas Valley in Monterey (Chula Viña and Tondre Grapefield), and also our own estate vineyard, Hilltop Ranch, in Carmel Valley. Chula Viña tends to express very broad dark fruit, nice tannin and mouthfeel. Tondre is a classic pinot: aromatic, delicate, complex yet full-bodied. while Hilltop Ranch Pinot Noir is bold, dark, expressive.

WINEMAKING NOTES - After an initial sorting, we fermented the grapes in small, open-top bins that were punched down two to three times daily to extract color, flavor and complexity. The wine was pressed off into French Oak barrels of which 33% were new. There it rested for 14 months before being racked in place prior to blending and bottling. Unfined, unfiltered. The resulting wine is purely Pinot Noir in character. Everything about this wine was handmade in our minimalist approach.

**WINE STYLE-** This wine shows off bright cherry mushroom/earthy aromas that return in the flavor. Notes of toasted cedar and spice are well-integrated into the wine. The structure and complexity of this wine is achieved through a balance of acidity, alcohol and phenolic components that create a food-friendly, fine Monterey Pinot Noir. Enjoy on its own or with lamb chops, rib roast, porcini soufflé or roasted game.