



## 2012 MAISON L'ENVOYÉ TWO MESSENGERS PINOT NOIR

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**CONSULTING  
WINEMAKER:**

Louis-Michel Liger-Belair

**REGION:**

Willamette Valley, Oregon

**VARIETALS:**

Pinot Noir (Clones: Pommard/Dijon 114/115/777)

**MATURATION:**

10 months in 100% French oak (20% new)

**ANALYSIS:**

13.6% alc/vol | TA: 5.5 g/L | pH: 3.7



**REGION:**

While Pinotphiles have keenly monitored Oregon's evolution for decades, it seems the greater wine world has just awakened to regard its temperate climate and ancient soils as a hotbed for one finicky variety. Sheltered from inclement weather by the western Coastal Range and the eastern Cascade Range, Willamette Valley blesses the vines calling it home with gentle conditions, imbuing complex flavors and spirited acidity from a long growing season. Its namesake, the Willamette River, crisscrosses an ancient volcanic and sedimentary seabed overlaid with gravel, silt, and rock. Stewarded by family vigneron with an intimate knowledge of their land, and a new generation of eager winemakers, many are tipping their hats to Burgundy's new-world counterpart.

**WINEMAKING:**

100% destemmed and fermented in two and five-ton stainless steel tanks. The grapes were allowed to "infuse" as whole berries at a moderate temperature, in an oxygen rich environment until pressed. Aged in 100% French oak, 20% new.

**TASTING NOTES:**

Lifted red florals dance with notes of five spice on the nose. On the palate, open-weaved tannins and vibrant acidity coil around ripe dark cherries and seductive forest floor tones. Sometimes the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:**

92 pts - Wine Spectator, 91 pts - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

**ABOUT MAISON L'ENVOYÉ:**

Originating in Burgundy, Maison L'Envoyé crafts this region's wine trinity: Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Gamay Noir. Yet from this tenor of focus and commitment a global fellowship emerged, with terroir-driven Pinot Noir as the linchpin. Driven by the elusive hunt for the world's finest Pinot Noir sites, Maison L'Envoyé traverses the globe, presenting the many veils of regionality and winemaking style. With winemaking footprints in Burgundy, Willamette Valley and Tasmania, Maison L'Envoyé champions many unsung growers who have farmed their vineyards for decades and generations, some mere feet away from more illustriously cited neighbors. Maison L'Envoyé has been a standout since launching in 2014 including Wine & Spirits naming it a 'Winery To Watch' in 2015.

