

Where did the sunshine go? No worries, it will be back! In the mean time come down to Santiam Wine Company and warm-up at this delicious Syrah wine tasting! We have three from California and three from Washington..

- **Time: 4-7pm**
- **Date: Friday, May 6th**
- **Place: Santiam Wine Company 1930 Commercial St. SE 503-589-0775**
- **It's the count down 3 Tastings left before the move!!!!**
- **Cost: \$24. Full pour (6- 2oz pours of each)**
- **1/2 pour \$14. (6- 1oz pours of each)**

THE WINES:

2006 Goose Ridge Syrah Washington \$20.

Ripe and velvety, delivering a strong streak of black olive weaving through the dark plum and blackberry flavors. Lingers softly on the finish. Drink now through 2014. 300 cases made. –HS 91 Points Wine Spectator.

2007 Basel Cellars Pheasant Run Vineyard Syrah \$25.

Dark berries and chocolatey oak on the nose; dustier and less expressive today than the basic 2007 syrah bottling, and a bit reduced. Then more intensely flavored but rather imploded on the palate, with serious concentration and structure and noteworthy inner-mouth energy. Ultimately displays a nicely restrained sweetness balanced by a firm spine of acids and suave, dusty tannins, and the length and energy to reward at least a few years of cellaring. **91(+?) points Stephen Tanzer**

2009 Kliner Brick Farrah Syrah, Lodi California \$20

With aromas of black cherry, cedar shavings with just a hint of tobacco, the 2009 Farrah Syrah is a smooth, beautifully balanced wine with dense layers of spiced plum. The texture is supple and silky and the finish, long and lingering.

2008 Beckmen Estate Syrah Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara \$24.

The 2008 Syrah Estate is their least expensive Syrah and a fine value. Meaty, rich black currant and blackberry fruit is generously packed into a perfumed style of wine with elegance, a seductive personality, and silky tannins. It is luscious and best drunk over the next 5-7 years 89 Points Robert Parker-Wine Advocate

2009 Failla Syrah Phoenix Ranch, Napa Valley \$45.

The meaty, robust 2009 Syrah Phoenix Ranch offers up notes of jus de viande, tapenade, creosote, black cherries and black currants. Medium to full-bodied with fresh acids, this dense ruby/purple-tinged, French-like Syrah will drink well for 5-6 years. 91 Points Robert Parker-Wine Advocate. This is the well-run wine operation of long-time veteran winemaker, sidekick and assistant winemaker at Turley Cellars in Calistoga, Ehren Jordan, who produces cool climate reds and whites that have benefitted from the cooler than normal year of 2009. These are minimally oaked efforts and, given Jordan's love of France, readers should not be surprised to find that they possess Francophile-like personalities. However, the rich, pure, ripe fruit of California has not been compromised. Failla's Pinot Noir program is growing by leaps and bounds and currently eight separate Pinots are offered. Jordan intends to keep the new oak to 33% or less and, if possible, prefers to use 100% whole clusters (meaning 100% stems) and bottle early to preserve the freshness and character of Pinot Noir. These wines were all tasted post-bottling, which may have suppressed their aromatics somewhat, so I suspect my scores are on the conservative side as much of the charm and appeal of Pinot Noir is its endearing aromatics. Readers looking for a Northern Rhone look-alike should check out Failla's two Syrahs.

2006 Long Shadows Sequel Syrah Columbia Valley, WA. \$50

The 2006 Sequel is made by John Duval, former winemaker of Penfolds Grange. The wine is 96% Syrah and 4% Cabernet Sauvignon aged for 18 months in 65% new French oak. Aromas of cedar, smoke, game, bacon, and violets are alluring while leading to a round, layered, smooth-textured, full-bodied wine with several years of aging potential. This hedonistic effort will be at its best from 2013 to

2021. 93 Points Robert Parker. For the third straight year, every wine in this portfolio has achieved an outstanding rating. For this, the credit goes to Alan Shoup who put it all together and Gilles Nicault who handles the winemaking on a day-to-day basis. Long Shadows is the brainchild of Alan Shoup, former longtime CEO of Stimson Lane. It is a consortium of seven different labels, each with its own star winemaker who has a 25% share in the brand. The concept is that each is dedicated to producing a single Columbia Valley wine representing a 'best of type' that reflects the winemaker's signature style."

Saturday: Mother's Day Weekend!! Wine Tasting from noon until 4-ish FREE!

TASTING: Cheap & Cheerful Six Pack and tasting the Valdo Prosecco this bubbly comes in its own Ice bag! A Great Mother's Day Gift and priced to sell!

CHEERS!

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