ST. INNOCENT PINOT NOIR, MOMTAZI VINEYARD

100% Pinot Noir. Complex aromas of blue and black fruit, Indian spices, coffee and pepper. In the mouth the blue/black fruit flavors and eastern spice notes are layered with a sense of wildness. Texturally layered, its flavors vary in intensity and quality over your tongue and palate. Ample ripe tannins balance with its acidity. This is a complex wine that reflects the heat of the afternoon sun, the cool, windy evenings, and the rustic soils of the McMinnville hills while retaining the dark beauty of its intense, ripe fruit. Try paired with braised meats, roasts, mushrooms or dishes with eastern spices. Organic.

Momtazi Vineyard is located in the McMinnville AVA, 7 miles west of McMinnville, Oregon. Planted in 1999 and 2004 on thin, poor soils, the vines have a south and SW exposure at an elevation of 680-760'. The vineyard is certified biodynamic. The de-stemmed grapes were fermented in small stainless steel and Burgundy oak fermenters. After gently pressing and settling the wine aged in French oak barrels, 28% which were new, for 16 months before bottling by gravity.

St. Innocent began as an idea conceived in a moment of passion and inspiration in 1983. Mark Vlossak spent the next five years studying, taking classes, and apprenticing with Oregon wine pioneer, Fred Arterberry. In 1988, St. Innocent Winery was founded with a goal to produce wines that respect the quality and tradition of the Old World in one of the newest and most exciting wine growing regions on the planet: Oregon's Willamette Valley. Mark Vlossak is founder, president and winemaker of St. Innocent Winery in Salem, Oregon. He oversees the vineyards and represents St. Innocent in the national marketplace. Mark's exposure to wine began at the age of seven when he began tasting wines daily with his father, a wine importer. During his university training, he developed a love for Champagne. After reading an article in 1983 on American sparkling wine in Bon Appetit magazine, he was inspired to become a winemaker. St. Innocent has grown from 600 cases in their first year to their current production of 10,000 cases, yet each wine is still handcrafted.

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Tasting Note:

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100% Pinot Noir. Complex aromas of blue & black fruit, Indian spices, coffee & pepper; fruit flavors & spice notes layered with a sense of wildness; ample ripe tannins balanced with acidity. Organic.

Shelf Talker:

