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Subject: Southern Rhone tasting Friday at Santiam Wine and Bistro
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To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

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Good Evening,

Here we go another Friday night and another great wine tasting! Join us for Southern Rhone reds and one ringer from Washington...Owen Roe Sinister Hand GSM

This should prove to be an interesting tasting.

Recommended Entrée our Mushroom or Italian Lasagna

Where Santiam Wine & Bistro

When: Friday, October 16th

Time: 4-8 P.M.

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

The Wines:

2012 Domaine Grand Nicolet Rasteau Vieilles Vignes \$23

The 2012s here are loaded with potential. Starting out, the 2012 Rasteau Vieilles Vignes is 60% Grenache and 40% Syrah, with the Grenache aged all in concrete and the Syrah in 2-year-old barrels. Full-bodied, rich and beautifully proportioned, with sweet, silky tannin and rocking length, it gives up copious cassis, currants, graphite, crushed rock and licorice aromas and flavors. Classic Rasteau, it's well worth seeking out and should shine for upward of a decade. Drink 2014-2022. **91-93 Points Parker**

2013 Domaine les Grand Bois Cairanne Cuvee Maximilien \$20

"Almost as good as the 2012, and already in bottle, the 2013 Cairanne Cuvee Maximilien bucks the vintage stereotype and offers fabulous fruit, sweet spice and licorice aromatics, medium to full-bodied richness, and a lively, pure style on the palate. Slightly more fresh and focused than the 2012, it too will drink nicely for upward of a decade."

Reviewed by: The Wine Advocate - 91pts

Cairanne is one of 13 villages authorised in this appellation thanks to the constant quality of its wines—and the proof is in this bottle. The Grenache, Mourvèdre, Syrah and Carignan grapes that make up this cuvee come from vines aged 12 to 50 years on average. Minimal oak aging is used to refine the dense and robust wine, a fine pairing for plenty of flavorful fare.

2014 Owen Roe Sinister Hand GSM Yakima Valley \$23

Just for the fun of it I decided to put this domestic Rhone blend in the mix.

We may have said this the last two vintages, but our staff just can't get enough of the Sinister Hand. The 2014 vintage far exceeds our expectations of this wine. This Rhone styled blend of Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre and Cinsault, is a crowd favorite and we think you will be just as pleased with the 2014. Ideal growing conditions in the Prosser and Union Gap areas conspired to create a wealth of deep and brightly flavored Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, and Cinsault for our much anticipated 2014 Sinister Hand. These heat loving Rhone varieties clearly had their days in the sun this vintage, as the finished wine is a beautifully balanced example of all that 2014 had to offer. Ripe, rich, and round; but still punctuated and defined with nuances of spice, acidity, and elegant tannins

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2012 La Garrigue Vacqueyras \$25

Another special bottling for importer Eric Solomon (which is different than the straight Vacqueyras from this estate – readers need to check the importer label), the 2012 Vacqueyras is gorgeous, with a soft, up-front and hedonistic style that's hard to resist. A blend of 80% Grenache, 10% Syrah and the balance Cinsault and Mourvedre, from 70-year-old vines and aged all in concrete, it gives up loads of garrigue, brown spices, kirsch and licorice in a medium-bodied, layered package. Already drinking nicely, I don't think it will make old bones, so drink it over the coming 4-5 years. **90 Points Robert Parker**

2013 Saint Cosme Gigondas \$40

Deep ruby. Smoky cherry and dark berry aromas are complemented by candied violet and cracked pepper; really shows its Syrah component. Spicy and focused on the palate, offering bitter cherry and floral pastille flavors that open slowly with air. Very northern Rhône in character, with firm tannins adding grip to a peppery, floral finish. **92 Points Vinous**

2011 Saint Cosme Chateauneuf du Pape \$56

2011 Chateauneuf du Pape showed brilliantly from bottle. Loaded with Provencal character, it has tons of garrigue, licorice, ground pepper and sweet dark fruit, full-bodied richness and a sexy, seamless profile. I don't think it will be the longest lived Chateauneuf du Pape out there, but it will dish out plenty of pleasure over the coming 7-8 years at least. **92 Points Robert Parker**

Cheers!

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