

PRESENTS:

2014 PINOT NOIR
EL PASO DE ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

THE VINEYARD

Héroé Pinot Noir is 100% Clone 777 and grown on the Frankel Family Estate. The vineyard block named, "Escalon" features terraced hillside slopes with rocky soils. The temperatures are cooler in this valley floor vineyard compared to the hills above and therefore make this a perfect site for high quality Pinot Noir fruit. In fact it's so cold in the winter that Frost is a real danger every March and April. We prune late to delay bud-break and protect against a late winter/early spring frost. We limited the crop to 3 tons per acre in order to ensure uniform berry maturity and ripening. Harvest comes early for Pinot Noir due to our hot summers; we usually pick the fruit at the end of August or beginning of September. 2014 was dry all year making the wines dark with fruity taste and composed tannins.

THE WINEMAKING

Pinot Noir is a delicate grape and must be treated with utmost care and concern during winemaking. We controlled every aspect of the wines fermentation and implemented just 1-2 punchdowns a day, therefore restricting oxygen contact to the must. The wine was pressed off a bit sweet, giving the wine less time on the skins, which can tend to bring too much tannin to the final taste. The wine completed primary fermentation in barrel, was racked off the lees and began Malo-Lactic fermentation. The wine aged in all neutral American and French Oak barrels. We bottled the wine as soon as it was ready, May 2015. Getting it in the bottle quickly ensured us the freshest, fruitiest and cleanest Pinot Noir taste possible.

THE TASTE

2014 Pinot Noir "Héroé" is a commemorative wine dedicated to our amazing workers, who have toiled in the vineyard running all the processes of grape growing and winemaking. The wine is light to medium-bodied, layered with bright cherry and strawberry fruits. The color is a cool light red; the texture is crisp, pleasant and pleasing. It's delicious beyond description, offering wave after wave of cherry pie, blackberry, red currant, and persimmon and cola flavors. It's so balanced in acids and tannins that it's gorgeous now. I'd drink it in 2016 through 2019. Raise your glass to the workers!

THE FACTS

Varietal Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
pH: 3.55
TA: 0.64
RS: 0.01
ALC: 13.0%
Case Production: 188 (750ml bottles)
Bottling Date: May 21, 2015

