Subject: Spanish Wine Tasting Friday night at Santiam Wine & Bistro

Date: October 21, 2015 at 8:09 PM

To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

Spanish Wine Tasting Friday night!

Old Vine Grenache from Priorat Spain

Rob Alstrin Western Regional Director for European Cellars will be here to talk about these wines with you on a one to one basis.

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro When: Friday, October 21st

Time: 4-8 PM

Cost: Full Pour \$24 Half Pour \$14

Special Entrée: Lamb Stew

The Wines:

2012 Black Slate La Morera Blanco \$21.50

93% garnatxa blanca and 7% pedro ximenez; aged in stainless steel tanks): Light, bright yellow. High-pitched aromas of fresh citrus fruits, white peach, ginger and smoky minerals. Dry and nervy on the palate, offering vibrant Meyer lemon and pear flavors and a deeper note of honeydew. Finishes on a tangy note, with strong emphasis on the citrus fruits, leaving a spicy quality behind. 91 Points-- Josh Raynolds

## 2012 Black Slate Dei Blanco Les Brugueres \$33

(100% garnacha blanca; aged in stainless steel on its lees): Green-tinged yellow. Pungent pear skin, beeswax and floral aromas, with a bright mineral overtone. Fleshy and seamless on the palate, offering vibrant orchard and citrus fruit flavors and a chalky nuance that adds bite. The long finish delivers a strong jolt of minerality, leaving lemon pith and honeysuckle notes behind. 92 Vinous

## 2011 Black Slate Escaladei Garnatxa \$21.50

80% garnatxa and 20% carinena; aged for ten months in French and American oak tanks): Opaque ruby. Assertive, mineral-accented dark berry and cherry aromas are complemented by notes of licorice, candied violet and black cardamom. Rich and broad but lively, offering sharply focused blackberry and bitter cherry flavors that become sweeter with air. Closes tangy and long, with mounting tannins and impressive length. According to the importer, these vines range from 40 to 100 years of age. 91 Vinous

## 2012 Black Slate Porrera \$21.50

From one of Priorat's coolest micro-climates, this 2012 Black Slate is composed of 60% old vine Grenache (60+ years) and 40% old Carignan (80 years), and aged 12 months in concrete tanks, old wood foudres, and two-year-old barrels. It reveals lots of licorice, crushed wet rock, sweet blueberry and black raspberry fruit characteristics along with a full-bodied, moderately tannic mouthfeel. The tannins are sweet and well-integrated, and the wine is drinking beautifully already. For a relatively expensive Spanish appellation, this is an outright steal! Consume it over the next 3-6 years

93 Points Robert Parker

2011 Black Slate la Vilella Alta Priorat \$21.50

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The 2011 Black Slate comes from 15 to 60-year-old, head-pruned vines, and the final blend was 60% Grenache, 35% Carignan and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Blackberry, blueberry, licorice, truffle and camphor scents jump from the glass of this dense, full-bodied, opulent, unctuously textured red. This soft, round, delicious, impressive wine should provide plenty of pleasure over the next 2-4 years. 94 Points Wine Advocate

This is a joint project between Rhone negociant and winemaker, Michel Tardieu and French oenologist, Philippe Cambie, working in conjunction with importer Eric Solomon.

## 2012 Mas Alta Artigas \$30

A slightly more expensive cuvee, the 2012 Artigas is composed of 70% Grenache, 25% Carignan and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon aged 16 months in French oak. In the glory days prior to the recession, a wine such as this would have sold for \$50 to \$75 a bottle, but prices have dropped dramatically, given not only the international recession, but also the severe economic problems afflicting Spain. The black/purple-colored 2012 Artigas offers a gorgeous perfume of spring flowers, licorice, lavender, black currants and black raspberries. The wine hits the palate with a thunderous display of rich fruit, full body, stunning purity, sweet tannin and lots of minerality. Enjoy this beauty now and over the next decade. 94 Points Wine Advocate

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