

Brittan Vineyards

WILLAMETTE VALLEY

2006 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir “Gestalt Block”

This is the inaugural release of the Brittan Vineyards wines by Veteran Winemaker Robert Brittan, who has been making wine for thirty-two years, most recently at Stags’ Leap Winery in Napa, where he served as General Manager and Winemaker for sixteen years. Brittan has always had a passion for Pinot Noir; a love affair that began in the 80’s when he made several vintages under his Britt Hill label. When Stags’ Leap was sold to Beringer, he was forced to abandon his own label, and has been looking forward to the day when he could make his own wines once again.

In 2004, Brittan left Stags’ Leap and after a long search, purchased a 128-acre parcel Southwest of McMinnville. He selected this mountain site for its rugged, broken basalt, glacial deposits and volcanic soils on the edge of the Coastal Range in the McMinnville AVA, convinced that from this site he would be able to make wines that speak of this unique place.

The 2006 vintage in the Willamette Valley was consistently warm and dry, resulting in rich, ripe flavors. The Gestalt block is named for the term that refers a set of things that amount to more than the sum of its parts; this wine represents the “gestalt” of the 2006 vintage on this site. The wine boasts intricate and complex flavors layered over a velvety texture and completed by a long, lingering finish.

The Pinot Noir for the 2006 Gestalt Block is predominantly Clones 667 and 777, planted on 101-14 rootstock. The fruit for the 2006 vintage was picked in early October and allowed to cold soak for five days before fermentation began. After fermentation, the wine was aged in French Oak barrels, approximately 40% new, for 10 months prior to bottling in August 2007.

Production: 120 cases

Bottled: August 2007

