

# BIRICHINO



Lilo Vineyard, Santa Cruz Mountains and Monterey Bay

## 2012 LILO PINOT NOIR

The Lilo Vineyard, on a south-facing hillside in the Santa Cruz Mountains, is a startlingly magical spot. Its incline describes a steep gradient rising 200' from the bottom to the top of its 4.5 acres. The severity of the slope - and the dynamic tension one feels there- contrasted against the serene beauty of Monterey Bay laid bare below, suggest a compelling template for the wine itself.

Happily, no application of the Dark Arts - winemaking or otherwise- was required in pursuit of these aims. Any alchemy performed is through the terrestrial agency of sandstone, schist, and shale. We have nonetheless chosen to grace our label with a 16th century woodcut of a surfing sorcerer before a strikingly familiar coastline that eerily conjures up our own, and pays tribute to Alex's outspoken ancestor, Susanna North Martin, accused of witchcraft and executed in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692. After a little more than a year in old French barrels, we bottled unfiltered on St Viviana's Day, 2013.

TA: 5.5 g/l, pH 3.62, Alc. 13.0%

-Alex and John

**Release Date:** Spring 2014  
**Composition:** Pinot Noir 100%  
**Appellation:** Santa Cruz Mountains  
**Case Production:** 298cs  
**Press:**

**2011:** *Tanzer's IWC Nov/Dec 2013*

"Bright red. Vibrant, mineral-laced red berry, blood orange and rose pastille aromas show excellent clarity and focus. Energetic raspberry and orange pith flavors put on weight with air and take a darker, deeper turn to bitter cherry. Silky tannins come on late and provide grip for the long, spice- and floral- accented finish. This bright, incisive pinot clocks in at 12.5% alcohol. **92 points.**" -Josh Raynolds

**2011:** *Wine Enthusiast Aug 2013*  
**90 points** -Steve Heimoff