

ON THE HOME FRONT 2024

DIANA'S & NICLAIRE — A CELEBRATION OF FAMILY

By Rob Jensen

Our JRS “reserve” wines have always been a blend of our very best barrels to create a Chardonnay, named after winery matriarch, Diana, and a Pinot Noir, named for our children, Nick and Claire. As (recovering) engineers, Diana and I have always embraced experimentation with how to make our wines better. One of our first experiments was from the 1995 vintage where we blended a little Monterey Chardonnay with some Santa Barbara Chardonnay resulting in our first “aha” Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup moment! Yes, the blend of the two, just like chocolate and peanut butter, was better than either of the original wines by themselves. Thus was born what eventually became Diana’s Chardonnay!

The 2022 vintage continues a streak of superb bottlings of Diana’s and Niclaire. As always, we make our barrel selections and final blends to create the wines we most want to share on our Jensen family table. At the same time, it is also fun to receive high praise from the professional wine press. Our first reviews of the 2022 vintage are from former Wine Spectator editor, James Suckling, where he singled out the 2022 Diana’s Chardonnay as “one of the best Chardonnays in the state” giving both Diana’s and Niclaire 94-point reviews.

As for the 2022 Diana’s and Niclaire, here are some highlights from my pre-bottling assemblage tasting notes:

2022 Diana’s – “Huge Flavors, Long Finish. Definitely the winner!”

2022 Niclaire – “Wow, long finish, super young, but amazing, can these (samples) keep getting better?? Yes, they can!”

It is also hard to believe that we have been doing these reserve blends, starting with Chardonnay, since 1995! Not long after our first Niclaire Pinot Noir from the 1997 vintage was released in 1999, Diana and I stumbled upon a fountain in a Carmel-by-the-Sea gallery. The fountain consisted of two bronze statues, one of a seven-year-old boy playfully pouring a bucket of water on his four-year-old sister’s head. Ironically, when we found this fountain, Nick was seven and Claire was four. We,



The Jensen Family:
Nick, Claire, Diana and Rob



of course, had to have it! That fountain has been the mainstay of our home’s backyard for more than 24 years.

With time, not everything holds up well. This winter we noticed the fountain’s once lustrous patina had faded and been tarnished with two decades of mineral deposits from the daily flowing of the water. We found a foundry in Berkeley, who specializes in restoring tarnished bronze art works. This spring we brought in our old and tired Niclaire fountain to be restored. After a few weeks of TLC, including sand blasting, the foundry worked a miracle and restored the fountain to its original glory! The best part of the story: the managing partner and CEO of the foundry told us that he grew up in Los Gatos and took his now wife on their first date to Testarossa Winery! You can’t make up stories like this!

The kids continue to do great. Nick and his wife Erin are remodeling their 1950s Napa ranch home with help from the family, and dogs. Diana has taken over as CFO at Testarossa. Consequently, she gets to work more closely with Claire, who works as staff accountant, every day as we continue to distance ourselves from the pandemic. Claire loves living in Mill Valley with her boyfriend Josh and her dog Zero. Me, well, I still enjoy riding my road and mountain bikes, gardening, and hanging out with our three labs – Rusty (14), Champ (3) and Sugar (3).

From our family, and the entire Testarossa team, we thank you for sharing your passion with us and all the other members of the Jensen Reserve Society! As we love to say, “drink all you want, we’ll make more!”

Rob, Diana, Nick & Erin, and Claire & Josh

Diana’s

2016 95 POINTS, ANTHONY DIAS BLUE

Golden color; smooth and rich, juicy and elegant; toasty, ripe and lovely; balanced and racy, subtle and long.

2017 95 POINTS, CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE

TOP 10 WINES Fruity, beautifully proportioned and decked out with especially lovely oak, and all of its many parts combine in an uncommonly seamless whole. From its complexity and richness to its impeccable balance, will age gracefully for years.

2018 95 POINTS, CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE

WHITE WINE OF THE YEAR Year in and year out, Testarossa’s Diana’s Chardonnay has proven to be among the cream of the crop and gets the nod as our favorite Chardonnay of the year.

2019 95 POINTS, CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE

TOP 10 WINES As genuinely sophisticated as it is so wonderfully rich, from its balance and persistence to its marvelous layering and compelling complexity, it is a wine that collectors of the state’s very finest Chardonnays will not want to miss. Bravo... once again!

2020 95 POINTS, CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE

A remarkable wine that is far more than a sum of its parts. The most compellingly complex and polished of them all.

2021 96 POINTS, LISA PERROTTI-BROWN, MW

The nose erupts with powerful notes of apricots, pineapple, and guava. The palate delivers impactful tropical and stone fruit layers finishing long and creamy.

2022 94 POINTS, JAMES SUCKLING

One of the best chardonnays in the state... expansive and creamy on the palate, with (a) suave texture.



Niclaire

2016 95 POINTS, ANTHONY DIAS BLUE

Bright ruby color; soft plum and berry nose; smooth, lush texture; ripe cherry and berry fruit, meaty and rich with balance and depth; complex and long.

2017 95 POINTS, CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE

TOP 10 WINES Impeccably crafted wine that shows an uncanny union of power and grace. It hits all the right marks from focus and feel to its amazing finishing length.

2018 95 POINTS, ANTHONY DIAS BLUE

Deep ruby color; juicy cherry with racy acidity and excellent structure; silky and crisp with tart cherry and tangy fruit; long and stylish.

2019 95 POINTS, ANTONIO GALLONI’S VINOUS

Expressive, highly perfumed nose. Silky, sweet and energetic on the palate, offering spice-laced cherry-cola, Chambord and floral pastille flavors and a suave floral nuance. In a powerful yet elegant style, showing impressive energy and smooth, rounded tannins on the strikingly long, floral and spice-driven finish.

2020 96 POINTS, PINOTFILE

Flawless, with a very sleek mouthfeel and spot-on integration. This is the winemaker’s best effort and it shows.

2021 96 POINTS, ANTONIO GALLONI & JAMES SUCKLING

Sleek and polished to the core... impressive. Succulent black cherry, dried herbs, lavender, menthol, spice and mocha. The 2021 Niclaire is undeniably beautiful. AG

2022 94 POINTS, JAMES SUCKLING

Great concentration, balanced and appetizing. Black cherries, strawberries, cloves and cinnamon dominate the palate.



2022

Niclaire

Very dark red hue. Intense aromas of ripe cherry pie, sage, anise, raspberry jam, orange, and boysenberry. Once on the palate, these characteristics crescendo into a lush, velvety mouthfeel. With modest acidity, this blend of the best of the best Pinot Noir barrels offers a supple and persistent finish. Enjoy now through 2036.



2022 NICLAIRE PINOT NOIR

BARREL	VINEYARD (CLONE)	COOPER	TYPE
22051	Brosseau (4)	Billon	SE TG Light & Long Toast 3-y
21382	Fogstone (667)	Seguin Moreau	IB Sel Medium Long Toast 3-y
22293	Fogstone (667)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 2-y
22259	Fogstone (667)	François Frères	NG Medium Toast 3-y
22436	Fogstone (667)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 2-y
22133	Fogstone (122)	Remond	T Medium Toast Long 2-y
21250	Fogstone (122)	François Frères	VSG Medium Plus Toast
21251	Garys' (Pisoni)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 3-y
22350	Garys' (Pisoni)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 3-y
22269	La Rinconada (4)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 2-y
22364	La Rinconada (4)	François Frères	VTG Medium + Toast 2-y
22243	Pisoni (Pisoni)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 3-y
22206	Rancho La Viña (115)	Mercuray	CS Light and Fruity toast 2-y
22472	Rincon (2A)	Seguin Moreau	PG MLO Toast 3-y
22410	Rosella's (667)	Seguin Moreau	IB Sel Medium Long Toast 2-y
22125	Rosemary's (667)	Remond	AM Toast Long 3-y
22134	Sanford & Benedict (AS-1)	Remond	T Medium Toast Long 2-y
20267	Soberanes (Pisoni)	Billon	Citeaux Medium Toast 3-y
22148	Soberanes (Pisoni)	Mercuray	CS Light and Fruity toast 2-y
22461	Soberanes (Pisoni)	Seguin Moreau	PG Medium Long Toast 3-y
22433	Tondré Grapefield (777)	François Frères	VTG Medium Toast 3-y
22082	Tondré Grapefield (777)	Remond	AM Toast Long 3-y

22 BARRELS, 82% NEW FRENCH OAK, BOTTLED ON FEBRUARY 28, 2024

2022 DIANA'S CHARDONNAY

Barrel	Vineyard (Clone)	Cooper	Type
22119	Brosseau (Wente)	Remond	Vosges Medium Toast Long 3-y
22264	Fogstone (15)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 2-y
17322	Fogstone (76)	Bel Air	Elegance Medium Toast Long 2-y
21090	Fogstone (76)	Mercuray	SN Light and Long 2-y
14290	Fogstone (76)	Remond	Vosges Medium Toast Long 3-y
19395	Fogstone (76)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 2-y
22055	La Rinconada (Wente)	Billon	SE TG Light & Long Toast 3-y
22258	La Rinconada (Wente)	François Frères	VSG Medium Toast 3-y
22284	Rincon (4)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 3-y
22281	Rosemary's (96)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 3-y
22142	Sanford & Benedict (Wente)	Remond	Vosges Medium Toast Long 3-y
21300	Soberanes (Wente)	Billon	SE TG Light & Long Toast 3-y
22311	Tondre (76)	François Frères	TG Medium Toast 4-y
20152	Tondre (76)	François Frères	TG Medium Plus 2-y

14 BARRELS, 57% NEW FRENCH OAK, BOTTLED ON FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Tight Grain (TG), Very Special Grain (VSG), Very Tight Grain (VTG), Citeaux Forest (CF), Allier Forest (AF), Vosges Forest (VF), Icone Blanc (IB), Center of France (CoF), Allier Medium (AM), Tronçais (Tr), Premium Medium (PM), Jupilles Grain (JG), Select Extra (SE), Noble Grain (NG), Tronçais (T), Craie Selection (CS), Premium Grain (PG), Selection (Sel), Selection Nicolas (SN)

Diana's

Straw hue. Abundant scents of butterscotch, ripe apple pie, fig, kiwi, and grapefruit leap out of the glass. With some time, secondary notes of coconut, passionfruit, nectarine, and papaya round out the aroma profile. Upon taste, these qualities persist and intensify, leading towards a vibrant texture. With lively acidity, this blend of the best of the best Chardonnay barrels offers a bright, youthful, and rich finish. Enjoy now through 2035.



THANK YOU FOR BEING MEMBERS OF OUR MOST ELITE CLUB AT TESTAROSSA



JENSEN RESERVE SOCIETY

Our utmost thanks to you, members of the Jensen Reserve Society, for your continued loyalty and patronage over the years. You are what makes Testarossa so special by being part of the club named after our family.

One thing that has never changed is our undying effort to make the best wine possible. Our Diana's Chardonnay and Niclaire Pinot Noir have always been our highest achievement in winemaking and this year is no exception. Director of Winemaking Bill Brosseau and his team do not disappoint and we are very proud to offer you our 2022 vintage.

We look forward to seeing you here at the winery and sharing this special wine with you, our Testarossa family.

*Rob & Diana Jensen
Founders and Proprietors*



The name Niclaire comes from the joining of our two children's names, Nick, born the same year we founded Testarossa and Claire, two-and-a-half years his junior.

The Diana's Chardonnay, named after the family matriarch and winery co-founder, followed six years later. This Chardonnay is the perfect pair to our Niclaire Pinot Noir and both wines have received consistently outstanding reviews since their first release in 1997.