

Awards & Accolades

# Picpoul

**2018** Wine Enthusiast: 90 Points - "Light aromas of Pink Lady apples, ripe limes and chilled river water show on the nose of this bottling of the increasingly popular white Rhône grape."

# Vin Gris de Cigare

2018 Vinous.com: 91 points, Josh Raynolds - "Finishes dry and taut, with resonating florality and persistent red berry and mineral notes. This wine's blend of depth and finesse is pretty impressive, especially in light of its price." Grapelive.com: 93 points - "Randall Grahm's pink wines are some of the best wines you can find anywhere and this vintage and version is damn near perfect and drinks with precision and pleasure crafted from a unique selection of grapes"

## Clos de Gilroy

2017 Vinous: 90 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Juicy and supple on the palate; a spine of acidity adds lift to sweet raspberry and cherry flavors. Deepens on the clinging red-fruit-driven finish which is shaped by smooth fine-grained tannins." Wine Enthusiast: 92 Points, Matt Kettmann - "...loads of crushed carnation, rose petal, cranberry and raspberry on the nose. There is a compelling freshness to the palate, with potpourri and lavender flavors meshing into a background of pomegranate and rosewater."

The New York Times: 20 Wines Under \$20: A Little More Money for a Lot More Wine

## Le Cigare Blanc

2015 <u>Vinous</u>: 92 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Dry and tightly focused on the palate where Meyer lemon and pear nectar flavors show very good clarity and a building mineral note. Closes energetic and impressively long leaving a note of bitter pear skin behind."

# Le Cigare Volant "Cuvée Oumuamua"

2018 Wine Enthusiast: Editor's Choice, 93, Matt Kettmann - "Randall Grahm's ever-evolving ideology shifted again for the new label and blend of this bottling, which includes 52% Grenache, 35% Cinsault and 13% Syrah. Aromas of plum, cracked pepper, crumpled carnations and dried mint lead into a bright, refreshing palate of hibiscus, anise and a curry-like spice."

#### 19th in Top 100 Enthusiast Wines for 2019.

<u>Vinous</u>: 91, Josh Raynolds - "Randall Grahm steered Bonny Doon's flagship wine in an elegant direction in 2018. It shows vibrant red berry, cherry and floral character, with herb and spice notes building with aeration. Polished and animated in character, the 2018 is graceful and remarkably flexible with a range of foods."

San Francisco Chronicle: Esther Mobley- "Bonny Doon Vineyard Le Cigare Volant 2018 (\$20, 13.5%) tastes like a modern California Grenache, light in weight, crunchy in flavor, with an ineffable sense of exuberance. It's got Red Vines candy tart cranberry, cinnamon and a delicious sense of the forest floor. Drink it now, throw it back."

The Underground Wineletter:: John Tilson- "Loaded with very pure red fruit flavors the wine is beautifully balanced and complex with just a tinge of cedar and a faint floral, foresty, spice nuance. It is light in the context of being very easy to drink and is also very elegant, harmonious, complex, and flavorful. In short, this Le Cigare Volant is irresistibly delicious and an absolute pleasure to drink. Bravo! The combination of flavor, finesse, balance, and complexity is really magical – Extraordinary."

# Le Cigare Volant

- 2015 <u>Wine Spectator</u>: 92, Tim Fish- "Precise and appealingly Old World in style, offering smoky raspberry, spice box and black olive flavors and a hint of leather, finishing with refined tannins. Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre and Cinsaut. Drink now through 2025. 2,400 cases made."
- 2013 <u>Vinous</u>: 90 Points, Josh Raynolds "The long smoky finish echoes the cherry and spice notes and is given shape by supple interwoven tannins. This wine is quite Old World in style and I suspect that readers who are used to polished modern wines might be taken aback here.

<u>Wine Enthusiast</u>: 93 Points, Matt Kettmann - "...subtle mulberry fruit on the nose, a spicy peppercorn kick and plenty of gamy meats. That funky meat quality, from raw to jerkied, is prominent and pure on the sip, surrounded by exotic plums and Middle Eastern spices."

<u>Wine Spectator</u>: 91 Points, Tim Fish - "Elegant and open-knit, with accents of game, licorice, raspberry and pepper that build richness toward polished tannins. Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre and Cinsault."

**2012** JamesSuckling.com: 91 Points - "Lots of dried berry as well as bramble berry and orange peel undertones. Medium to full body and a fresh finish."

<u>Vinous</u>: 92 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Juicy focused and smoky on the palate offering sweet red berry cherry and succulent herb flavors that deepen steadily on the back half. Supple tannins frame and add grip to a very long spice-laced finish that echoes the earth and floral notes."

## La Bulle-Moose de Cigare

2017 Wine Enthusiast: 90 Points, Matt Kettmann - "This bubbly pink blend is one of the better canned wines on the market, regardless of style...it shows rounded watermelon, nectarine and grapefruit-rind aromas on the nose. The palate is crisp with strawberry, melon, red-apple and tart plum-skin flavors."

Washington Post: Dave McIntyre - "Bubbles are bulles in French, and with mousse, for foam, we get a pun on 'Bulle Moose' in English. I love puns. And I love this wine."

<u>VinePair</u>: 10 Best Canned Wines of Summer 2018 - "Showing rich aromas of maraschino cherries, strawberries, and rose petals, as well as an attractive peach-pink hue, everything about La Bulle-Moose invites you to drink it...perfect for food pairing, too."

<u>Wine Spectator</u>: 86 Points, Augustus Weed: "La Bulle-Moose Rousse, a fresh and approachable blend of Grenache and Syrah from the Central Coast..."

#### Syrah "Le Pousseur"

**2013** Vinous: 91 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Opaque ruby. Spice- and smoke-accented dark berry and olive qualities on the perfumed nose. Bitter cherry and blackberry flavors are underscored by a suggestion of smoky minerality that adds energetic back-end cut."

Wine & Spirits: 90 Points - Year's Best Syrah & Grenache

<u>JamesSuckling.com</u>: 92 Points - "Tight and structured with green peppercorns, dried flowers and dark fruits that follow through to a medium to full body, firm tannins and a fresh finish."

#### Syrah, Bien Nacido Vineyard, "X-Block"

2014 Vinous: 94 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Concentrated but lively and well-delineated on the palate offering energetic blackberry bitter cherry and violet pastille flavors underscored by a vein of juicy acidity." Wine Enthusiast: 95 Points, Matt Kettmann - Editor's Choice - "This is a tremendous example of a cool-climate Syrah, enhanced by 12% Viognier, with cracked black peppercorn, gamy lamb meat, tarragon, rosemary, soy sauce, mint and black currant all present on the nose. The pepper-crusted meat flavor with blackberry jam shows strongly on the sip, finishing with hints of butterscotch and vanilla."

- 2013 Vinous: 93 Points, Josh Raynolds "Sharply focused black and blue fruit and floral pastille flavors show very good delineation and a smoky mineral element adds energetic lift and cut." Wine & Spirits: 90 Points - Year's Best Syrah & Grenache, Best Buy JamesSuckling.com: 93 Points - "This is a real syrah with dried meat, walnut, dark fruit and black pepper character. Medium body, round and soft tannins and a flavorful finish. Fantastic."
- **2012** Wine Enthusiast: 91 Points, Matt Kettmann "Pressed olallieberry, menthol and a forest floor tartness on the nose...The palate is quite tight, with espresso, underripe elderberry and plum-skin flavors, but the incredible energy and slight gamy character keeps it quite intriguing."
- 2011 <u>Wine Enthusiast</u>: 94 Points Buyer's Guide, Editors' Choice, Matt Kettmann: "Aromas of gravel, just-crushed peppercorns and blueberries lead into a lighter, airy, mineral-driven palate of black rocks, black pepper and boysenberry fruit. It's one of the better cool-climate Syrahs around right now."
- 2009 Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar: 92 points "Wild, intensely perfumed... Spicy and youthfully fruity..."

## Viognier, "Vin de Glacière"

2017 Wine Enthusiast: 90 Points - "...shows candied red apple, dried honeydew and a hint of tuberose on the nose. The palate is viscous but balanced by zesty acidity that penetrates deep into the finish, offering flavors of lime spritz and apple syrup."

<u>Vinous</u>: 92 Points, Josh Raynolds - "Transparent gold. Apricot nectar and charred pineapple aromas, along with suave floral, candied ginger and floral notes. Sappy, sweet and concentrated yet surprisingly lithe on the palate, offering intense tropical and pit fruit flavors firmed by a late suggestion of bitter citrus pith."