



## 2010 PINOT NOIR

Mitsuko's Vineyard, Carneros, Napa Valley

**M**ITSUKO'S VINEYARD, located south of Highway 121 in the cooler part of Napa Carneros, has proved to have an abundance of ideal sites for Pinot Noir. Purchased as bare land in 1989, we have continued to refine its plantings to maximize the potential of the site. As part of this ongoing development, we began to experiment with a diverse range of Pinot Noir clones in 1994, giving complexity and finesse to the wine.

### HARVEST NOTES

Rainfall, combined with very cool spring growing conditions, pushed bud break, flowering and fruit-set back by at least two weeks. This cool season was unexpectedly punctuated by a two-day heat spike into triple digits, when grapes at various sites experienced some sunburn, which then required subsequent removal prior to harvest. Cooler than average temperatures returned again in early September, but gave way to a welcome, warm and consistent mid-October, resulting in optimal flavor maturity and structural development across the board.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

We harvested the individual blocks of Pinot Noir in the cold of night, sorting out any clusters in the field that might detract from the final quality of our wine. When the fruit arrived at the winery, we made the decision to fully destem some lots of the fruit for purity of character and, alternatively, add a portion of whole clusters to enhance structure and add a subtle spiciness. Following fermentation, the tanks were drained into barrels for aging. Except for topping, these wines remain untouched under perfect conditions in our caves until being blended just prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

Our 2010 Pinot Noir possesses distinctive aromas of fresh black and red cherry and red mulberry accented by sous bois aromas, Darjeeling tea, sweet spices and roasted hazelnuts. The wine is silky and seamless in the mouth, gaining its structure through pitch-perfect acidity counterbalancing the opulent mouthfeel. The wine's complex and exotic flavors invite contemplation while simultaneously providing immediate satisfaction.



## TECHNICAL INFO

### VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Pinot Noir

### CLONE

Dijon Clones 115, 667, 777 and 828

### MASSALE SELECTIONS:

Swan and Pommard

### VINEYARD

Mitsuko's Vineyard,  
Carneros, Napa Valley

### AVERAGE VINE AGE

13 years

### SOIL

Haire and Diablo Clay Loams

### HARVEST DATES

September 24–29

### FERMENTATION

85% native yeast

### MALOLACTIC

100% native

### AGING

9 months in 35% new French oak

### BOTTLING DATE

August 2011

### ALCOHOL

14.3%