

## PINOT NOIR:

- One of the finest red varieties in the world
- Thin-skinned, later ripening, prefers a longer and more moderate growing season
- Bright acid, lighter tannins; typical notes of red berries, delicate spice, earth
- Range of styles from taut and austere to round and juicy depending on *terroir*
- Home in Burgundy; now grown around the world

### 1) Marcillet Hautes-Côtes de Beaune '10 – Burgundy, France

- Burgundy's most illustrious sub-region for Pinot Noir is the Côte d'Or; within the Côte d'Or there is the Côte de Nuits (north) and Côte de Beaune (south)
- Hautes-Côtes de Beaune is a broad appellation within sub-region of Côte de Beaune
- Burgundy overall tends more toward earth/mineral notes, restrained fruit
- Husband-and-wife team; they farm organically and navigate traditional and modern winemaking technology

### 2) Bryczek Morey St.-Denis Villages '09 – Morey St.-Denis, France

- Morey St.-Denis is a specific village within Burgundy's Côte de Nuits
- Good firm structure but with elegance and finesse
- Vintage very important in Burgundy: 2009 fantastic for riper, well-structured reds
- Soil is mostly brown limestone and marl
- Christophe Bryczek, third generation and current winemaker in his early 30s, has taken quality to a much higher level (and greater recognition) in last few vintages

### 3) Anne Amie Cuvée A Pinot Noir '10 – Willamette Valley, Oregon

- Willamette is south of Portland and north of Eugene
- Becoming famous for Pinots stylistically in between Burgundy and California (climate tends to be in between the two, too)
- Six sub-AVAs with varying microclimates and soil types; typical characteristics of each are being established
- "Cuvée A" is a blend of the estate's "most forward and charming" barrels



#### 4) Handley Pinot Noir '07 – Anderson Valley, California

- Anderson Valley AVA is within Mendocino County, north of Napa and Sonoma
- One of California's coolest AVAs due to fog coming in from ocean along the valley carved by the Navarro River
- Cool climate provides longer growing season and good acidity
- This is a blend of 12 different vineyard sites

#### 5) Au Bon Climat Pinot Noir '09 – Santa Barbara, California

- Due to warmer climate in general, California Pinot Noir is riper, more fruit-forward
- Santa Barbara can be fairly cool due to the influence of the nearby coast
- Jim Clendenen is one of THE formative Central Coast winemakers, and Au Bon Climat is a benchmark for a balanced style in California

#### 6) Bernard Huber Sommerhalde GG Spätburgunder '09 – Baden, Germany

- Spätburgunder = Pinot Noir
- Germany is #3 worldwide in terms of Pinot Noir plantings
- Baden is an *anbaugebiet* (large region) in southeastern Germany and most heavily planted to Spätburgunder of all in Germany
- Lots of new oak tends to be used in German Pinots
- GG stands for *Grosses Gewächs*, which indicates a dry wine from a top vineyard site
- Husband and wife team working with 70% Spätburgunder on red limestone soils

