

# DRAGONETTE



## 2017 PINOT NOIR, DUVARITA VINEYARD



100% PINOT NOIR

### APPELLATION

Santa Barbara County

### CLONES

113, 115 & 777

### AVERAGE YIELD

1.12- 2.01 Tons per acre  
(Average 1.42)

### HARVEST DATES

August 28-31

### FERMENTATION

1.5 Ton, open top fermenters  
100% Destemmed  
2-3 Day cold soak  
Native yeasts  
Native MLF

### AGING

16 Months on the lees  
French oak barrels  
17% New

### BOTTLED

January 15, 2019

ALCOHOL: 14.1%

CASES PRODUCED: 140

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$65

### PHILOSOPHY

We strive to create Pinot Noirs of textural purity, complexity and balance. Complexity and balance are achieved by meticulous attention to detail in the vineyard, where each vineyard block is managed for appropriate canopy and proper yields. Textural purity can only result where the delicate and ethereal Pinot Noir is very gently handled and manipulations in the cellar eschewed. Therefore we age our wines on their lees, without racking, with little movement and constant topping. Moreover, each wine is bottled only after sufficient time in barrel to permit ideal evolution.

We bottle single vineyard wines when wines from a particular vineyard express a unique character or sense of “place” and yet are complete wines of balance, harmony and interest.

### DUVARITA VINEYARD

Duvarita vineyard is a certified Biodynamic vineyard located in Santa Barbara County, west of the Sta. Rita Hills. The vineyard lies on gentle, south-facing slopes of almost pure sand. The low vigor soils, small canopy and a low fruit zone combine to make this one of the earliest ripening vineyards we farm. The small clusters here give wines that are lean and elegant, with terrific intensity, stony minerality, and a firm Pommard-like edge of red fruits, earth and herbs.

### THE VINTAGE

2017 saw the first significant winter rains in some time, with extreme deluges in January and February. Despite the rain, vigor was normal due to a cool spring. Poor weather at set lead to a smaller than average crop. Summer was warm, even hot at times, but in most evenings, the cool down allowed grapes to retain acidity. August days were relatively even, with warm days and cool nights, but a massive heatwave was forecast for Labor Day. We picked before the heat, which would have devastated the small crop. Yields were extremely low, but the fruit was in good condition.

### OUR WINEMAKING

We harvest each individual lot in the cold early morning hours with rigorous hand sorting for quality. We process the fruit within hours; in this case fully destemmed without crushing. We cold soak the grapes for 2 to 3 days, then ferment the juice with native yeasts, using a mixture of pumpovers and punchdowns for extraction. At dryness, free run juice is drained to barrel, and the berries gently pressed separately. The wine is aged on its lees for 16 months before selection, blending and bottling.

### PROPRIETORS/WINEMAKERS

John Dragonette, Steve Dragonette, & Brandon Sparks-Gillis