



Hello

You might think that during the winter months we'd be relaxing and catching our breath after harvest and the holidays. In reality, we hit the ground running in January. That's when we have to get labels designed and order corks, bottles and other packaging for February bottling.

We split our time between work on the wines and winter work in the vineyard, where the cover crop is knee-high (on Serena) and growing, and the rows are looking nice and tidy as the vines get pruned.

FEBRUARY 2018

THE POWER OF MUSIC: NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

EIGHTH BLACKBIRD PERFORMANCE

FROM THE WINEMAKER: BEST-LAID PLANS

VERTICAL & VINTAGE TASTINGS

THE POWER OF MUSIC: NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

As many of you know, Alan's first career was in recording and producing classical music — with a particular focus on living American composers — at Minnesota Public Radio. When the [Green Music Center](#) opened the world-class Weill Hall on the campus of Sonoma State University a few years back, we were delighted that its concert series included an incredibly wide range of musical styles. We try to catch as many shows there as we can.

We heard from a lot of local arts organizations last year that their donors were redirecting contributions temporarily to fire-recovery efforts. Cartograph joined many other Sonoma County businesses to help people affected by the fires, and we continue to look for ways to assist those who are trying to rebuild. At the same time, we believe the arts serve the community by bringing people together for a shared joyous experience — so as we thought about gathering people around something positive, we reached out to the Green Music Center to form a partnership.

We're happy to announce that Cartograph will be co-sponsoring two shows at the center this year. We'll also be donating Cartograph Rosé and Pinot Noir to the venue so you can enjoy our wines there. And Cartograph Circle members will receive a 15 percent discount on all shows at the center.

GREEN MUSIC CENTER
AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



JOIN CARTOGRAPH FOR A PERFORMANCE BY EIGHTH BLACKBIRD

The first event sponsored by Cartograph and the Green Music Center is an [April 19 performance](#) by the contemporary classical ensemble [Eighth Blackbird](#). Eighth Blackbird's mission of "moving music forward through innovative performance, advocating for new music by living composers, and creating a legacy of guiding an emerging generation of musicians" matches our belief that keeping any musical tradition alive requires fresh energy from each new generation. We're very excited to see that every composer on the program that night is new to us.

For tickets and more information: gmc.sonoma.edu/event/3532186-eighth-blackbird.

Cartograph Circle members are invited to meet up with us in the center's donor lounge before the show and at intermission — if you're planning to come to the show and would like to join us, please [RSVP to Serena](#).



VERTICAL AND VINTAGE TASTINGS

We announced our new series of vertical and vintage tastings in the January newsletter, and now we've finalized the topics. Call the tasting room today at [\(707\) 433-8270](tel:7074338270) or [email Serena](#) to reserve your date and time!

- [February 17: Perli Vineyard Vertical \(sold out\)](#)
- [March 17: Russian River Valley Appellation Vertical](#)
- [April 14: Starscape Vineyard Vertical](#)
- [May 26: Mendocino Ridge Appellation](#)
- [June 16: Green Ranch Riesling Vertical 2013 - 2016](#)



What you get: A guided tour through four Cartograph wines with our winemaker

Fee: \$50 (\$40 for Cartograph Circle members)

Two seatings: 12 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. (maximum of 10 people each seating)



FROM THE WINEMAKER: BEST-LAID PLANS

Last year I wrote a roundup of all the things we have to juggle while getting ready to finish a wine to bottle, so I won't belabor the point, but today was the day we were supposed to bottle our 2017 whites and Rosé. If that had happened, I wouldn't be sitting here jotting down these notes.



I got the labels a week ago, and it was a good thing they didn't arrive at the last minute, because the plant had swapped the quantities for Gewürztraminer and Riesling so that we had way more than we needed of one and not enough of the other. A quick call to our supplier and we got new labels overnighted in time, no problem.

The bottles came in last week; yep, we had the right number of Hock-shaped bottles (for Gewürz and Riesling) and yep, we had the proper number of clear Burgundy bottles for the Rosé. And we had the right numbers of blue and red screwcaps. Last Friday, we were dialed in and set to go.

First up this morning was the Riesling. Funny thing ... the bottles were for cork finish, not screwcap. We've used the same glass for years, so I had assumed that was also correct without opening a box. It could have been a real hassle — but, miracle of miracles, the glass folks could get me the right stuff today (in fact, I just got a call confirming that the order has arrived), and the bottling line was somehow not booked for tomorrow.



So, we're good to go first thing tomorrow with not a thing needing to be done to salvage the process, other than calling around to put together a crew to do all the schlepping and stacking. You just have to roll with it sometimes.

Finger crossed.

Cheers,

Alan



BACK TO WORK WE GO

If you're coming by the tasting room, please let us know what you think of our newest Pinot — the [2015 Saltonstall Pinot Noir](#) from the Petaluma Gap. We'd love to hear your thoughts.

Cheers,

Alan and Serena

Cartograph Wines

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