



ALQUIMISTA CELLARS

## Current Release Tasting Notes - November, 2019

### 2016 Convergence Pinot noir:

Blend of Manchester Ridge, Oppenlander and Haiku vineyards. The Manchester Ridge benefitted from use of Chardonnay lees in the 2 barrels of new oak, these barrels having been fermented in the Manchester Chard. The remainders of all the vineyard-designate barrels were once- & twice-used French oak, with all wines being transferred to barrels on pressing before primary fermentation was finished. This yielded soft, supple, round blending components that, with extended time in barrel, produced a “come hither, drink now” wine that will be enjoyed upon release as well as patient cellaring for those who want to explore the nuances of what age brings....

### 2016 Mes Filles Vineyard Pinot noir:

Bold color and extract characterize this most westerly vineyard of the Russian River Valley. Aromas of Bay Laurel, cedar box and black cherries carry into the palate of sandalwood, bay, ripe red fruits with a long, lingering finish. One of the first vineyards designated “American Grand Cru.”

### 2016 Haiku Vineyard Chardonnay:

More Chablis-like in its presentation, fine and mouth-watering acidity frames pear and yellow stone fruit in both nose and mouth. Mid-palate reflects the stony soil of the vineyard’s river bench. Finish remains crisp yet persistent.

### 2016 Lorenzo Vineyard Chardonnay:

Brioche and crème brulee accented with wildflowers on the nose. Palate of white peach, tropical fruits of mango and papaya framed by hints of vanilla wafer and toasted almonds all framed by crisp mineral acidity.

### 2016 Manchester Ridge Vineyard Chardonnay:

Brioche and crème brulee accented with wildflowers on the nose. Palate of white peach, tropical fruits of mango and papaya framed by hints of vanilla wafer and toasted almonds all framed by crisp mineral acidity.

### 2017 Mes Filles Vineyard Chardonnay:

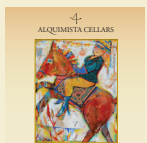
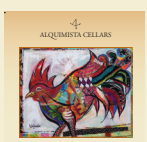
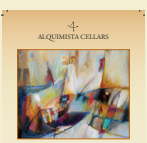
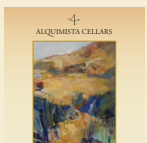
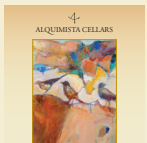
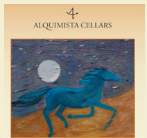
The cool maritime influence is evident in this coastal classic. Mineral-driven, the fruit flavors are of white pineapple, Bosque pear and yes, Gravenstein apples. Great acidity gives a firm backbone, balanced by the fruit flavors and a gentle kiss of French oak.

### 2017 van der Kamp Vineyard Pinot Meunier:

Ebullient, fickle, flirtatious, delicate, this wine has been pampered by careful handling during whole-cluster fermentation. Its floral fragrance is laced with huckleberry, maraschino cherry, dried herbs and tea-rose blossoms. At play on the plate are citrus zest, raspberry and confected fruit.

### 2016 van der Kamp Vineyard Pinot noir:

Floral aromatics and forest floor burst forth followed by baking spices, particularly cinnamon and nutmeg. High-toned red fruit dances along the palate, with hints of watermelon, light stone fruit and strawberry cream in a lilting journey owing to partial whole-cluster fermentation finessed by high mountain tannins and balanced acidity.





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### 2016 Confluence Pinot noir:

Drawing from the structure of the Mes Filles Vineyard, the firm acid backbone of Hawk's Roost Ranch and the pretty ebullience of the Lorenzo Vineyard, the nose is greeted with dried flowers, red fruits/cranberries and bayberry spice. On the palate, there is great structural synergy at play that starts with cranberry and finishes long with red cherries and rose petals. In between is a mouth-watering presence that speaks to rich, savory food pairings as a great companion at table.

### 2016 Hawk's Roost Ranch Pinot noir:

Bacon fat, meaty, smoky, pepper and savory spice, accented by camphor and flinty wet stone with Santa Rosa plum and cranberry evolving on the nose as the wine receives air-time. Dark chocolate, cranberry and fruit compote on the palate with overarching mouthfeel that spreads robust but pliable tannins from start to finish. Decidedly on the higher-acid side of American Pinots, there is a late echo in the aftertaste of cranberries and red fruits. A departure from your average Cali Pinot, this wine speaks to the Mariafeld clone and the clay-loam site in the cool Russian River Valley in spades!

### 2016 Manchester Ridge Vineyard Pinot noir:

A bouquet of violets, strawberry laced with tomato leaf, herbs and peat are carried by sea smoke from this climatically challenged elevated sea cliff vineyard. Striving to survive, these vines overachieve with rewards of Rainer cherries atop spiced cookie dough, dried fruit and bitter orange in a prolonged march aided by balanced tannins and acidity along the palate. The combination evokes duende, the Spanish term for inspiring spontaneous emotional reactions.

### 2016 Oppenlander Pinot noir:

A larger-than-life Pinot noir, this is a classic Mendo coastal wine with dark color and firm tannins supported by a great natural acid backbone. Touches of earth and savory spices are well framed by red fruits, most predominantly and enigmatically cranberry. With a mouth-watering mid-palate and long, lingering aftertaste, this Mendocino County gem will please now and age gracefully with years of proper cellaring.

### 2016 Jessie's Grove" Ancient Vine" Royal Tee Vineyard:

Ethereal spicy aromas derive from this mélange of Zinfandel, Carignan, Flame Tokay, Black Prince, Malvasia Bianca and Mission grapes, cohabiting for nearly 130 years in this iconic vineyard in the heart of California Delta country. Pinot-like smoothness achieved from partial whole-cluster fermentation defines the flavors of layered plum, fruit compote and spicy pumpkin with just enough spice to remind that this is predominantly Zinfandel

