



2009 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley
Georganne

Please welcome Georganne to our family of single vineyard Pinots! The release of this new wine is part of a story that began in 2006 with a phone call from our friend Joe Beli. His new neighbors, Georganne and Bob Proctor, wanted to replace their declining Chardonnay vineyard with Pinot Noir. Joe called and asked my advice on planting this property overlooking Westside Road. Ken and I had been looking for another site in the northern area of Russian River, so we decided to take a drive up valley and meet the owners.

Our first introduction to this energetic couple was a delightful experience. Georganne and I hit it off immediately. We decided over a glass of Meredith Estate Pinot that a long-term land lease would be beneficial to us both. This would afford them a beautiful view and her name on our label, while we would have the opportunity to create a new vineyard personality.

On first impression, the wine is the color of a brightly polished garnet, reflecting its fine-boned elegance. The appealing aroma is a medley of summer fruits — raspberries, fraises du bois, blackberries and currants. A touch of savory, warm brown spice and a woody character add charm. Silky, lush and vibrant, Georganne pleases the palate from the first sip.

In honor of Georganne's release, I came up with a new dish. My goal was to accentuate both the wine's elegance and earthiness. You will find my recipe — Angel Hair Pasta with Smoked Salmon, Leeks & Exotic Fungi — at www.merryedwards.com.