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TONIGHI'S WINES

reviews and information

Henry of Pelham Cuvée Catharine Rosé Brut



-LCBO#: 217505 \$29.95

Steve Thurlow

An excellent sparkling rose made from pinot noir and chardonnay grapes. It's a beautiful vibrant salmon colour, with a tight lively mousse. The nose shows raspberry rhubarb fruit with floral and mineral tones and some baked lemon notes. It is bottle fermented which delivers the fine long persistent mousse. Light, dry and balanced, with very good length. Tasted October 2012

Janet Dorozynski

Henry of Pelham makes a Brut and Rose NV sparkling wine and although I'm fond of both, the pink always seem to win out for me. A lovely salmon pink colour, this bubble shows medium intense red berry, floral and citrus notes on the nose which follow through on the dry but fruity palate. Medium-bodied with fine mousse, this is a well balanced sparkler with vibrant acidity and a long red berry and pink grapefruit finish. Good complexity and very good value, this is a very impressive local find. Tasted November 2013.

David Lawrason

Wearing a new label for the launch pre-Christmas 2012, thus is one of the classiest, raciest pink bubblies from Ontario. It shows a subtle nose of raspberry, icing sugar and fresh baked bread — like a delicate raspberry pastry. It's light to mid-weight, firm and mouthwatering, vaguely sweet with bracing

effervescence and a dry, slightly tart grapefruit finish. Excellent length. Last Tasted October 2012.

John Szabo, MS

A full, firm, fruity example of local rosé, with lots of juicy red berry fruit - raspberry and strawberry in particular - up front. The palate is full and frothy, friendly and highly pleasant, with decent length. Tasted October 2012.

Featherstone 2013 Sauvignon Blanc



-VINTAGES#: 89011 \$17.95

Rod Phillips

This is a very attractive, easy-drinking, aromatic sauvignon blanc that delivers a complex palate of well-defined flavours. They're supported by refreshing acidity that's well calibrated to the fruit. "Easy-drinking" doesn't mean this is a simple wine. It shows structure and complexity — it's a wine you can think about or simply enjoy, and it's a great choice for summer meals.

Tawse Winery 2010 Quarry Road Estate Pinot Noir

-- VINTAGES#: 307686 \$ 34.95



David Lawrason

This is surprisingly pale and evolved with garnet colour, but I have encountered this trait in many 2010 Ontario pinots. It has a lifted, quite herbal, cran-currant and tomato fruit nose with nicely placed oak spice and some smoke. It's light to mid-weight, quite smooth but very sour edged, with fine tannin. The length is excellent. Tasted March 2013.

John Szabo, MS

I appreciate the lively, delicate nature of the 2010 Quarry Road pinot, with aromatics hitting high-toned floral notes and bright red berry-cherry fruit; the palate is light-mid-weight, dusty and firm,

with balanced-crisp acids. Average length and depth - not one of the most riveting examples from Tawse in this vintage, but enjoyable in any case. Tasted March 2013.

Michael Godel

This is the second Pinot Noir made from the Vinemount Ridge vineyard, a place where the rock can't help but tyrannize the fruit. The 2010 Quarry Road gains positive proportion in that it is painted and coated by the ripeness of the vintage. Of a tougher mind and shell than the other Tawse Pinots, a bird on the wire just trying to be free. Not as easy to approach or love, it might plead "if I, if I have been unkind, I hope that you can just let it go by." Sings in a wise, raspy and rusty way, despite the youthfulness of the vineyard, but it shines. So in the end "hey, why not ask for more?" Tasted May 2014.

Jackson-Triggs 2012 Gewurztraminer

--LCBO#: 526269 \$12.95

Steve Thurlow



This is a juicy big gewurz with lots of flavour and very good length. Expect aromas of lychee and baked pear with floral and honey notes. It is full bodied, dry and very rich with fruit. The palate is creamy smooth with nice balancing acidity. Try with fruity chicken stir fry or Pad Thai. Tasted June 2012.

Karlo Estates 2011 Van Alstine White



—at the winery \$29.00

David Lawrason

This pours brassy-orange colour, and the aroma has a distinctive candied orange aroma as well (from the frontenac), with some tropical melon and considerable gewurz spice. It reminds me most of a Muscat Beaumes de Venise from southern France. It's full bodied, fairly viscous and sweet but leveled by very good acidity and considerable alcohol heat. It's a bit coarse now, but may subside with age. Very interesting flavours with ginger joining orange on the finish. Excellent length. Tasted January 2012.