



2014 PINOT NOIR

FE CIEGA SANTA RITA HILLS

256 CASES PRODUCED

Since 2003 we have been making wine from Rick Longoria's fabulous Fe Ciega (blind faith) Vineyard. Rick is a real music fan, but the name is also a nod to the fact that you can use all your knowledge and experience in choosing a vineyard site, but you never know what you'll really get. Needless to say, we've been thrilled from our first vintage. Planted on the western edge of the Santa Rita Hills appellation, one couldn't ask for a better climate for pinot noir, plus the soil there has the same clay and shale mix of the celebrated Sanford and Benedict Vineyard, located a stone's throw away. While sandy soils seem to impart a certain floral delicacy to pinot, I am quite fond of the racy, savory quality clay brings.

The 2014 is unique in that the vineyard was marked by the effects of the drought. The lack of rainfall has been made up with irrigating more, but the vines don't like it much. The salts that are in irrigation water build up in the soil when there isn't rainfall to wash them through the soil profile, and the vine reacts by restricting its vegetative growth and crop of grapes. So we had a tiny crop of very intense fruit, and that's not bad, but it produced a wine that is quite structured and will certainly be best if laid down for a few years before consuming.

BLEND 100% Pinot Noir

VINEYARD Fe Ciega

LOCATION Santa Rita Hills

ALCOHOL 13%

VINIFICATION Open top fermentation with 10% whole clusters

BARREL AGING 16 Months in 25% New French Oak

TOTAL PRODUCTION 256 Cases

PRESS REVIEWS

Antonio Galloni's Vinous

"The 2014 Pinot Noir Fe Ciega Vineyard is bright and energetic, but also a bit tightly wound at this stage. As such, it will benefit from at least another 6-12 months in bottle. Exotic citrus and floral notes add an attractive upper register in a Pinot that is lifted and nicely focused throughout." - AG 92+ Points

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THE
OJAI
VINEYARD