



ST. INNOCENT

PINOT NOIR

YAMHILL-CARLTON DISTRICT AVA

SHEA VINEYARD

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY  
ST. INNOCENT WINERY, JEFFERSON, OREGON, BW-OR-144  
ALCOHOL 13.5% BY VOLUME. CONTAINS SULFITES.

2018  
WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

## 2018 Pinot Noir

### *Shea Vineyard*

**Production: 875 cases**

**Crop Level: 2.3 tons/acre**

**Harvested:  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Bottled: March 2020**

**Alcohol: 13.5%**

**Suggested Pairings: Lamb  
Chops or Duck Breast  
with lentils**

**Aging Recommendation:  
Up to 15 years**

#### **Vineyard Notes**

Shea Vineyard is located in the Yamhill-Carlton District AVA, 35 miles SW of Portland, Oregon. The grapes for this wine come from two blocks: Block 6 faces SE on a hillside of shallow sedimentary soil at an elevation of 450' to 500' planted with Pommard and 115. The Terrace Block is a very steep SW slope planted in 2002 with the Pommard clone.

#### **Production Notes**

The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in 4-8 ton stainless steel and oak fermenters with no SO<sub>2</sub>, allowing the fermentations to proceed naturally. After gentle pressing and settling, the wine aged in French oak barrels, 28% of which were new, for 16 months before bottling by gravity without fining.

#### **Vintage Notes**

The weather was unusually dry, with the spring rains ending almost two months early. Bloom was mid-June in warm, dry conditions giving excellent fruit set. Lots of clusters meant lots of thinning. After almost 5 months of dry, warm weather, we began picking Chardonnay on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Pinot noir from Shea came on 9/24 and we finished picking on 10/5 with the Postes Verde field at Temperance Hill. The fruit was clean, with ripe tannins and lovely flavors.

#### **Tasting Notes**

Bright, medium ruby color. Dense and exotic flowers, layered with raspberry, dusty and dark aromas that are very typical of Shea. Quite fresh while deep flavors quickly emerge on a concentrated palate of dense dark red fruit, dried flowers and earth. This an early snapshot of a very complex wine that will emerge over months to decades of aging. The finish has a rich density while fresh fruit persists. This is a vintage with balanced concentration and lovely clarity that I will open in the years to come with excitement.