



Substance

Pinot Gris

Dear Friends,

There's not much to say here – this is the new small production release from Substance, a winery that has soared in popularity since last fall. To jog your memory, this is the portfolio of stark black labels and periodic table graphics that is unusual to say the least.

(see their web site for more information: www.winesofsubstance.com)

With a mantra of incredible price/value and dedication to a seamless old world/new world style this winery has the consumer at heart but they are still shooting for the moon (from a quality standpoint). Here you will not find oak chips or additives – instead you will find pure varietal fruit handled with a serious and tender care not typically reserved for a wine in this domestic price range.

The 2008 Pinot Gris is a limited offering from the winery and it is another bargain gem in the series – it is a downright beautiful effort. A typical domestic wine? I don't think so. This is Gris with effusive melon and apricot on the nose and fresh floral scents weaving their way across the white fruit spectrum. Rich but not oily, this wine has deft acidity that is akin to Alto Adige or the cooler, northern realm of Alsace near Strasbourg. The fresh acidity coupled with an enticing spice quality through the back-end of the palate make this enviable for the price and the genre. A top effort all around and one that is very easy to support.

Kudos once again to the wunderkind of Substance for showing the rest of the industry a blueprint for artistic and qualitative success with value as a theme but not as a centerpiece.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED as an excellent example that is reflective of site place, vintage and non-interventionist hand:

Thank you,

Jon Rimmerman
Garagiste
Seattle, WA

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1. a passionate winemaker who creates fine limited production wines(occasionally in his or her garage)
2. a selective, Seattle-based retail emporium dedicated to the wine artisan and consumer.