2019 EnRoute Chardonnay
Russian River Valley, “Brumaire”

**Technical Notes**

*Appellation:* Russian River Valley

*Varietal:* 100% Chardonnay

*Harvest Dates:* October 14, 2019

*Fermentation:* 100% barrel fermentation

*Aging:* 10 months sur lie in French oak barrels (30% new, 15% Puncheon, 55% neutral)

*Cases Produced:* 2400

*Release Date:* Fall 2020

*First Vintage:* 2012

*Winemaker:* Michael Accurso

*Director of Winemaking:* Andrew Delos

**Vineyard Description**

EnRoute Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, “Brumaire” is named for the fog that gently envelops the vineyards in Russian River Valley, creating the perfect climate to nurture our fruit to ideal ripeness. A discrete group of select clones and growing areas combine to produce the “Brumaire” blend. The Wente clone benefits from the warmth of the northernmost vineyard along Westside Road and contributes an oily texture and tropical notes. The Rued clone, grown in the cool climate of Green Valley, brings beautiful perfume and floral notes to the wine. The Heritage clone provides notes of pear and citrus from a vineyard cultivated in the Goldridge sandy loam along Vine Hill Road in Sebastopol.

**Harvest Notes**

A long, wet winter and late spring rains filled our reservoirs and promoted healthy canopy growth. Budbreak occurred in early April, followed by a long, moderate summer and fall. In fact, summer was exceptional in its consistency and allowed clusters to ripen at their ideal pace – long and slow. It also allowed our team to be thoughtful and precise with our picking dates. Without the threat of alarming weather, we waited for each block to reach pick-perfect maturity before harvesting all of our Chardonnay on October 14.

**Sensory Evaluation**

With its fragrant Meyer lemon and vanilla perfume, citrus zest notes on entry and gushing fruit, the 2019 vintage balances sophisticated opulence with refreshing minerality. Layers of citrus and stone fruit flavors offer palate-filling flavor and texture while lively acidity brightens the palate. Cool mineral notes chime in on a finish that is long and lifted.