



VINEYARD SOURCES: 100% *La Encantada Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills*. Located just west of the legendary Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, La Encantada is in the heart of Sta. Rita Hills' quintessential Pinot Noir zone. The estate was planted by Richard Sanford in 2001 and was one of the first vineyards in Santa Barbara County to be certified organic. Comprised of 100 acres of mostly Pinot Noir, this north-facing vineyard is planted on a ridge straddling the Santa Ynez River Valley and is open to the cooling marine breezes, which sweep in from the Pacific Ocean. Soils are a combination of clay, loam, shale and sand. The clonal breakdown of the vines sourced for Ken Brown is 69% Swan clone and 31% clone 115.

VINTAGE: 2013 is hailed as a near perfect vintage across the state of California, described as "early, even and excellent." Harvest began about two weeks earlier than normal in Santa Barbara County and weather patterns were ideal—every week brought a warm up followed by a cool down in temperatures. This pattern allowed grapes to develop slowly and evenly, enabling winemakers to pick at the perfect ripeness. A lack of rain during the harvest season also contributed to grape quality. Yields were slightly above normal due to a greater number of clusters on each vine, but berry size remained small. Grapes from La Encantada Vineyard were hand-harvested on October 2 and 7.

WINEMAKING: Pinot Noir clusters for this wine were hand sorted before being de-stemmed and gravity fed to fermenters. The must was immediately chilled for a pre-fermentation cold soak where the most beneficial extraction of color, aroma and flavor occurs. During fermentation, concentration was enhanced by gently punching down the cap several times per day. The wine aged 11 months in French oak barrels with 33% new French oak and was bottled on September 4, 2014.

TASTING NOTES: This wine is seductive and complex with perfumy aromatics and a succulent mouthfeel, thanks in part to the Swan clone used in this Pinot Noir for the first time. Deeply concentrated aromas of ripe red cherry are accented by a touch of cinnamon stick and a stone component. Flavors of baked cherry, dark earth and a hint of leather are beautifully supported by a luscious texture and remarkably long finish. The wine's superbly well-balanced tannins and layers of complexity assure great cellar potential.

TECHNICAL DATA

T.A.: 5.4 g/l

pH: 3.59

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 287 cases