From: Debbie debbie@santiamwine.com Subject: Tasting Spanish reds. Dinner special: Skirt Steak Enchiladas Date: March 7, 2019 at 6:37 PM To: bwelsh@mind-over-media.com

Rain, snow, wind or hail...This tasting will go on! We found some great spanish reds that have never been in our Friday night tastings!

Fabulous dinner special: Skirt Steak Enchiladas with black beans and homemade corn chips

Daylight savings time starts this Sunday! I can't wait.

Full pour: \$32 Half pour \$18

Reservations welcome: call 503-589-0775

The Wines:

2011 Contina Grand Reserva Rioja \$46

Vivid ruby-red. Displays expansive, smoke-tinged red fruit preserve and cherry-vanilla scents, along with vanilla, tobacco and allspice flourishes. Seamless and appealingly sweet, offering concentrated cherry, blackcurrant and spicecake flavors that tighten up slowly on the back half. The smoky note repeats on the sweet, seamless and impressively long finish, which features rounded tannins and lingering vanilla and mocha qualities. **93 Points Vinous**

2014 Ritme Celler "Etern" Priorat \$64

It's mostly Cariñena with some 10% Garnacha sourced from a selection of very old vineyards in different villages. It matured in 50/50 new and second use French barriques for one year. There are notes of beef blood and something iron-like that make it feel mineral in a way. There is some austerity and seriousness. 94 Wine Advocate

2015 Bodegas Calar Vino de la Tierra do Castilla Les Natures \$45 Black cherry and currant flavors mingle with smoky and loamy earth notes in this polished red. Well-integrated tannins balance firm acidity, giving way to floral and espresso details on the finish. Tempranillo. Drink now through 2025 **91 Points Wine Spectator**

2016 Raul Perez Tinto Ultreia St Jacques Mencia \$20

The 2016 Ultreia was all produced from a large, seven-hectare vineyard that they finally purchased in late 2018. The source has changed, because in 2015 they started a new project in Ponferrada (still unreleased), and the vineyards from Ponferrada that were previously used for this wine were saved for those wines. It has a long maceration yet is not extracted at all; on the contrary, it's medium-bodied, with great finesse. It's floral and elegant, very attractive. They purchased the vineyard because they saw it produced great wines. 93 Points Wine Advocate

2015 Mas Alta Priorat Black Slate Vilella Alta Priorat \$21

The custom cuvée 2015 Black Slate la Vilella Alta is a generous blend of 50% Garnacha, 30% Cariñena and 10% each Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah from purchased grapes and their own grapes on slate soils. It fermented in concrete vats after careful sorting to avoid grapes that would show the excess of the vintage in heat and drought, and then it matured in oak barrels for 16 months. This is quite modern, spicy with notes of cinnamon and vanilla, quite showy, developing balsamic aromas of cigar ash. There are some dusty tannins and plenty of spicy and smoky flavors. 15.5% alcohol. 90 Points Wine Advocate

2012 Vina Real Rioja Reserva \$17 Bright ruby-red. Intense, oak-spiced cherry and raspberry scents, along with suggestions of musky earth, tobacco and vanilla. Sweet, seamless and penetrating in the mouth, offering intense red fruit and floral flavors that deepen steadily on the back half. In a graceful style, but there's deceptive power and depth of flavor here as well. Closes very long and sappy; smooth tannins frame the sweet, oak-kissed fruit. **92 Points Vinous**

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