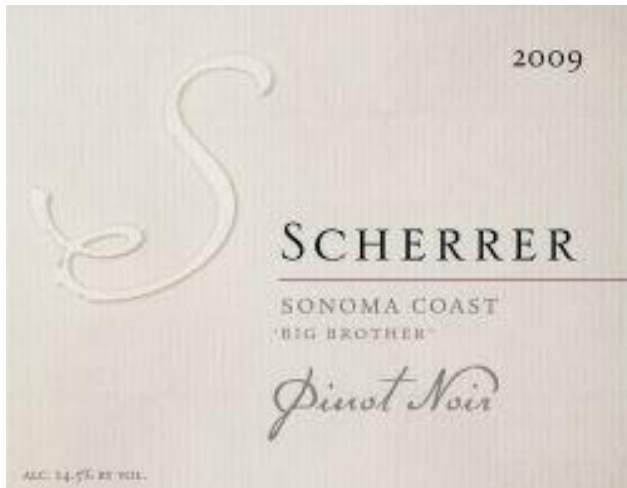


Pinot Noir

‘Big Brother,’ 2009



It isn't easy for a Pinot Noir to be extremely generous while still maintaining the delicacy unique to the variety. This is one of those. Blended from a vineyard in Annapolis, which provided the generosity, and from Bodega, which completed the balancing act, it should satisfy lovers of 'big' wines and delicate wines with equal facility.

Winemaker's Notes

This is the last of our 2009 Pinot Noirs to be released. From the far Northern Sonoma Coast, near Annapolis, this vineyard enjoys the proximity to the foggy Pacific Ocean without being inundated with the marine air each afternoon like some colder sites at the Sonoma/Marin County border further south. I have found that the best expression of this site is to wait until the tannins have softened somewhat, giving a more generous overall expression. For the chemistry buffs, the pH is always extremely low here which I think correlates well with the freshness and energy of the wine on the finish. Darker fruits, some interesting savory notes, fresh loamy earth/oak undertones are supported by a supple-on-the-outside-but-firm-on-the-inside core of structural tannin. As the flavors emerge the freshening acidity begins to take over the structural role ending in a mouth-watering glow.