

Good Day, It is so chilly outside....Come to the wine tasting Friday night and warm up to these incredible Cabernet Sauvignon from Washington State! Do you know that Washington is experiencing great vintages back to back. The NW Wines are stunning values and really turning heads all over the Country! The "New York Times" just wrote up Oregon 2008 Pinot Noir this week and the wines are selling out! Very Exciting!

The Place to go: Santiam Wine Company

- **When: Friday, January 21st**
- **Time: 4-7 P.M.**
- **Cost: Full Pour \$26**
- **1/2 Pour \$15.**
- **What is included? Rustic Bread, Cheese, Spinach Dip, Olive Oil and our famous Balsamic Vinegar for dipping.**

The Wines:

2007 Basel Cellars "M" Walla Walla \$24.

"Full red. Complex nose melds redcurrant, smoke, tobacco leaf, truffle, mocha and fresh herbs, with graphite and spice notes that reminded me of claret. Silky, tactile and seamless, with a restrained sweetness and plenty of inner-mouth energy. Finishes with broad, fine-grained tannins, spreading out to cover the palate without leaving any impression of weight. This struck me as much better balanced than the Claret blend." 91 Points Stephen Tanzer

2008 Andrew Will Cabernet Sauvignon \$28.

"The 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon comes down on the darker side of the spectrum. Asian spices, incense, violets, black currant and blackberry aromas lead to a moderately structured, friendly Cabernet with good depth and length that can also be enjoyed over the next 6-8 years." 90 Points Robert Parker

"Andrew Will, located on Vashon Island, a short ferry-ride from Seattle, is where Chris Camarda fashions his blended, Bordeaux-style wines. Without prompting Camarda told me (Robert Parker) (as he did Lettie Teague in a Wall Street Journal interview) that business has been very difficult, that he is cutting production, and that in the 2008 vintage he has fashioned two varietal wines that can sell within the range that American wine consumers are willing to spend. That said, the current releases of Andrew Will wines from the 2007 vintage are as good as or better than anything Camarda has done before."

2008 Sheridan Mystique \$27.

Sheridan Vineyard is a family owned vineyard and winery in the heart of the Yakima Valley, outside Zillah. The vineyard provides grapes to wineries such as Quilceda Creek and Andrew Will, and produces small amounts of Estate wine. This winery receives stellar reviews in the range of 92-95 points from Stephen Tanzer. I loved the 2007 and now the 2008 has been just released! Let's taste this together!

2007 Abeja Cabernet Sauvignon \$43.

"This is the varietal that we believe will increasingly be recognized as the icon varietal of Washington State and comprises the majority of our production. This Cabernet is stylish, elegant, and impeccably balanced. We accomplish this by meticulous viticultural management, utilization of a rare sorting system, gentle handling of the fruit and the wine, customized practices for every lot no matter how small, and carefully selected French oak." The Winery

2007 Guardian Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon \$40

Guardian Cellars is a small Boutique winery located in Woodinville WA. This 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon has rich ripe blackberry notes with hints of mint and Asian spice. Lush with supple tannins. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from Red Mountain and Horse Heaven Hills and spent 22 month in new French Oak Barrels and 18 months in bottle before release. 140 cases produced

2008 Woodward Canyon Artist Series \$48. Just Released!

The following review is for the 2007 vintage: "The purple-colored 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Artist Series contains 1% Petit Verdot. The fruit was sourced primarily from the famous Champoux Vineyard in which the winery is a partner and the Sagemoor Vineyard, one of the oldest in the state. The Sagemoor fruit for this wine was taken from vines planted in 1972. The wine delivers a splendid nose of smoke, mineral, Asian spices, violets, black currant, and blackberry. This is followed by a medium to full-bodied wine with a velvety texture, excellent depth, savory flavors, plenty of volume, and a lengthy finish. It will continue blossoming for another 3-4 years and should provide pleasure through its 20th birthday". 93 Points
Robert Parker

Woodward Canyon, one of the pioneer producers of Walla Walla (there were 4 wineries here when I visited in 1990; now there are over 125), remains under the direction of Rick Smalls and continues to be a benchmark against which all others aspiring to the top must be compared.

The Winery: Vineyards: Champoux Vineyard (76%), Spring Creek Vineyard (9%), Woodward Canyon Estate Vineyard (6%), Sagemoor Vineyard (5%) and DuBrul Vineyard (4%)

Vintage Specific Characteristics: The 2008 vintage was another fabulous one for "Artist Series" Cabernet Sauvignon, although slightly more elegant, perhaps than 2007. We saw beautifully ripened fruit in 2008 with lower yields through shoot thinning, leaf stripping and over all better viticultural practices. All fruit was in by the middle of October.

This Cabernet Sauvignon was fermented in small stainless steel tanks and was punched down or pumped over twice a day. Aging in French Chateaux barrels has produced a well proportioned, complex and generous red wine. Of our own doing, we have chosen to back off on the use of new oak as these vineyards have gotten older allowing them to express typicity and a more distinct sense of place.

Production Notes and General Characteristics: The "Artist Series" Cabernet Sauvignon is produced from some of the finest and most highly regarded vineyards in Washington State. These vineyards produce fantastic wine in their own right; when blended, they produce extraordinary wine.

This wine has a generous nose of earth, subtle oak and spiced cocoa integrated with black fruits and very ripe cherry. A sweet, rich mouth feel begins with cassis and ripe black berry, leading towards chocolate and mocha. Soft, integrated tannins enhance the texture and give proportion; the finish is complex, generous, and long. While this wine can be enjoyed now it will definitely benefit from additional cellaring and, with proper storage, should develop for eight years or more.

About the artist: "My love of botanical form and education in ornamental horticulture inform my paintings and mixed media prints. In these works of richly textured layers of paper, ink and paint, flora serves as a metaphor for hope, rebirth, and renewal.

"Recent travels to Turkey, as well as a self-directed artist residency at Centrum in Port Townsend, Washington, have rekindled my interest in sense of place and a desire to explore landscape and architecture as well as botanical themes." Lisa Snow Lady

Thank you,

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