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2001 Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemaker's Notes:

With each vintage, we at Amavi Cellars bring forth our passions for vineyard management and winemaking to craft truly memorable wines. As winemaker, I view the grape varieties, our estate vineyards, blocks within the vineyards, various countries' oak and other factors as components to be blended as an artist would blend colors on a canvas. My goal is to create wines that are more complex and expressive than the individual components.

The 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon is a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot and 2% Syrah. The Cabernet Sauvignon is the backbone of the blend, adding structure and body, while the Merlot adds flavor and depth. The small amount of Syrah increases the overall softness. This wine is integrated, complex and well-structured, yet soft and appealing throughout. The wine is pleasantly aromatic with the essence of rose petal, ripe berry and a light earthiness. Flavors of dark fruit, cassis and mint are followed by hints of mocha, chocolate and spice.

The 2001 Vintage:

A truly great wine starts in the vineyard and the 2001 vintage was an exceptional year for the Walla Walla Valley. Our careful vineyard management and cooperation with Mother Nature allowed the grapes from our estate vineyards to reach optimal maturity with ripe, concentrated flavors, tremendous balance, and unique personalities. Harvest began September 12th at Seven Hills Vineyard and finished October 10th at Pepper Bridge Vineyard.

Fermentation:

The grapes from the 2001 vintage were hand-harvested and sorted, and then fermented in small stainless steel tanks. The wine aged 18 months in 67% French oak, 17% American oak and 16% Hungarian oak.

Jean-François Pellet, Winemaker

Wine Specifics:

Varietal(s): 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 2% Syrah
Vineyard(s): 67% Pepper Bridge Vineyard, 33% Seven Hills Vineyard
Appellation: Walla Walla Valley
Oak Program: 63% new oak, 37% used oak
67% French oak, 17% American oak, 16% Hungarian oak
Harvest Date(s): September 12 through October 10, 2001
Finished Alcohol: 13.9%
Total Production: 1750 12/750ml cases
Bottling Date: April 3-4, 2003
Release Date: August 28, 2003

