

PRESENTS:

2017 PINOT NOIR

EL PASO DE ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

THE VINEYARD

This delicious bottling from Sculpterra Winery gives praise to its field and winery workers, the unsung heroes of the vineyard. The unique silk-screened label pays tribute to the vineyard and winemaking team at Sculpterra Winery and Frankel Family Estate Vineyards. Uga, the man seen on the front label, was Sculpterra's best worker for over eight years. This Pinot Noir is grown on the valley floor vineyard, where cooler temperatures make this site an ideal location for growing high quality Pinot Noir in Paso Robles. The soils combine elements of gravel and stone with zones of high clay and even limestone scattered throughout the vineyard block. 2017 was an optimum growing season for Paso Pinot. We experienced a steady and long growing season, contributing to balanced ripening and sweet fruit with prominent acidity.

THE WINEMAKING

All fruit was processed at Sculpterra's on-site small-scale winemaking facility. Fermentation, pressing and barrel aging were closely monitored by winemaker, Paul Frankel and final bottling took place in August 2018 after 10 months of oak aging. This wine is a combination of 2 different clones and 2 unique lots. Clone 115 or lot "Llanta," came in early on September 14th 2017. This lot has light color with high acid, slight tannins and is dominated by herbs, pepper and tart-cherry fruit. Clone 777 or lot, "Cebolla," came in at the end of our Pinot Noir harvesting, October 4th 2017. Cebolla showed a heightened sense of fruit forwardness, with raspberry and blueberry dominating the palate. The final blend is a equal parts of these two very different lots. The results are remarkable! The wine is well balanced in up-front fruit, tart acidity, peppery finish and a round mouthfeel.

THE WINE

2017 Héroe Pinot Noir is an enthralling wine fashioned and ready to drink upon release. It opens with gorgeous aromas of crisp pomegranate, red plum, and just a hint of mint. It combines fresh fruit with sweltering earthy spice. I even taste notes of blueberry and a subtle undertaking of baking spice ending with a great depth of flavor in this juicy, lengthy wine. Overall, it's medium-bodied but retains enough acidity to complement the limber body. Drink right now, but fear not because it will continue to improve, reaching its peak in 2022.

THE FACTS

Vineyard: Frankel Family Estate
Fruit: 100% Pinot Noir
Clonal Breakdown: 50% Clone 777 & 50% Clone 115
pH: 3.75
TA: 0.64
ALC: 13.2%
RS: 0.50%
Cases Produced: 300
Bottling Date: 8/15/2018
Release Date: 6/1/2019

