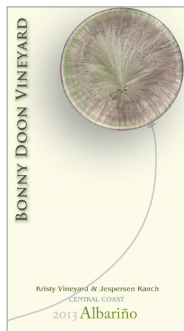


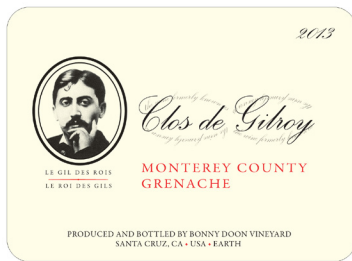
BY MICHAEL APSTEIN



## 2013 ALBARIÑO · Central Coast, California

93

Bonny Doon has captured the enchanting essence of Albariño—a bracing grapefruit rind bitterness and citrus zing balanced by ripeness without heaviness. A hint of creaminess adds an unusual—for Albariño—luxuriousness. It’s a masterful balance of ying and yang. *Jul 22, 2014*



## 2013 “CLOS DE GILROY” GRENACHE · Monterey County, California

91

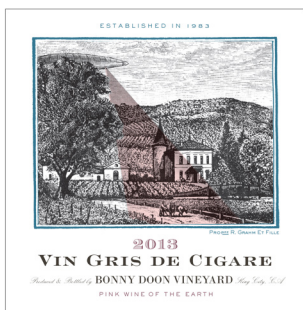
Grahm, proprietor of Bonny Doon, is a winemaker who sets his own course and follows it. Far before lower alcohol wines became the new mantra of California (let’s hope that’s not going to be a passing fad) Grahm was making well-proportioned flavorful wines. And he continues to do so as this 2013 Clos de Gilroy demonstrates. The flavors in this mid-weight wine sneak up on you and persist. It doesn’t hit you over the head with power, but rather seduces you with persistent spicy and fruity notes that change with each sip. A subtle bitterness in the finish adds to its allure. It would be perfect for drinking tonight with anything from a roast chicken to a hearty pasta dish. *May 13, 2014*



## 2012 SYRAH “LE POUSSEUR” · Central Coast, California

90

This is a ripe, full-bodied and wonderfully balanced expression of Syrah, focusing more of the black fruitiness of that variety rather than its peppery profile. Still, it’s not just fruit. Earthy nuances provide complexity. A glorious silky texture makes it easy to enjoy now with robust fare. *May 13, 2014*



## 2013 VIN GRIS DE CIGARE · Central Coast, California

88

Most rosé is an afterthought. Most of it results from a technique called saignée or bleeding, used to enhance red wine (once a tank of red grapes has been macerated briefly and the liquid has taken on a bit of color). The winemaker is focused on the red wine, not the rosé, and has selected and harvested grapes to make the best red wine possible. In the process of beefing up the red, a little rosé was made, not because the winemaker wanted to make rosé, but because he wanted to make a better red. In contrast, Bonny Doon, an innovative producer in so many ways, decides what style of rosé they want to make and then selects grapes in the vineyard and vinifies them in a way that will allow them to achieve their goal. The result is this delicately style rosé -- a delight to drink. Light pink in color, fresh and clean on the palate, it’s invigorating and not heavy. Try it with summery salads. *Aug 12, 2014*