

Love & Squalor

2009 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir

Temperance Hill Vineyard – 23.25%

Winter's Hill Vineyard - 25.5%

Momtazi Vineyard - 23.25%

Johan Vineyard - 28%

13.6% Alcohol

3.77 pH

5.5 g/L Titratable Acidity

265 Cases Produced

\$24 Suggested Retail Price

2009 was a warm to hot ripening season leading to good yields. Some early rain events around Labor Day, were followed by a heat spike before the Fall rains set in for good. The heat led to some shrivel and concentration of juice. This is the first time in years that I remember sorting fruit in shorts and a t-shirt.

Temperance Hill is a late-ripening organically farmed site in the Eola-Amity Hills AVA. The grapes come from the older, self-rooted 'North' block which is believed to be Pommard clone. The Winter's Hill fruit comes from an older self-rooted block of the Pommard clone. It lends a rich Red Hills character to the mix. Momtazi is the dark underbelly in the mix – typical of this biodynamic certified site in the McMinnville AVA. Johan Vineyard lies south of Rickreall off of the 99W. The biodynamically farmed fruit is exuberant and bright cherry.

The grapes were destemmed and cold soaked for 7-8 days. The small-lot fermentations were un-inoculated and punched gently hand or foot. The must was gently pressed and sent to barrel after a short settling period. The wine was aged in neutral French cooperage for 18 months and racked twice before bottling on April 21st, 2011. After two months in bottle, the Pinot was released. The resulting wine is well-balanced, with smooth and sweet fruit on the fore-palate giving way to mushroom and earth on the back. The wine is restrained and holds its alcohol well. There are some fine tannins but they are not obtrusive.

This is the fourth Pinot noir release for Love & Squalor.

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