



### Winemaker's Notes

**Wine:** 2008 Mueller Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley,  
"Cuvée X"  
**Production:** 207 cases  
**Fermentation:** Aged in 100% French oak, 100% ML fermentation

**General Notes:** Our 2008 "Cuvée X" Pinot Noir is produced from a selected vineyard block of a single Pinot Noir clone, Martini 15, located on Saralees Vineyard which is situated on a well drained site on Slusser Road—the "middle reach" of the appellation. This vineyard site experiences the full impact of cooling fog which travels up the rivers banks. Fruit is harvested in the cool morning hours and transported to the winery on Starr Road (minutes away) for destemming into our small, two-ton custom designed fermenting tanks. During fermentation, we punch down the cap by hand several times each day to gently extract the grapes flavors and aromas. The wine is aged in French oak barrels, of which about 30% are new.

**Tasting Notes:** The 2008 "Cuvee X" Pinot Noir has a rich ruby color, bursting with sweet ripe Bing cherry and toasted oak aromas. Full bodied with fresh strawberry flavors and balanced acidity. Tannins are fine grained, soft and rich. Its extensive array of fruit flavors and aromas with subtle overtones of toasty oak will age gracefully over the next several years. We particularly enjoy this wine with Shredded Porchetta on Rustic Baguette.

#### Technical Data:

Harvest Date: 9/26/08  
Harvest Brix: 25.0  
ph at harvest: 3.5  
ph at bottling: 3.6  
Alcohol by volume: 14.8%