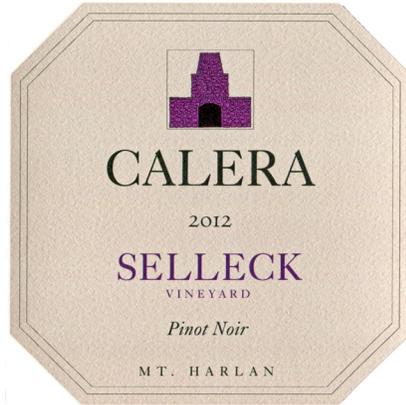


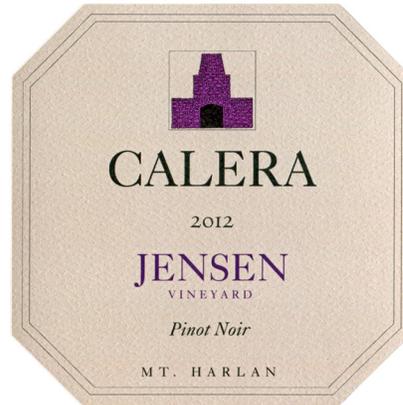
After internships at Dujac and Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Josh Jensen returned to his native California in search of vineyard land on limestone soils. Jensen found what he was looking for high atop Mount Harlan, a rugged, hillside property outside Hollister. In the mid-1970s Jensen began developing the land. The resulting vineyards, all of which lie on the same property, give birth to some of the most compelling California Pinots and Chardonnays readers will

come across. Given his Burgundian leanings, Jensen vinifies all of this Pinots with 100% whole clusters, with the exception of the de Villiers, which is usually rendered with 50% stems. The 2012 Pinots are fleshy, open and seductive, which is to say very much in the style of the year. Calera fans can also look forward to a complete retrospective of the Jensen Vineyard Pinot Noir, which I tasted all the way back to the inaugural 1978 vintage during a recent visit to the winery.

Calera's **2012 Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard** is virtually seamless on the palate, with deep layers of fruit that nearly bury the tannins. Dark red and purplish fruit, mint, lavender, sage and sweet spices. Nuanced and impeccably balanced throughout, the 2012 captures the sexiness of the vintage yet retains tons of aromatic nuance and finesse. The 2012 will be a fascinating wine to follow over the next decade-plus.



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POINTS

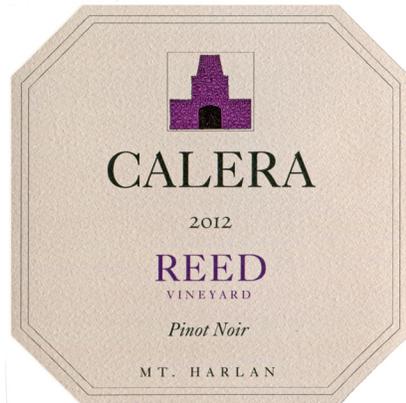


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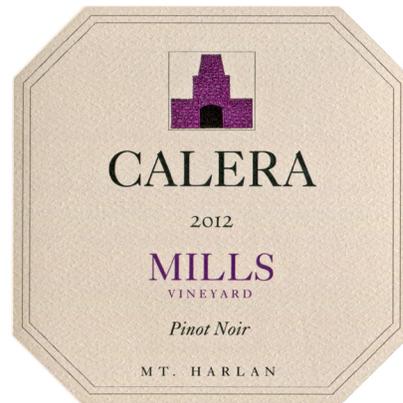
always be a relatively overt Pinot. There is more than enough tannin and structure underpinning the fruit to suggest the Jensen will drink well for another 10-15 years, perhaps longer. This is the most opulent of the Calera 2012s.

The **2012 Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard** hits the palate with a rush of fruit. Intense, layered and voluptuous in the glass, the 2012 boasts gorgeous mid-palate depth and pliancy. Raspberry jam and bluish-hued fruit come forth in abundance. The Jensen is bold, racy and pungent today. Of course, much of that forward personality will soften with age as the aromatics develop, but I expect the Jensen will

The most weightless and ethereal wine in this lineup, the **2012 Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard** speaks above all else to finesse. Rose petal, sweet red berries, orange peel, mint and spices gradually open up in a feminine Pinot long on class. Deceptively medium in body, the 2012 is likely to flesh out a bit more in bottle, although I imagine it will always remain classically restrained in style.



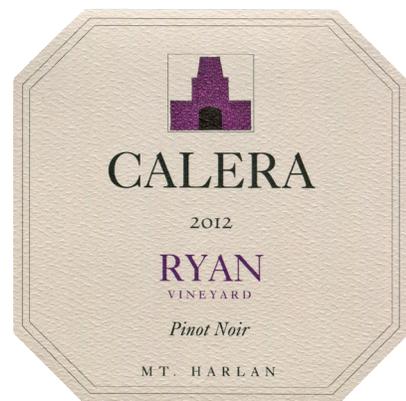
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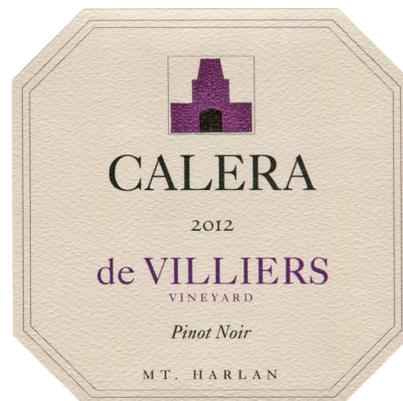
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POINTS

Crushed rose petal, sweet red berries, spices and anise lift from the glass in the **2012 Pinot Noir Mills Vineyard**. Here the flavors are distinctly more red fruit leaning. Sweet, silky tannins wrap around the super-expressive, pliant finish. In 2012 the Mills presents a lovely combination of expressive aromatics, pliant fruit to match its open-knit personality. The Mills emerges from a parcel of own-rooted vines in Calera's Mount Harlan property.

The **2012 Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard** is one of the more laid-back Pinots in this range, with expressive aromatics pushed forward, while the fruit lies more in the background. Sage, mint, lavender and violet overtones grace the mid-weight, subtle finish. Ryan is the highest elevation parcel on the estate's ranch.



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POINTS



92
POINTS

The **2012 Pinot Noir de Villiers Vineyard** is beautifully focused and precise. Dark blue and black stone fruits, cloves, mint and lavender are all pushed forward in a supple, juicy Pinot built on a real sense of immediacy. As always, the de Villiers is the most open-knit of the Calera Pinots. The 2012 was done with 50% whole clusters and remains the only wine in the Calera range that is not fermented with 100% stems.