

Wine Enthusiast

October 2019

- 94 Points - Foxen 2017 Pinot Noir, John Sebastiano Vineyard
- 93 Points - Foxen 2017 Pinot Noir, Santa Rita Hills "Editors Choice"
- 92 Points - Foxen 2017 Pinot Noir, Block 8 Bien Nacido Vineyard

December 2018

- 96 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Solomon Hill's Vineyard
- 95 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Melville Vineyard
- 94 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, La Encantada Vineyard
- 94 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, John Sebastiano Vineyard
- 94 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Block 8 Bien Nacido Vineyard
- 93 Points - Foxen 2016 Cuveé Jeanne Marie, Santa Ynez Valley
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon, Vogelzang Vineyard
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Block 43 Bien Nacido Vineyard
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega Vineyard
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Syrah, Tinaquaic Vineyard
- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Syrah, Williamson-Dore Vineyard
- 91 Points - foxen 7200 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon, Los Potreros
- 91 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Santa Maria Valley
- 91 Points - Foxen 2016 Pinot Noir, Santa Rita Hills
- 91 Points - Foxen 2016 Syrah, "Old Vines" Tinaquaic Vineyard
- 90 Points - foxen 7200 2016 Cabernet Franc, Tinaquaic Vineyard

May 2018

- 91 Points - Foxen 2016 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard
- 95 Points - Foxen 2015 Pinot Noir, John Sebastiano Vineyard

March 2018

- 92 Points - Foxen 2016 Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard
- 91 Points - Foxen 2016 Chardonnay, Block UU - Bien Nacido Vineyard
- 90 Points - foxen 2016 7200 Sauvignon Blanc, Vogelzang Vineyard

March 2017

- 92 Points - foxen 7200 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon, Grassini Vineyard
- 91 Points - foxen 7200 2013 Range 30 West, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara

October 2016

- 95 Points - Foxen 2014 Pinot Noir, John Sebastiano Vineyard
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- 94 Points - Foxen 2014 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard
- 94 Points - Foxen 2014 Pinot Noir, Melville Vineyard
- 93 Points - Foxen 2014 Pinot Noir, Solomon Hills Vineyard

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November 2015

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94 Points - Foxen 2013 Pinot Noir, Santa Maria Valley
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92 Points - Foxen 2013 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

November 2014

94 Points - Foxen 2012 Syrah, Williamson-Doré Vineyard
93 Points - Foxen 2012 Pinot Noir, John Sebastiano Vineyard
92 Points - Foxen 2012 Syrah, Toasted Rope
91 Points - Foxen 2012 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega Vineyard

September 2014

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92 Points - Foxen 2012 Pinot Noir, Block 8- Bien Nacido vineyard
92 Points - Foxen 2012 Pinot Noir, La Encantada vineyard

Best of 2013

92 Points Foxen 2011 Toasted Rope Syrah Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara

Vigorous in body, this Syrah comes from one of Foxen's warmest vineyards, the well known Vogelzang. It's riper and higher in alcohol than their Tinaquaic Syrah, making it richer, rounder and tastier. With blackberry, orange peel, red licorice, and cola flavors. It's balanced with fine tannins and acidity. Drink now.

91 Points Foxen 2011 Syrah Williamson-Doré Vineyard Santa Ynez Valley

What a pretty Syrah this is. With moderate alcohol and subtle oak influences, it's dry and stylishly elegant in the mouth. The flavors veer toward ripe cherries and blackberries, sprinkled with cinnamon, cocoa and finely-ground black pepper. Drink now-2015.

89 Points Foxen 2011 Cuveé Jeanne Marie Williamson Doré Vineyard Santa Ynez Valley

With 15% alcohol by volume, this is the headiest of Foxen's new 2011 reds. A blend of Grenache and Mourvèdre, it's fruity and almost to the point of sweetness in raspberries and cherries, but turns dry and crisp on the finish. A delightful red wine to drink now with almost anything, and you can even put a little chill on it.

November 2013

94 Points, Cellar Selection- 2011 Pinot Noir, La Encantada Vineyard

94 Points, Cellar Selection- 2011 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega Vineyard

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92 Points, Cellar Selection- 2011 Pinot Noir, Sea Smoke Vineyard

92 Points- 2011 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

December 2013

92 Points- Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard

92 Points- Chardonnay, Block UU- Bien Nacido Vineyard

91 Points- Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

90 Points- Sauvignon Blanc, Vogelzang Vineyard

Wine Enthusiast- Advance Buying Issue-September 2012

96 Points- 2010 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Sea Smoke Vineyard

"This is the most expensive Pinot Noir Foxen has ever made, and guess what? It's also the winery's best. It bears rich flavors, offering tiers of smoky cherries, red currants, licorice candies, vanilla,

sandalwood and spices. What's harder to describe is the sheer beauty of the texture and balance. Containing the explosive richness of a wine like this is a challenge, but winemaker Bill Wathen has managed to bring elegance to its power. The wine is high in alcohol, and it's not advisable to age it beyond 3 or 4 years, but it is incredibly delicious". —S.H.

94 Points- 2010 FOXEN Pinot Noir, La Encantada Vineyard Noir

"Few winemakers in Santa Barbara County understand better than Bill Wathen how to let the terroir of individual vineyards shine, while still providing consumers with a delicious drinking experience. This bottling shows the juicy, ripe flavors one expects from Dijon clones, with flashy notes of raspberries, cherries and currants. It's balanced in crisp acidity, and there's a tangy, dry minerality. Drink now- 2016". —S.H.

93 Points- 2010 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

"This is classic Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir, with its dark color, full body, ripe berry and currant flavors and, especially, the array of exotic crushed brown spices. New French oak brings lots of smoky, buttery, toasty richness. Great to drink now with tuna, salmon, lamb and beef dishes". —S.H.

92 Points- 2010 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Block 8- Bien Nacido Vineyard

"This is a big, ripe, full-bodied Pinot Noir—as big as the variety gets in California. But it never loses balance, by virtue of the brisk acids, silkiness and dry finish. This wine always impresses for its sheer, Incredible Hulk volume. Drink now-2015". —S.H.

Wine Enthusiast- December 2012 issue

95 Points- 2010 FOXEN Syrah, Williamson-Doré Vineyard

"It's hard to imagine a Syrah more attractive than this. In addition to the wealth of raspberry and red currant flavors and the wonderfully sweet new oak, it is extremely well balanced. The tannins are luxurious, the acid crisp and fine, the complexity a delight and the finish dry and long. This full-bodied selection offers refinement and intellectual appeal. Drink now-2016 for freshness."-S.H

94 Points- 2010 FOXEN Syrah, Tinaquaic Vineyard

"An especially chilly vintage in the always-cool Santa Maria Valley has resulted in an intense, young Syrah that is dry, tannic and dramatic. Despite its tightness, the flavors of cherry jam, bacon, cola and black pepper explode deliciously. Extremely low yields in the vineyard give this Syrah a density that will allow it to age for 6-8 years, though with decanting, it's fine to drink now." —S.H.

94 Points- 2010 FOXEN Syrah, Toasted Rope

Do not pop the cork and drink this right away as it's currently tight and tannic. But as it warms up and breathes, it releases its considerable charms. With 16% Viognier blended in, it's fantastically rich and concentrated in black-pepper-accented

raspberry and sweet-smoke flavors. Acidity adds balance to the richness. You can enjoy this wine now, after an hour in the decanter, or cellar it for at least six years. —S.H.

90 Points- 2010 FOXEN Cuvée Jeanne Marie, Williamson-Doré Vineyard

"Made in the accessible style of a southern Rhône blend, with Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre, this is the most forward of Foxen's new red wines. With jammy raspberry and cherry flavors, it's a delicious, finely structured wine to drink now". —S.H.

93 Points- Editors Choice- 2011 FOXEN Chardonnay, Block UU-Bien Nacido Vineyard

"Foxen's UU Block from the famed Bien Nacido Vineyard fights it out every year with the estate Tinaquaic Chardonnay for top honors. In this cool vintage, the former wins out by a hair. Dry, steely and crisp in acidity, it shows vast tropical fruit, orange, vanilla, honey and buttered toast flavors that are delicious and refined. The richness and elegance strongly suggest pairing it with lobster". -S.H

92 Points- 2011 FOXEN Chardonnay, "Dry Farmed"-Tinaquaic Vineyard

"Acidity and minerality lend this Chardonnay a distinctive personality. The cool vintage has given it a certain lean appeal, but that's not to minimize the tropical fruit and sweet oak that give it richness. It's sleek, stylish and moderate in alcohol". -S.H.

90 Points- 2011 FOXEN Chardonnay, Steel Cut-Bien Nacido Vineyard

"The underlying fruit on this unoaked Chardonnay doesn't need the richness of barrels in order to satisfy. It's flavors are enormously rich and ripe, with notes of tropical fruits, orange, vanilla and spices. Interestingly, it's also much higher in alcohol than Foxen's oaked Chardonnays, giving it an almost dessert wine headiness"-S.H

A brilliant lineup of wines, these all show individual characters, impressive aromatics, and very polished and balanced profiles. To a wine, they all benefitted from air and held up beautifully over the three days I had the bottles open

94 Points: 2009 Foxen Syrah, Tinaquaic Vineyard

A beautiful Santa Maria Syrah, the 2009 Foxen Syrah Tinaquaic Vineyard is 100% Syrah from the dry farmed Tinaquaic Vineyard and is aged in 80% new French oak. Showing a beautiful profile that's both powerful and elegant, it possesses loads of sweet crème de cassis, blackberry, white pepper, smoked bacon, and crushed flower-like aromas on the nose. Medium to full-bodied, seamless, and borderline voluptuous on the palate, with a knockout texture, impressive purity of fruit, polished tannin, and no shortage of length, this is approachable now, but should also age gracefully for upwards of 10-12 years. It shows best with an hour of air, so a short decant is recommended. Issue.

Issue 10, December 2011

93+ Points: 2009 Foxen Syrah Williamson-Doré Vineyard

A big, meaty Syrah that comes from the seven-acre Williamson- Doré vineyard on the eastern side of the Santa Ynez Valley, the 2009 Foxen Syrah Williamson-Doré Vineyard was aged for 22 months in 100% 500-liter Hungarian puncheons. The wine exhibits a beautifully spice-driven bouquet of red and black fruits, briar, smoked earth, and spice box aromas that give way to a more floral and complex profile over the evening. Medium to full-body on the palate, with sweet fruit, notable focus and freshness, and a dry, structured finish, this outstanding Syrah is approachable now, but will be even better with a year or two in bottle. It should drink nicely through 2021. While this was my least favorite of the trio on the first night, it was just stunning on the second and third day and it just might be the longest lived of the bunch.
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The 2009 Foxen Cuvée Jeanne Marie, a blend of 54% Grenache, 23% Syrah, and the rest Mourvedre, aged for 16 months in 2, 3 and 4-year-old French oak barrels, delivers a gorgeously perfumed, complex profile with sweet kirsch and cherry compote styled fruits balanced by notions of bramble, spice box, white pepper, licorice and floral characteristics on the nose. This is followed by a medium to full-bodied, impeccably balanced red that has sweet fruit, a lush, seamless texture, and notable freshness that shines on the finish. Straight up delicious, and with an almost Rayas like perfume and texture, this beauty shows best with an hour of air (but was still superb on the third day), and should drink well for a decade or longer.
Issue 10, December 2011

Wine Enthusiast-December 2011 issue

96 Points-Editors Choice- 2010 FOXEN Chardonnay, Block UU-Bien Nacido Vineyard

You want decadence, opulence and fabulousity in your Chardonnay? This one 's for you. It's tremendous in ripe pineapple, pear, peach, mango, lime, tangerine and papaya flavors. So much fruit, while the oak application is never heavy handed, applying just the right touch of buttered toast. Where does all that vanilla honey come from? A magnificent example of a... – S.H. (12/15/2011)

93 Points-Editor's Choice-2010 FOXEN Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

This is always one of the best Chenin Blancs in California, and Foxen's 2010 is one of their best ever. With plenty of new French oak and some serious weight and depth, it has the texture of Chardonnay, and even some of the tropical fruit. But there's a white flower and green apple note that's unique, as well as brisk, bright acidity. – S.H. (12/15/2011)

92 Points- 2010 FOXEN Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard "Steel Cut"

There's no oak on this Chardonnay, but you won't miss it at all. It's so decadent in long hangtime pineapple, tangerine, mango and spice flavors, superripe and just

delicious. The alcohol is fairly high, but that's the price of all this richness. —
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"Ripe and decadent as usual, maybe even more so in blackberry tart, melted dark chocolate and spicy plum flavors with a touch of funky bacon. You can't help but be impressed by the richness. Saved from being a mere fruit bomb by acidity and lush, smooth tannins. Drink now."-S.H

92 Points- FOXEN Syrah, Tinaquaic Vineyard

"Lots of lush, mouthfilling blackberry, cherry and raspberry fruit in this drily delicious wine. There's even a taste of dark chocolate and savory spices. The tannins are lush and smooth. Sensitive tasters will experience some severity of acidity, but that makes food paring all the more important. Needs rich, fatty meats and cheeses to tame it."-
S.H

Wine Enthusiast-October 2011 issue

93 Points- 2009 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

A beautiful Pinot, authoritative and masculine, with firm tannins, hard acidity and a bone-dry finish. The core of black cherries, cola, spices and sweet oak is irresistibly good. Compelling now right out of the bottle, and should develop over the next six years. S.H. (10/1/2011)

92 Points- 2009 FOXEN Pinot Noir, La Encantada Vineyard

With 50% new oak aging, the wood stands out now, showing caramelized and buttered toast flavors. Under that is a dry, tannic wine, filled with raspberries, cherries and spicy pomegranates. Complex and pedigreed, it wants some time in the cellar. Better after 2014. S.H. (10/1/2011)

92 Points- 2009 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard -Block 8

Exceptionally rich, a Pinot Noir that tastes dramatic from the get go. It's full-bodied, dry and velvety, with complex flavors of berries, pomegranates, cherries, cola, currants, mushrooms and spices. The firm tannins and crisp acids suggest ageability over the next six years. S.H. (10/1/2011)

91 Points- 2009 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Santa Maria Valley

Just beautiful, a dry, silky Pinot Noir, filled with complex flavors of cherries and black raspberries. Oak adds lovely notes of sweet char, and the natural acidity of the Santa Maria Valley shines through. Now-2014. S.H. (10/1/2011)

90 Points- 2009 FOXEN Pinot Noir, Sea Smoke Vineyard

Heavy and rich, as Pinots from this vineyard tend to be. Also exceptionally ripe, with massive cherry marmalade and smoky, sweet oak flavors. Feels young and direct and easy to drink, with a fruity sweetness. Glamorous, but the price seems out of line.
S.H. (10/1/2011)

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Wine Enthusiast-December 2010 issue-

93 Points- 2009 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

For years, Foxen has been producing one of the best Chenin Blancs in California, and with this 2009, they have outdone themselves. It's so rich in orange, honeydew and pineapple flavors, it might almost be Chardonnay, except it's drier and more minerally, and there's a wonderful note of dried herbs. Although production was only 575 cases, this wine is worth a special search, especially for sommeliers. -S.H

92 Points- 2009 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard-Steel Cut

Drier and more minerally than Foxen's other Chardonnays, because it is the least oaked. It's vibrant in grilled pineapple, mango, apricot and vanilla spice flavors, brightened by beautiful acidity. Alcohol is quite high, but the wine never tastes hot or unbalanced. -S.H

90 Points- 2009 Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard

Some will criticize this Chardonnay for being too oaky and sweet, but it sure is delicious. It just brims with pineapple, yellow apricot, creme brulee, honey and buttered toast flavors that are balanced with crisp acidity. If you like that California style, you'll love this opulent wine. -S.H.

Wine Enthusiast-November 2010 issue

95 Points- 2008 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

A beautiful Pinot, showing the depth of fruit and structural balance this fine vineyard is famous for. It's a low-yield wine, aged in 50% new French oak that adds a rich, smoky vanilla coat to the raspberry and cherry jam, spice and mineral flavors. No stems were included in the fermentation, which accounts for the silky transparency. This compelling Pinot changes with every scent and sip. now- 2013. -S.H

91 Points-2008 Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard

This tiny production (655 cases) Pinot from one of the most famous vineyards in Santa Barbara County is enormously rich in raspberries, cherries and sandalwood. It's not very subtle now but delicious, like a dessert pastry, although it's totally dry. Easy to like, although at this price, you might want a little more complexity. Try stashing it in a cellar for 2-3 years. -S.H

Top 10 best wines of the week- Steve Heimoff, June 16, 2010

2008 Pinot Noir, Julias Vineyard

From this esteemed vineyard in the hills of the northern Santa Maria Valley. Winemaker Bill Wathen, a true Pinot hero of Santa Barbara County, is at the top of his game. Juicy and fresh.

Wine Enthusiast Magazine- December 31, 2009 issue

94 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard

This is easily the greatest of Foxen's new Chardonnays. It shows the dryness and crisp acidity of the other bottlings, but is enormously rich and complex in oak-inspired pineapple, peach, creme brulee, buttered toast honey and mineral flavors. Decant for

a while to let it mellow, and it should develop bottle complexity through 2014. -S.H (12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard- Block UU

Brings Foxen's usual steely, dry, minerally approach to Chardonnay, which makes for a more versatile, elegant wine. It's bone dry, while high acidity makes the mouth water, but the austerity is relieved by the ripeness of the citrus, peach and apple fruit. Should develop through 2013, becoming creamier and nuttier. -S.H(12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard- "Steel Cut"

You want soft, gooey Chardonnay? Go someplace else. This is a steely, minerally, bracing wine whose high acidity makes your mouth water. It has a little oak, but is mainly noted for the intensity of pineapple, peach and vanilla flavors. Very nice with shellfish and pasta in a cream sauce. -S.H(12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Sauvignon Blanc, Vogelzang Vineyard*EDITORS CHOICE*

A gorgeous, elegant Sauvignon Blanc, dry and complex and ideal for drinking with sophisticated fare. Grown in the warmer Happy Canyon region, it avoids the green pyrazines that can mark Sauvignon Blanc, yielding intricate flavors of lemons, limes, pineapples, green melons, honey and peppery spices, gently touched with smoky oak. S.H(12/31/2009)

90 Points-2008 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

Always one of the best Chenin Blancs. Foxen's08 shows its usual dryness and tart, mouthwatering acidity, with flavors of citrus fruits, spices and sweet Chinese green beans. It's a sophisticated wine that takes some getting used to. -S.H.(12/31?2009)

Wine Enthusiast, December 1, 2009 Issue

94 Points- 2007 Pinot Noir Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir- #26 in top 100 cellar selections of 2009

This is a big, gutsy, tannic and dry Pinot Noir, almost old-fashioned in its closed quality. It's built for aging. Locked down and tight now, but with a tremendous core of cherries, strawberries, blueberries and spice. Authoritative and distinctive. Hold until 2012 and beyond.

Wine Enthusiast, October 2009 Issue

93 Points- Cellar Selection-2007 Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard, Block 8

Very rich and complex. Shows the immaturity of a young wine, with primary fruit flavors of cherries, black raspberries, red currants, red licorice, teriaki beef and cinnamon, accented with crisp acidity. Very good, but needs time. Best 2010-2013.

92 Points- 2007 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

Dark, full-bodied and rich. Defines a heavier, riper style that's almost like Grenache. Floods the mouth with black cherry pie filling, plum sauce, beef jerky, pepper, vanilla and sandalwood flavors. Good acidity provides vitality and zest. Could develop further complexities beyond 2009. -S.H

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Heavy and rich, as Pinots from this vineyard tend to be. Also exceptionally ripe, with massive cherry marmalade and smoky, sweet oak flavors. Feels young and direct and easy to drink, with a fruity sweetness. Glamorous, but the price seems out of line. S.H. (10/1/2011)

Wine Enthusiast-December 2010 issue-

93 Points- 2009 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

For years, Foxen has been producing one of the best Chenin Blancs in California, and with this 2009, they have outdone themselves. It's so rich in orange, honeydew and pineapple flavors, it might almost be Chardonnay, except it's drier and more minerally, and there's a wonderful note of dried herbs. Although production was only 575 cases, this wine is worth a special search, especially for sommeliers. -S.H

92 Points- 2009 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard-Steel Cut

Drier and more minerally than Foxen's other Chardonnays, because it is the least oaked. It's vibrant in grilled pineapple, mango, apricot and vanilla spice flavors, brightened by beautiful acidity. Alcohol is quite high, but the wine never tastes hot or unbalanced. -S.H

90 Points- 2009 Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard

Some will criticize this Chardonnay for being too oaky and sweet, but it sure is

delicious. it just brims with pineapple, yellow apricot, creme brulee, honey and buttered toast flavors that are balanced with crisp acidity. If you like that California style, you'll love this opulent wine. -S.H.

Wine Enthusiast-November 2010 issue

95 Points- 2008 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

A beautiful Pinot, showing the depth of fruit and structural balance this fine vineyard is famous for. It's a low-yield wine, aged in 50% new French oak that adds a rich, smoky vanilla coat to the raspberry and cherry jam, spice and mineral flavors. No stems were included in the fermentation, which accounts for the silky transparency. This compelling Pinot changes with every scent and sip. now- 2013. -S.H

91 Points-2008 Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard

This tiny production (655 cases) Pinot from one of the most famous vineyards in Santa Barbara County is enormously rich in raspberries, cherries and sandalwood. It's not very subtle now but delicious, like a dessert pasty, although it's totally dry. Easy to like, although at this price, you might want a little more complexity. Try stashing it in a cellar for 2-3 years. -S.H

Top 10 best wines of the week- Steve Heimoff, June 16, 2010

2008 Pinot Noir, Julias Vineyard

From this esteemed vineyard in thh hills of the northern Santa Maria Valley. Winemaker Bill Wathen, a true Pinot hero of Santa Barbara County, is at the top of his game. Juicy and fresh.

Wine Enthusiast Magazine- December 31, 2009 issue

94 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Tinaquaic Vineyard

This is easily the greatest of Foxen's new Chardonnays. it shows the dryness and crisp acidity of the other bottlings, but is enormously rich and complex in oak-inspired pineapple, peach, creme brulee, buttered toast honey and mineral flavors. Decant for a while to let it mellow, and it should develop bottle complexity through 2014. -S.H (12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard- Block UU

Brings Foxen's usual steely, dry, minerally approach to Chardonnay, which makes for a more versatile, elegant wine. It's bone dry, while high acidity makes the mouth water, but the austerity is relieved by the ripeness of the citrus, peach and apple fruit. Should develop through 2013, becoming creamier and nuttier. -S.H(12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Chardonnay, Bien Nacido Vineyard- "Steel Cut"

You want soft, gooey Chardonnay? Go someplace else. This is a steely, minerally, bracing wine whose high acidity makes your mouth water. It has a little oak, but is mainly noted for the intensity of pineapple, peach and vanilla flavors. Very nice with shellfish and pasta in a cream sauce. -S.H(12/31/2009)

91 Points-2008 Sauvignon Blanc, Vogelzang Vineyard*EDITORS CHOICE*

A gorgeous, elegant Sauvignon Blanc, dry and complex and ideal for drinking with sophisticated fare. Grown in the warmer Happy Canyon region, it avoids the green pyrazines that can mark Sauvignon Blanc, yielding intricate flavors of lemons, limes, pineapples, green melons, honey and peppery spices, gently touched with smoky oak. S.H.(12/31/2009)

90 Points-2008 Chenin Blanc, Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard

Always one of the best Chenin Blancs. Foxen's08 shows its usual dryness and tart, mouthwatering acidity, with flavors of citrus fruits, spices and sweet Chinese green beans. It's a sophisticated wine that takes some getting used to. -S.H.(12/31/2009)

Wine Enthusiast, December 1, 2009 Issue

**94 Points- 2007 Pinot Noir Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir-
#26 in top 100 cellar selections of 2009**

This is a big, gutsy, tannic and dry Pinot Noir, almost old-fashioned in its closed quality. It's built for aging. Locked down and tight now, but with a tremendous core of cherries, strawberries, blueberries and spice. Authoritative and distinctive. Hold until 2012 and beyond.

Wine Enthusiast, October 2009 Issue

93 Points- Cellar Selection-2007 Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard, Block 8

Very rich and complex. Shows the immaturity of a young wine, with primary fruit flavors of cherries, black raspberries, red currants, red licorice, teriaki beef and cinnamon, accented with crisp acidity. Very good, but needs time. Best 2010-2013.

92 Points- 2007 Pinot Noir, Julia's Vineyard

Dark, full-bodied and rich. Defines a heavier, riper style that's almost like Grenache. Floods the mouth with black cherry pie filling, plum sauce, beef jerky, pepper, vanilla and sandalwood flavors. Good acidity provides vitality and zest. Could develop further complexities beyond 2009. -S.H

Wine Enthusiast, December 1, 2008 issue

Rating: 92 points---2006 Foxen Cuvee Jeanne Marie-Williamson Doré Vineyard

Tasted in May, this Grenache-based Rhone blend was still overwhelmingly vibrant and fresh in grapey, primary fruit raspberry, cherry and blackberry flavors. It's appealing, but really needs some time to settle down and mellow, so the fruit and oak can mesh together. By the summer of 2009, it should be a wonderful wine, retaining its balanced lushness through at least 2012. -S.H

Rating: 91 points --2006 Foxen Pinot Noir, Sea Smoke Vineyard

Winemaker Bill Wathen helped found this vineyard, and he understands it as well as anyone. The wine's alcohol is high, giving it a fat, glyceriney mouthfeel as well as a bit of heat. But there's no denying the opulence of the blackberry, cherry and currant flavors, and the finish is thoroughly dry. Drink this powerful wine with game, broiled steak or grilled lamb. -S.H

Rating: 90 points --2006 Foxen Pinot Noir, Sanford & Benedict Vineyard

A young, complex Pinot that's not revealing much now, wrapped as it is in firm tannins. The flavors of primary fruit cherries and raspberries have a lifesaver candy sweetness, and acidity is crisp and savory. In predicting the future of this wine, you have to take into account its vineyard. Decades of experience prove that a young S&B Pinot Noir as balanced as this one needs a good 4-6 years to begin to come around. ****Cellar Selection****-S.H

2007 Foxen Chardonnay-Tinaquic Vineyard

94 Points-*Editors Choice*- Wine Enthusiast, December 2008 Best of Year issue- #20 in Top 100 wines of the year.

This bottling by veteran Foxen offers one of the starkest, most appealing choices available in California Chardonnay. Far from a superripe, buttery monster, it's a lean, elegant machine. With vibrant acidity and a mineral undergirding, it offers rich flavors of citrus fruits and rind and yeasty, Champagne-like lees.

2007 Foxen Chardonnay- Bien Nacido Vineyard-Block UU

Rating: 92 points

California Grapevine-November 1st, 2009

90 Points- 2008 Chardonnay Tinaquic Vineyard

Medium-light golden yellow; attractive, toasty, baked apple pie aroma with notes of espresso, hazelnut, and vanilla; medium-full to full body; rich, plush, fleshy, apple and pineapple flavors with a pleasing mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Nicely balanced and shows some finesse. Very highly recommended.

90 Points-2007 Pinot Noir Sea Smoke Vineyard

Medium purplish ruby color; attractive, stemmy, cherry and boysenberry fruit aroma with notes of clove and vanilla; medium-full to full body; well focused, textured, dark cherry fruit flavors with a rich, supple, slightly creamy mouthfeel; medium-full tannin; slightly harsh on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended.

90 Points-2007 Pinot Noir Bien Nacido Vineyard

Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, ripe, plummy, cherry and strawberry fruit aroma with a note of clove; medium-full to full body; rich, textured, cherry and cranberry fruit flavors; well balanced and firmly structured; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended.

89 Points-2007 Pinot Noir Julias Vineyard

Medium ruby; spicy, fragrant, earthy, raspberry fruit aroma with hints of smoked sausage and a trace of charred oak; medium-full to full body; forward, rich, plummy, ripe raspberry and cherry fruit flavors with notes of cola and creamy oak; firmly structured; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended.

Bourghound.com, October 2008

91 Points- 2006 Pinot Noir- Bien Nacido Vineyard-Block 8

A notably ripe and seductively spicy nose that offers hints of Pinot Noir liqueur merges into rich and equally ripe big-bodied flavors that are utterly delicious and as long as the wine is kept at proper serving temperature, it carries its alcohol effortlessly. Note that there are moderately firm tannins that will permit this to age over the medium-term though it's awfully pretty right now. In sum, if you enjoy big-bodied pinots, this is a good choice because it doesn't lack for a certain elegance.