

Sweet Dreams!

Bring your sweetheart and taste some very decadent wines from the Walla Walla Valley of Washington State.

Only \$25...remember you can share a taste.

Where: Santiam Wine Company

When: Friday, February 13th...scared? just a little!

Time: 5ish-7ish

Here are the wines:

2006 L'Ecole No 41 Seven Hills Walla Walla Merlot 36.

Moderately saturated medium red. Redcurrant, raspberry, red licorice, mocha, coffee and sexy oak on the complex and expressive nose. Then sappier and fresher in the mouth than the basic merlot bottling, offering a plusher and more pliant texture as well as more obvious sweetness of fruit. This nicely concentrated merlot finishes with broad, fine tannins. 90 Points Stephen Tanzer

2006 Fort Walla Walla Merlot \$32.

2005 Review: The supple, velvety texture caresses the mouth, while the cinnamon-scented red berry, red pepper and plum flavors ride through the long, generous finish. Nicely balanced and harmonious through the finish. Drink now through 2013 91 Points Wine Spectator

2006 Tyrus Evan Walla Walla Syrah \$37.

A bit firm around the edges, offering juicy plum and blackberry fruit, with hints of oatmeal and mineral as the finish rolls on. Drink now through 2013 90 Points Wine Spectator

2006 Gramercy Cellars Walla Walla Syrah \$43.

Full red-ruby. Sexy, complex nose melds cassis, blackberry, raspberry, smoke, pepper, minerals, red licorice and gingerbread, all lifted by a floral topnote. Suave, sweet and a bit exotic in the mouth, with a distinct white fruit note of apricot along with a hint of maple syrup. In a softer style than the Lagniappe but more intensely flavored. This was actually harvested later in 2006 than in 2005, but with lower grape sugars. Finishes smooth and sweet. 91 Points Stephen Tanzer

Best New Winery: "Gramercy Cellars: At Gramercy Cellars (which shares space with Waters Winery in their new industrial-chic winery), this year's celebrated new winemaker, Greg Harrington, hopes to make Old World-style terroir-driven red wines with earthy aromas and flavors using less oak and focusing on the unique characteristics of the fruit and where it's grown. Gramercy's first releases, the 2005 Syrah and the 2005 Lagniappe - a Syrah co-fermented with a bit of aromatic Viognier - have already developed a Cayuse Vineyards - like cult following with cherry-picked fruit from the best of Washington Syrah vineyards, including Forgotten Hills and Les Collines." Seattle Magazine

2006 NxNW Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon \$34.50

On the nose this wine is a harmonious blend of red fruits, caramel, and chocolate with a hint of pepper. Richly structured, the wine resonates with flavors of cherry and plum, and hints of anise and cocoa lingering on a long spicy finish. Wine Maker Notes.

NxNW: North by Northwest, represents wines made from inland grape growing appellations of the Columbia River Basin of Oregon and Washington. King Estate, based in Oregon, has developed strong, creative relationships with growers and winemakers in the Columbia River Appellation and throughout the northwest viticultural region - leading to this wonderful wine. While King Estate will continue to focus on world class Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir, NxNW becomes a unique lens for capturing the essence of terroir, the character of the people, and the quality of the wines from this great new emerging winegrowing region.

2006 Owen Roe Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon \$40.

80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc

Most of the grapes come from a mature block of the acclaimed Seven Hills Vineyard in Walla Walla. The fruit is farmed sustainably and the natural approach yields excellent results. We find that the flavors are superb - very bright berry, cassis, and distinct cedary notes. The Merlot and Cabernet Franc are farmed by Adolf Klein at his Saint Isidore Vineyard, located about 6 miles west of Seven Hills. This gorgeous site is bordered to the south by the foothills of the Blue Mountains which serve to channel ferocious wind gusts through the vineyard. The buffeted vines struggle in the hill-top and produce smaller berries with intense flavors.

The yields were low in 2006 and we made less than half of normal quantities. The 2006 is a beautiful wine with characteristic fragrance, cassis, and cedar notes that we like to see in this great growing area. The vineyard ripens its fruit with high sugars and flavors, however, unlike warmer areas it also retains marvelous acidity, a harbinger of age worthiness. These wines are Owen Roe's most precious and are powerful, super-intense, and should age well into the next decade.

Remember on Saturday Feb 14th Moonstruck Chocolates and Merlot...FREE 12-4

Also, including 6 wines from the C&C (Cheap & Cheerful six-pack)

Thank you,

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