

# 2011 Anderson Valley Pinot Gris Estate Grown – Split Rail Vineyard

Located in the cool heart of the Anderson Valley, along California's windswept Mendocino Coast, Split Rail is the most recent addition to our collection of estate vineyards. Within its varied topography of undulating slopes and benchlands, two small blocks of Pinot Gris are planted. Each one-acre block is comprised of the same rootstock but with two different clones. Crisp and refreshing, this wine has lovely acidity and offers a pure expression of Pinot Gris.

#### IN THE VINEYARD

The 2011 growing season was the coldest in the 15-year history of Goldeneye. In the vineyard, we benefited from our experience as cool-climate winegrowers, and the exacting control we are able to apply to our Estate vineyards. We adjusted practices to compensate for the weather, with extra leaf pulling and vineyard-floor cultivation. We also did extensive fruit drops in multiple passes to encourage complete ripening, with overall yields of approximately 2 tons per acre. The long, temperate season allowed for extended hang time, and the majority of our grapes were harvested before the rains. The resulting wines are bright and elegant with slightly lower alcohols, lovely aromatics, natural acidity and pure fruit flavors.

# COMMENTS FROM THE WINEMAKER

From its vivid golden-green color to its delicious aromas of crisp apple and ripe cantaloupe, this wine offers a beautiful combination of freshness and vibrancy. The fruit notes are supported by excellent acidity, which add tension and focus throughout, leading to a satisfying finish with hints of caramel and rose petal.

# Varietal Content

100% Pinot Gris

# **Harvest Information**

Harvest Date: October 1, 2011 Average Sugar at Harvest: 24.3° Brix 1 Vineyard Harvested

# **COOPERAGE**

100% French oak 5 months in barrel Age of Barrels: 100% neutral oak

# Production/Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.1% 0.57g/100 ml titratable acidity 18 days fermentation at 60°F pH: 3.35

Bottled: January 2012 Release Date: September 2012