2016 Pinot Noir Annahala Vineyard
Anderson Valley

Vineyard
Our 60-acre Annahala Vineyard in coastal Mendocino County is located near the small town of Boonville in southern Anderson Valley, a cool-climate region celebrated for its world-class pinot noirs. Annahala’s proximity to the Pacific Ocean, its tree-shaded slopes and loamy soils yield wines with fresh, pure aromas, bright, rich flavors and fine, supple tannins. The site and the wines made from it also benefit from multiple, high-quality clones of pinot noir: the Dijon selections 114, 667 and 777, plus clone 828. They greatly enhance the complexity of this wine, with the Dijon clones providing wonderful perfume, intensity and depth of black cherry fruit while 828 accentuates the wine’s scent of dried rose petals and contributes a textural elegance.

Vintage 2016
Frequent, modest rainfalls during the winter and early spring of 2016 launched a growing season featuring ideal weather during bloom and fruit set. Mild summer weather was punctuated by several moderate, late-season heat spells, which hastened harvest and brought our Annahala grapes to optimum ripeness with an ideal balance of sugars and acids.

Winemaking
Our 2016 Annahala Vineyard Pinot Noir is a blend of multiple blocks of grapes, each fermented separately in small, stainless steel tanks, with gentle punchdowns to thoroughly macerate the juice and skins and extract color, flavor and fine tannins. After the free-run juice was drained from the tanks, the component wines were transferred to French oak barrels, 38% new, selected specifically to enhance the expressive elegance of our Anderson Valley fruit. After three months of barrel aging, the wines were blended to achieve a harmony of flavors. The blend spent another seven months in barrel before bottling on July 5th, 2017.

Winemaker Notes
Fragrant ripe black cherry and raspberry aromas, coupled with a smoky mineral tone, usher in bright raspberry, strawberry and cherry flavors accented by sweet spices and balanced by fine tannins and well-integrated oak. The wine’s long finish is graced by vibrant cherry and berry tones, a touch of zesty spice and a vein of refreshing minerality. Delicious now, this fine, marine-influenced pinot noir will develop further with another 3-5 years of bottle age.

Blend: 100% Pinot Noir
Vineyards: 100% Annahala Vineyard, Anderson Valley
Harvest dates: September 8th – 10th, 2016
Fermentation: small stainless-steel tanks with daily punchdowns
Barrel aging: 10 months in French oak barrels, 38% new

Alcohol: 14.6%
Total acidity: 0.57 g/100 ml
pH: 3.69
Bottled: July 5, 2017
Winemaker: Julianne Laks