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### 2005 Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, Estate

Looks can be deceiving! What I mean by this is that this wine like all of our wines is unfiltered and unfinned. As a result of one less racking, we ended up with more sediment in our 2005 vintage than we have in the past. This is also perhaps one of our best Chardonnay's, very rich and Burgundian in style with an abundance of apples and pears on the nose along with a rich mouth feel. There is nothing wrong with the sediment, however if you would prefer your wine to be as clear as possible, store upright for a few weeks after receiving it, and then decant prior to serving.

### 2005 Viognier, Russian River Valley

Wow is all I can say about this wine. Our first Rhone varietal and one of my all time favorite white varietals, this wine is packed with spice and fruit. If you want to re-order this wine, please let us know as soon as possible – only 26 cases were produced...

### 2005 Pinot Noir, Los Carneros, Sonoma County

Our biggest challenge in 2005 was to extract color during the fermentation of this Pinot Noir. We don't add fancy enzymes like some Pinot producers; we work with what we have been given by the sun gods! Light bodied and earthy, with mellow flavors of black cherry, earth and tobacco; this wine continues to improve with bottle age. I predict that like our first release of this wine in 2002, it will be showing best in another 12 months. Our Pinot Noir program continues to be in high demand. My advice is to drink this wine in a few weeks to a month and decide if you want to reorder so that you can lay down a few. My friends who have already had this wine are beating down my door to buy some – you decide...

### 2005 Syrah, Dry Creek Valley

One of my wishes as a winemaker came true with the release of this wine, our first Syrah! I have always loved the food friendly wines of the Northern Rhone region of France. In the case, I co-fermented about 3% Viognier with the Syrah to provide some additional flavors and complexity. Medium to full bodied, this wine exhibits a nose of blackberry, tea and tobacco, followed by a rich mouthful of chocolate and coffee flavors. I also like to describe this wine as "meaty" and will hold up very nicely with food.

### 2005 Zinfandel, Alexander Valley

This is definitely one of our crowd pleasers! Like the 2003 vintage, this wine is very showy with rich and intense flavors and raspberry & coffee. Here's another example of wines that show really nicely out of the gate, but that would also improve and become more complex with age. My favorite combination is to serve this with BBQ pulled pork, although one of my friends disagrees; he likes this zinfandel with braised duck breast.

### 2005 Zinfandel, Russian River Valley, Estate Old Vines

If you liked the 2004 vintage, you won't be disappointed with the 2005! The good news is that we were able to produce a 2nd barrel of this vintage because Mother Nature was in our favor. Medium to full bodied, layered with concentrated flavors of raspberry, cranberry, and black cherry along with spice notes of cardamom, clove, bay and white pepper. A totally different style than our AV – this wine can hold it's own with a good Cabernet Sauvignon.

