McKenzie-Mueller Vineyards and Winery 2001 Los Carneros Pinot Noir Reserve

Harvest Date: September 1, 2001 AVA: Los Carneros, Napa Valley

Fermentation time: 7 days Maceration time: 14 days

Yeast: Native Brix: 23.8

pH: 3.59 (post-fermentation)

TA: .56g/100ml (post-fermentation)

Alcohol: 13.6%

Cooperage: 100% 225L French oak, 75% New

Filtration: None

Bottling Date: August 2003 Whole cluster: 10%-15%

220 cases produced

Estate grown, produced, bottled and labeled

Another gift from 2001: a true reserve! When two vineyard blocks showed exceptionally well in an already-phenomenal year, we had no choice but to make our first reserve Pinot Noir. The result is an earthy nose that will open with aeration into raspberry, cherry, spice and tobacco. This rich wine fills your mouth with a lingering dark chocolate and cherry finish. We don't make reserve Pinot Noir every year, so raise a glass to toast 2001.

We fermented this wine in a combination of open-top stainless steel tanks and open-top half-ton fermenters, and then treated to more new French oak and longer barrel time than our non-reserve Pinot Noir.

Food pairing suggestions: Chinese food like garlic chicken with green beans; apples and cheese; light fish like snapper; fettucine Alfredo; roasted duckling.