

NOVEMBER 2021 CLUB SELECTIONS



2017 SUMMERLAND THERESA NOELLE VINEYARD PINOT NOIR SANTA RITA HILLS, CALIFORNIA



Founded in 2002, Summerland is a boutique winery located in the quaint seaside town of Summerland, California. Dedicated to the production of fine wines from the Central Coast of California, the wine making team is led by Ron Hill, Chief Wine Officer and Wine Maker, Serghei Stanila. Ron joined Summerland in 2015 bringing over 19 years of winemaking experience with him. He spent 10 years as an Associate Winemaker at Babcock Winery and continues crafting exceptional wines at Summerland. Serghei began his Viticulture and Enology studies at Technical University of Moldova in 2009 and worked his first harvest in 2011. He later moved to the United States and began working at Summerland for extended harvests in 2012 and 2013. Serghei completed his bachelor's degree in winemaking in 2014 and was later promoted to Winemaker at Summerland in 2016.



The Santa Rita Hills (officially listed as Sta. Rita Hills after a court battle over the name) has some of the world's largest and purest deposits of diatomaceous earth which lends a fascinating note of minerality and salinity in the glass. With little rain and well-drained soils, the vines maintain good acidity and develop concentrated fruit. The Theresa-Noelle Vineyard is in the western part of the Santa Rita Hills AVA and is planted to four different Pinot Noir clones: 115, 667, 828, and Pommard. Ten years into maturity, the vines produce outstandingly complex fruit, showing an array of distinct flavor profiles.



Harvested during the early morning marine fog, the grapes were sorted, destemmed and cold soaked for 72 hours before fermentation began. Punchdowns were performed 3 times daily until the alcoholic fermentation was complete. The wine was then transferred to a combination of French and American oak barrels (35% new and 65% neutral) and aged for 24 months.



Brilliant scarlet color. Aromas of ripe red fruits. The palate shows flavors of Rainier cherries, dried cranberry, mixed berries, pomegranate, and a hint of vanilla and sweet oak. Silky texture with soft tannins and a graceful, layered finish.



Cellaring Recommendation: 2 - 3 years

RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Roasted Mushroom and Gruyère Sandwich

■ RETAIL: \$55.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$46.75

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2016 PIETRO BECONCINI 'RECISO' TOSCANA SANGIOVESE IGT TUSCANY, ITALY

The history of this winery began in the early 1950's when current owner Leonardo Beconcini's grandfather, Pietro Beconcini, purchased the land he and his family had been working as sharecroppers from the Marquis Ridolfi. Their family was one of the first in Tuscany to free themselves from the then-prevalent sharecropping system. Pietro Beconcini Agricola initially produced a variety of products, but eventually (under the direction of Leonardo's father) became focused solely on winemaking.



Leonardo's desire to grow only indigenous grape varieties began to take shape in the 1990s, with the first vintage of a monovarietal Sangiovese in 1995. After taking the reins of the business from his father in 1997, and while making selections from ancient vines, Leonardo came across an unfamiliar grape variety—simply called "X" at the time—that dated back over 150 years. Leonardo continued to plant and cultivate "X" for several years, making noteworthy wines from its fruit. After repeatedly hitting dead-ends trying to identify the grape, in 2004, Leonardo invested in DNA analyses; the tests confirmed the mystery grape was in fact Tempranillo. Today Pietro Beconcini lays claim to being the only producer of Tempranillo in Tuscany—which we were delighted to feature as one our monthly selections last month.



Made from 100% organically-farmed Sangiovese fermented with indigenous yeasts in temperature-controlled, glass-lined cement vats. The must underwent a five-week maceration on the skins. The resulting wine was aged for 24 months in large Slovenian oak barrels and an additional 12 months in the bottle before being released.



Dark garnet color. Complex, layered aromas of dark berries and black cherries with notes of fennel and dusty earth. The palate is dry with flavors of brandied cherries, blueberry chutney and dark chocolate. It is structured wine with firm tannins, balanced acidity, and a long, spiced finish.



Cellaring Recommendation: 3 - 5 years



RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Quail Stuffed with Fresh Figs and Prosciutto

■ RETAIL: \$36.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$30.60

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2019 DIEGO CONTERNO 'FERRIONE' BARBERA D'ALBA DOC PIEDMONT, ITALY



Rising stars, Diego Conterno and his son, Stefano, craft elegant wines in Monforte d'Alba. Diego started his eponymous project in 2003, after two decades at Conterno-Fantino where he worked alongside his cousins. The estate consists of 20 acres of vineyards, including the family's historical 5 acres in the Sori—or full south-facing portion of Ginestra planted in 1982, plus vines in San Pietro, Pajana and Gris, all in Monforte and located along the southern edge of the Barolo zone. Diego began farming organically in 2010 and achieved certification in 2014.



100% Barbera from the Ferrione vineyard located on a west-facing hillside at 1,500 feet above sea level and situated just below the winery. The vines range in age from 10 to 55-years-old, the grapes were hand-harvested, destemmed, and fermented on indigenous yeasts in temperature-controlled, stainless-steel tanks with minimal sulfur added. The resulting wine was aged four months in large oak casks (botti) and another six months in cement tank before bottling.



Dark garnet. Aromas of black and red berries, plum and a kiss of mint. Fresh flavors of ripe Bing cherries, blackberries, and baking spice. Nicely framed, the finish is fruity and well-balanced, with a solid acid backbone typical of Barbera and fine-grained tannins.

Cellaring Recommendation: 3 - 5 years



RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Beef Brasato with Pappardelle and Mint



■ RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40