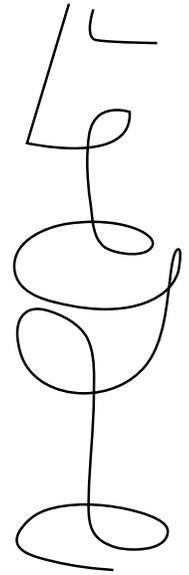
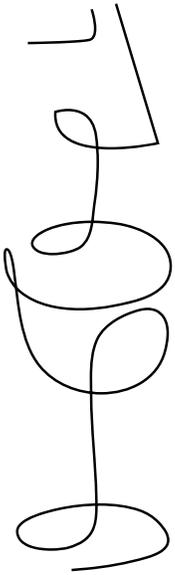


Judgement of Kingston 2019 Tasting Notes



*"It is the wine that leads me on,
the wild wine
that sets the wisest man to sing
at the top of his lungs,
laugh like a fool – it drives the
man to dancing... it even
tempts him to blurt out stories
better never told."*

— Homer, *The Odyssey*

Cuvee Peter F Huff 2016 Sparking Wine, Huff Estates, \$40 Canadian National Wine Awards Bronze Medal Winner

Cuvee Peter F Huff, named for the son of owner Lanny Huff, was the first traditional method wine made in Prince Edward County, vintage 2004. It remains a 100% chardonnay, aged on its lees. The 2016 vintage was warmer than many and there is a nice sense of peachy ripeness and lemon to the fruit, along with the classic brioche, roasted almond of traditional method sparkler aged on its lees. But it is still riven with tart, stony County acidity that cuts through the 9gms/RS dosage. Very firm on the palate, with excellent length – David Lawrason, **91**

The Peter Huff is blessed with the County acidity and thankfully so to counteract in balance the healthy dosage of 9.5 g/L of residual sugar. The equalizing effect is anti-neutralizing meaning it beats away any fatty or weighty character that may want to bring things down. As such there is no compromise to intensity or excitement but rather the love for a Blanc de Blanc that elicits sensation through catalytic impression. It's also a case of autolytic transference, into luminescence with a gingery finish so perfect for charcuterie and even a slice of pizza. Yes and yes. Drink 2019-2022 – Michael Godel, **91**

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1. Villa Maria Reserve Pinot Noir, Marlborough, 2017, \$49.99, 91 (Robert Parker, Wine Advocate)

Winemaker's notes: Our Marlborough Reserve Pinot Noir 2017 showcases bright floral aromas as well as fresh black cherries and red raspberries. On the palate is an inviting mixture of dark chocolate and juicy summer berries with hints of fresh portabella mushrooms. This complex wine shows both purity and richness with chalky dense tannins and a gentle acidity to complete the wine.

This is a very graceful, 'complete' red. Deep ruby, with a fragrant, complex bouquet, it is weighty, sweet-fruited and supple, with deep cherry, plum, spice and nut flavours, earthy, savoury notes adding complexity and a long, finely textured finish. Already delicious, it should break into full stride 2020+ / Ripe and attractive nose with dark red berry fruits and spice. Delightfully fresh and crisp with fruit and savoury flavours/ An energetic and aromatically generous wine that delivers layers of cherries, berries, red florals and white pepper in a refined style that has silky ripe tannins and a seamless structure. / A strong overlay of toasty oak spice here, with red and black cherries below. The palate has a very smooth, ripe-cherry core. Spiced strawberries, too. Neat, easy balance, **92** (James Suckling)/ It has been a joy to observe the improvements to pinot noir from Marlborough over the last ten years or more. This one has been a consistent leader. It is a delicious well-priced vibrant pinot. It has a beautiful nose of raspberry cherry fruit with earthy mushroom and cranberry jelly complexity and just a hint of oak. It is midweight on the palate with the ripe bright cherry fruit well balanced by lively acidity and gentle tannin. Very good length with the fruit persisting well (**90**, Steve Thurlow, winealign.com)

2. Grange of Prince Edward ‘Estate Grown’ Pinot Noir 2016, \$30

A juicy, mouth-watering PEC Pinot Noir with aromas of sour cherry and cranberry. Medium-bodied and supple – Natalie Maclean, **88**

Pale garnet colour with a bright fresh bouquet. Ripe red fruits are abundant. Raspberries and strawberries with flowing fragrant florals. Flavourful - with cherries, rhubarb herbal touches and delicate earthiness. Medium plus mouth-watering acidity with a light body and tannins. Light and lively. – Andrea Shapiro, **90**

3. Thornbury Pinot Noir, Central Otago, 2017, \$27.95

Winemaker’s notes: The 2017 Thornbury Pinot Noir is a beautifully perfumed, rich and full coloured wine, with hints of spice and dark cherry fruit notes. The palate is soft and juicy with a velvety texture. (Release Date at LCBO Vintages: 9 November 2019)

Moderately deep, fleshy pinot noir in an appealing ‘fruit bomb’ style that screams out Central Otago. Plum, dark cherry and spicy oak flavours. A delicious wine that’s a bargain at this price/Aromas of lively red-berry fruits announce this delicious wine. The palate is generous and savoury yet within an underlying chalkiness that moderates the tannins. Texture and palate length are always the key to quality with pinot noir and this wine delivers every time.

4. Greystone Omihi Pinot Noir, Waipara Valley, North Canterbury, 2016, \$40

A nose of Black Doris plums and baking spices shine alongside a bright palate of dark berry fruits, earthy truffles. The soft dry tannins are beautifully balanced with a long, flavourful finish. **92** (Robert Parker) and **94** (Sam Kim, *Wine Orbit*)

5. Stanners Vineyard 2017 Pinot Noir “The Narrow Rows” - \$45

Winemaker’s notes: We feel “The Narrow Rows” Pinot Noir exhibits the best characteristics of our vineyard – with intense cranberry and cherry flavours, good minerality, finely balanced acidity and soft tannins giving a long and memorable finish. Only 353 cases produced with grapes chosen from the narrowest rows and oldest vines of our vineyard (planted in 2005) along with a small selection from other blocks, then aged in French oak barrels for 12 months.

6. Keint-He Little Creek Pinot Noir, 2016, Benway Block, \$55

Winemaker’s notes: This wine was composed of a three-barrel blend. It was fermented with wild yeast and underwent spontaneous malolactic fermentation. The wine remained on skins for 34 days and was barrel aged in 33% new French oak for 20 months, and then bottled with no fining or filtration. The resulting wine has beautiful ripe berry and uplifting floral notes. Bold tannins make for a grippy palate, with endless gamey meat pairing options. Plenty of aging potential so don’t be afraid to lay it down for a while.

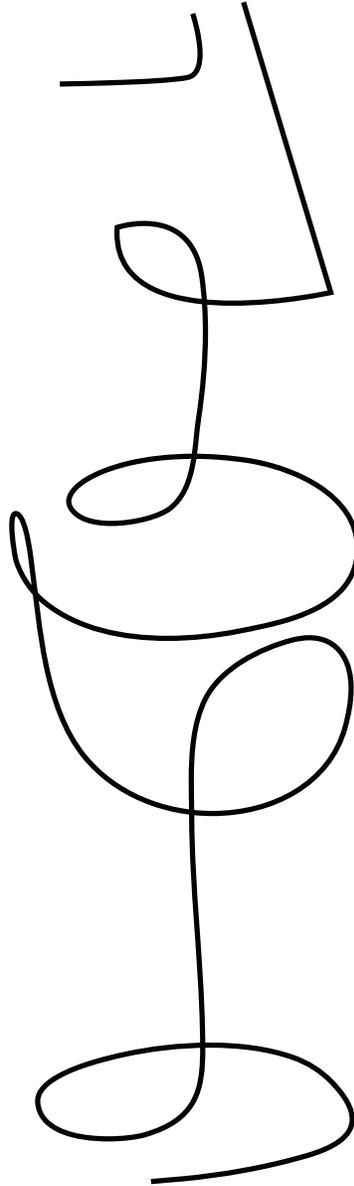
- From one of the oldest pinot plantings in PEC along Benway Road, this is a lovely, compact, elegant and very Burgundian pinot with classic ripe red cherry nicely inlaid with toast, cedar. Tannins are firm but refined and dusty. The focus and length are excellent. It is unfinned and unfiltered. Best 2019 to 2023 – David Lawrason, **93**

- The tenets of lithe and grace meet up at a carrefour where honesty and charming loiter, gather and exchange ideas. History, science, economics and their future. They are all inter-connected parts of this special pinot noir, or more specifically Ontario’s County-Keint-He-Little Creek Vineyard-Benway Block. Benway is the morrow, Little Creek the bookkeeper, Bryan Rogers and Lee Baker the academicians and PEC the narrative. The oldest local pinot noir planting is everything and depending on which way you are travelling, also nothing at all. “This is the essence of the dialectic. You see, if you understand economics, you can actually write down what will happen in the future, with as much condense as you write down the history of the past. Because it’s science.” Top quality body politic sweetness of fruit melts effortlessly and so efficiently into the capitalism of structured power. It’s all so obvious. Hail, Benway! Drink 2019-2027 – Michael Godel, **93**

Blind Tasting of Chardonnays

JUDGEMENT OF KINGSTON 2020

Chardonnays of Niagara versus some of The County's best!



Residence Inn by Marriott (Water's Edge)
7 November 2020
3 pm - 6:30 pm

Proceeds from the JoK silent auction
support local and regional charities

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judgementofkingston.ca

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