

## LYTLE · BARNETT VINTAGE 2013 BLANC DE NOIRS

Every good bottle of wine comes from a fortuitous blend of natural forces and human intervention. But we've found that the very best of the best emerge in places where exceptional quality meets passion, experience and great timing. For decades, we've watched Oregon's Willamette Valley mature into a terroir capable of producing more than just world-class Pinot Noir. With new varietals emerging and coming into their own, we saw that the timing was perfect to create exceptionally high-quality local bubbles using the exact specifications of vintage French Champagne.

## Vintage

A warm and beautiful growing season in the Willamette Valley with a substantial fruit set was the perfect backdrop for our inaugural vintage. Still wine producers remember 2013 as touch-and-go, with rains coming just as the grapes were approaching ripeness, but for sparkling wine production, the harvest season was a matter of capturing the delicacy and finesse within the very narrow window between the heat of late summer and the rains. Picking was completed on the memorable date of September 11th.

## Winemaking

The Pinot Noir grapes were received in immaculate condition and went directly into a small pneumatic press for light pressing. The juice was naturally settled for two days and racked cleanly, leaving only the faintest pink hint of its Pinot Noir origins. Fermentation was completed in stainless steel to retain the wine's purity and focus. The wine was then left on fermentation lees to build richness and complexity until it was bottled in the late spring of 2014. After being aged sur latte (on their sides) for 4 years, the wine was disgorged with a minuscule 1.5 g/l dosage and left to further age on cork for 3 months before release. The fullness of the vintage and its long aging is exemplified in this exceptional Blanc de Noir's rich fruit and full mouthfeel.

## **Tasting Notes**

This wine expresses the warmth and richness of the vintage with its full structure filled with fresh strawberry and cream notes, pound cake, and rhubarb. The straw hue of the wine is punctuated by the fine and persistent mousse. Fruit and yeast notes linger on through its long finish, leaving the palate alive with flavors of a warm spring day.

Appellation Eola-Amity Hills AVA	Varietal 100% Pinot Noir
Aging 4 years	Wine Alcohol 12%
Dosage 1.5 g/l	Production 180 cases (9It)

