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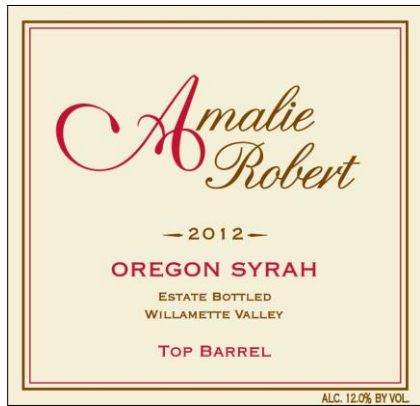
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WINES TRUE TO THE SOIL

WINES TRUE TO THE VINTAGE®

THE FLOG: WWW.AMALIEROBERT.BLOGSPOT.COM

2012 TOP BARREL SYRAH



TOP BARREL SYRAH IS 100% AMALIE ROBERT ESTATE GROWN SYRAH. AMONG OUR 30 ACRES OF PINOT NOIR, WE HAVE PLANTED 0.80 ACRES (1,188 VINES TO BE EXACT) OF SYRAH - AND A FEW INTERPLANTED VIOGNIER VINES. THIS BOTTLING IS FROM THE SINGLE BEST BARREL OF SYRAH FROM THE VINTAGE – THE TOP BARREL.

WE GROW SYRAH RIGHT ALONG SIDE PINOT NOIR, AND MOST OF THE VINEYARD WORK IS VERY SIMILAR. THE PRIMARY DIFFERENCE IS THAT WE HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NOVEMBER TO HARVEST. WE THINK IT IS WORTH THE WAIT.

TASTING NOTES: VEHEMENTLY VIOLET. GARRIGUE, SMOKE, MINERALS, TAR, DRIED CHERRIES AND BLACK

OLIVE PERMEATE LIKE TEXAS BARBEQUE ON A HOT AUGUST NIGHT AS NEIL DIAMOND TAKES THE STAGE AND MAY WEST APPEARS IN A CORSET SERVING UP A PLATE OF FIRE ROASTED SERRANO PEPPERS. MORE RIGHTEOUS THAN WHOLESOME ON THE VOLUPTUOUS PALATE AS THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF COOL CLIMATE ESTATE GROWN SYRAH MAKES ITS PRESENCE FELT. WITH A HALF-LIFE THAT RIVALS URANIUM-238, THE GRATUITOUS FINISH EXPOSES SILKY STEM TANNINS JUXTAPOSED WITH STRAPPING ACIDITY.

vinous 94 pts

Amalie Robert Estate 2012 Syrah Top Barrel
Willamette Valley, Oregon
Red wine from United States
Drinking window: 2019 - 2026

Brilliant violet. A complex, expansive bouquet evokes ripe black and blue fruits, smoky Indian spices and potpourri, backed by subtle olive and cola nuances. Sweet, sappy and penetrating on the palate, offering intense blueberry, cassis, bitter chocolate and spicecake flavors and a strong suggestion of candied violet. Strongly channels the savory qualities of the northern Rhône and finishes extremely long, smooth and spicy, with subtle tannins building slowly.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: September 2017

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vinous 94 pts

E. Guigal 2012 Côte-Rôtie La Mouline
Côte Rôtie, Northern Rhône
Red wine from France
Drinking window: 2021 - 2030

Lurid ruby. Heady, intensely perfumed aromas of red fruit preserves, incense, smoky minerals and lavender, accompanied by an Asian spice flourish that builds as the wine opens up. Stains the palate with sweet, seamless raspberry liqueur, spicecake and floral pastille flavors that are lifted and given spine by core of juicy acidity. Puts on weight and spreads out slowly on the strikingly long and precise finish, which features resonating mineral and floral notes.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: February 2017

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vinous 94 pts

E. Guigal 2012 Côte-Rôtie La Turque
Côte Rôtie, Northern Rhône
Red wine from France
Drinking window: 2022 - 2031

Youthful violet. Powerful, smoke- and mineral-accented black and blue fruits and incense on the explosively perfumed nose. Stains the palate with sweet blueberry, cherry, violet pastille and spicecake flavors that show superb depth as well as vivacity. Seamless and alluringly sweet; a core of juicy acidity adds lift and spine. Supple tannins build steadily on an extremely long, focused finish that leaves suave floral and Moroccan spice notes behind.

Josh Reynolds. Tasting date: February 2017

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“AMALIE ROBERT, WHOSE VINEYARD IS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY, MAKES A VERY STRONG CASE FOR SYRAH, BUT PRODUCTION OF THEIR TWO GRACEFUL WINES IS PAINFULLY SMALL, AS IN JUST A FEW BARRELS OF WINE PER VINTAGE.”

- *JOSH REYNOLDS, VINOUS, FEBRUARY 2018*