



# SYNTHESIS

# HISTORIC LANDMARK, LEGENDARY WINES

Located in the heart of the Russian River Valley in Sonoma County, California, our historic winery site was established in 1881 and is one of the oldest continuously operated wineries in Sonoma County. Courtney Benham purchased the winery in 2003, continually striving to modernize the facility while incorporating elements of its history. Our estate has twenty-two acres of varying clones of Pinot Noir, but true to our motley personalities, we would be remiss to not take advantage of the extraordinary wine-growing regions that surround every side of our home. We have no shame in exploiting each region for the best it has to offer, and for us, that means old-vine Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from the Sonoma Coast all the way to burley, brooding Cabernet Sauvignon from the acclaimed Napa Valley. The result is a collection of wines that are terroir-driven and offer a unique exploration of California.

### WINEMAKING AND TEAM

Winemaker Leslie Renaud partners with consultant Keith Emerson, and experienced growers to keep her finger on the pulse of each vineyard. Our team begins shaping each wine while it's still in the vineyard and vinifies each in small lots at our winery. Built on the foundation of cultivating relationships with growers across an array of distinct regions, we craft each lot by utilizing traditional and modern winemaking methods to create wines of exceptional beauty. But the quality extends far beyond the fruit and is a culmination of many hands and minds. With a state-of-the-art facility, the symbiotic approach between Leslie and our growers, and the meticulous production crew yield wines that are of the highest quality. Above all, there is always finesse, attention to detail, consistency, and quality in each bottle.

### DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING LESLIE RENAUD

Former SCUBA diving instructor, US Forest Service employee and urban forester, Leslie Mead Renaud's path to becoming Winemaker at Martin Ray is far from boring. Upon graduating from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources, she worked for the Forest Service in Oregon, hooting for spotted owls in the forests of Mt. Hood. Her career took a sharp turn when she realized her interests aligned with the balance of the wine industry: a combination of science and art. She gained experience working in wineries all over Northern California, as well as being a board member of the prestigious World of Pinot Noir for 12 years. Leslie ultimately seeks terroir-driven wines that are vibrant and balanced.

## WINEMAKER RAEMY PATERSON

An adventurer by heart and self-proclaimed avid picnicker, Raemy Paterson brings a global winemaking perspective to Martin Ray. Upon earning her BS in Viticulture and Enology with a minor in French from UC Davis, Raemy traveled the world, working harvests in Bordeaux, Provence, and the Barossa Valley. After her global winemaking stint, she continued her stateside career with harvests at Mumm Napa, Ridge Vineyards - Lytton Springs, and Jordan Vineyards. Settled, for now, in the Russian River Valley, Raemy enjoys crafting wines that allow the vineyards to shine with minimal intervention.

# 90+ SCORES...

### OUR WINEMAKING TEAM IS CRUSHING IT

Our winemaking team works with experienced growers to keep the pulse of each vineyard. Every appellation has a specific set of needs in the vineyard - and at the winery - and expresses a distinctive sense of terroir once the grapes are in the bottle.



WINEMAKER RAEMY PATERSON DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING LESLIE RENAUD

## MARTIN RAY

2022 Chardonnay, Monterey County | Sonoma County—92 pts, James Suckling 2022 Rosé of Pinot Noir, Sonoma County | Monterey County - 92 pts, James Suckling 2021 Pinot Noir, Sonoma County | Monterey County – 93 pts, James Suckling 2022 Reserve Concrete Chardonnay, Russian River Valley — 93 pts, James Suckling 2022 Reserve Pinot Noir, Hallberg Ranch -95 pts, *James Suckling* 2022 Reserve Pinot Noir, Santa Cruz Mountains – 93 pts, James Suckling 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma County | Napa County -92 pts, James Suckling 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Diamond Mountain — 97 pts, James Suckling 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap District — 96 pts, James Suckling 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Santa Cruz Mountains — 95 pts, James Suckling

2019 Brut Rosé, Russian River Valley - 93 pts, James Suckling

#### ANGELINE

2022 Chardonnay, California — 90 pts, James Suckling 2022 Rosé of Pinot Noir, California — 91 pts, James Suckling 2022 Pinot Noir, California — 90 pts, James Suckling 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon, California — 89 pts, James Suckling 2022 Reserve Sauvignon Blanc, California – 92 pts, James Suckling 2022 Reserve Pinot Noir, Mendocino County — 92 pts, James Suckling 2021 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Mendocino County — 90 pts, James Suckling

### SYNTHESIS

2022 Estate Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley — 93 pts, *James Suckling* 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley — 95 pts, James Suckling

"I've been reflecting about my 25 years in the wine industry, and how it has changed. There are so many more women in production now. I am so proud to be a part of a winemaking team that is 100% female, and a cellar crew that is 50% female. While it is a bit of an anomaly now, it would be unheard of in the past." - L.R.





