



Garagiste

WINE CLUB

[gar-uh-zheest'] noun - A French term used to describe independent, artisan winemakers crafting small batches of wine in garage-type settings and not yet discovered by the mainstream.

Miroballi Wines

Owner/Winemaker: Michael Miroballi

Location: Santa Barbara County, California

Miroballi Wines is the creation of famed Margerum Wine Company winemaker, Michael Miroballi. After years of working with the top vineyards in the Santa Barbara County winegrowing region, Michael decided to make small lots from some of his favorite sites with varietal integrity and a garagiste mentality in a professional winery. Michael started Miroballi Wines in 2010 and has maintained his terroir-driven style and 'old school cool' mentality ever since.

Michael Miroballi's introduction to wine came in the form of an apricot slice. In the rich tradition of his Italian family, Michael's grandmother always put one slice in the house jug wine, and that slice was the prize of the table. Michael grew up in the Santa Ynez Valley surrounded by vineyards, and the emergence of the local wine industry, and even helped his aunt for a number of years cultivate a small five acre vineyard of Syrah and Viognier in Los Olivos. Wine and the earth were passions and a way of life that was instilled in him from a very early age.

Following his curiosity of the earth and his love for the outdoors, Michael pursued a degree in Geology from Sacramento State University. Upon returning home to the Santa Ynez Valley, he was reminded how important his family and friends were in his life, and he was determined to start a career connected to the earth near his beloved home. Michael's first harvest with Margerum Wine Company was 2009 when he was hired on as a harvest intern. With hard work, patience, and a commitment to excellence, he climbed the ranks and became the head winemaker at Margerum - a position he still holds to this day.

Over the years, Michael was exposed to several prestigious vineyards in Santa Barbara County - ones that left a mark on him, that he knew produced excellent site-driven wines with undeniable character. He eventually decided to start making small lots of his own wines on the side and thus was the beginning of Miroballi Wines. Michael currently makes a Grenache Blanc from Camp 4 Vineyard in the Santa Ynez Valley, a Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from Hilliard Bruce Vineyard in Sta. Rita Hills, and a second Pinot Noir from La Encantada Vineyard, also in Sta. Rita Hills. All of his wines are made in extremely limited quantities and he produces just 450 cases total each year.

We are happy to introduce this under-the-radar producer to our Garagiste Wine Club members. Enjoy!

Miroballi 2014 Pinot Noir

116 cases produced

Hilliard Bruce Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County, California

Miroballi's 2014 Hilliard Bruce Vineyard Pinot Noir comes from one of the most prestigious vineyard sites in Sta. Rita Hills. This Pinot Noir is silky, with subtle red fruit and bright flavors in the mouth, with great depth and classic Old World Burgundian aromatics and spice. Soft, smooth tannins support the earthy, long finish. This wine is a delicious complement to duck, salmon, and ahi tuna. Aged 10 months in oak. Enjoy!



Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$39.00 / bottle

To order, visit the Wine Store at www.GoldMedalWineClub.com or call **1-800-266-8888**

*2 bottle minimum per wine, per order. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included. Call for details.

