

Slip right into fall with these exciting wines from the West Coast! Please joins on our journey from Washington's Yakima Valley over to Walla Walla and down to the Rogue Valley and the fun of getting stuck in Lodi and then ending our journey in the beautiful Alexander Valley!

When: Friday, September 24th

Time: 4-7 PM

Where: Santiam Wine Company

Price: \$27 Full meal deal! 1/2 pour \$16.

The Wines:

2007 NxNW Columbia Valley Red Blend \$25.

The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley was blended from 11 vineyards and is composed of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, with the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot aged for 15 months in French and American oak. A glass-coating opaque purple color, it displays aromas of cedar, baking spices, herbs, incense, black currant, and blackberry. Layered on the palate, dense, and already exhibiting some complexity, this lengthy effort will reward 3-4 years of cellaring and offer a drinking window extending from 2013 to 2022. 92 Points Robert Parker

NxNW (pronounced North by Northwest) is backed by Oregon's King Estate where the first two vintages were made in 2005 and 2006. Since then the wines have been made at a custom crush facility in Walla Walla.

2006 M. David Earthquake Cabernet Sauvignon Lodi appellation, CA \$25.

Very dark purple colored and opens with an attractive blend of mild blackberry, coffee, cinnamon, and clove-like bouquet. On the palate, this wine is full bodied, very nicely balanced, smooth, and elegant. The flavor profile is a tasty mild black currant with notes of coffee, bacon, and milk chocolate. The finish is dry with mild fine tannins. Cabernet Sauvignon blended with Petite Sirah and Cabernet Franc. Aged in French oak for 32 months

2007 RoxyAnn Claret Rogue Valley \$28.

RoxyAnn Claret combines richness, depth and complexity with elegance and finesse. It is ripe, focused and distinctive for the way its dark plum and black currant fruit plays against smooth tannins and hints of spice, nutmeg and black licorice. Intense and concentrated, the flavors coat the palate and finish in a long, persistent aftertaste that holds its focus and gains complexity with juicy plum, anise, and mocha flavors. Blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc, and 5% Malbec.

2008 Owen Roe Yakima Valley Red \$40

This wine is designed to showcase the world-class Merlot and Cabernet-Franc grapes of the Yakima Valley. The fruit is from several small vineyards from the cooler western end of the region, where the long days of sunshine and moderate temperatures in the evening conspire to produce lush aromatic grapes with lovely acidity and low ph. This Yakima Valley Red is truly graceful with supple and balanced soft tanins. The polished and generous mouthfeel, unfolds with beautifully focused cherry and plum fruit at the core.

2007 Buty Rediviva Of The Stones, Walla Walla, Columbia Valley WA \$49

The 2007 Rediviva of the Stones is a blend of 77% Syrah and 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, much of it foot-trodden and then fermented with native yeasts. Aromas of sandalwood, Asian spices, incense, lilacs, black currant, and blueberry give way to a velvety-textured, layered palate with herbs and olives making an appearance. This lengthy effort will benefit from 3-4 years of additional bottle age and offer a drinking window extending from 2013 to 2022. 93 Points Robert Parker Caleb Foster, partner and winemaker of Buty Winery, is in a groove, making consistently high quality wines vintage after vintage.

2007 Rodney Strong Symmetry Red Meritage Alexander Valley CA. \$50

The 2006 Symmetry greets you with a generous bouquet of blackberries, ripe dark plums, sweet spices, and a hint of chocolate. It opens boldly on the palate with layers of blackberry, cassis, smoky dark chocolate and brown spice. This mouth-filling wine is rich, silky in texture, expansive, and quite long on the finish, and manages to be at once harmonious, powerful, and elegant. Intended to be enjoyable on release, Symmetry is destined for years of further evolution in the bottle. Savor it! Blend: 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Malbec, 8% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

With 40 years experience growing classic French grape varieties here, we select our best cabernet sauvignon, merlot, and other traditional Bordeaux grapes from the hills that overlook the valley, where well-drained rocky soils combine with warm, sunny days and cool nights to provide ideal growing conditions. Select areas within each vineyard are hand harvested individually, fermented separately, and aged in the finest French oak barrels. After about six months, each lot is tasted and graded, and only the highest graded wines are considered for Symmetry. The blend is then assembled, and the wine is returned to barrels to facilitate flavor integration. The wine is aged an additional 12 to 18 months, depending on the vintage, before bottling. Symmetry captures the essence of the Alexander Valley.

I hope you can enjoy the full moon tonight!

Cheers!

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