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Cristina Torres: pioneering excellence in California's wine scene

Cristina Torres's recognition among Top 100 Master Winemakers

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In the heart of California's wine country, a remarkable story of heritage, dedication, and winemaking excellence unfolds at Marimar Estate. Cristina Torres, the General Manager of Marimar Estate and a proud member of the fifth generation of the Familia Torres wine legacy, has recently been spotlighted for her extraordinary contributions to the world of wine. Celebrated by the British magazine The Drinks Business, Torres has been named among the Top 100 Master Winemakers in their prestigious Master Winemakers 100 list, a testament to her expertise and the quality of wines produced under her watch.

The accolades don't stop there. Marimar Estate's La Masía Pinot Noir 2019 has been awarded the title of Best Pinot Noir, shining in the Global Wine Masters competitions organized by the same publication. This competition, known for its rigorous approach to evaluating wines, focuses on specific varieties, styles, or regions. Wines are judged blindly by a panel predominantly composed of Masters of Wine, ensuring that only the most exceptional are recognized. The La Masía Pinot Noir 2019 stood out as a "prime example of its category, showcasing flawless winemaking," thus earning the highest honor in the Pinot Noir Masters 2023.

Patrick Schmitt MW, editor of The Drinks Business and chairman of the Global Wine Masters, highlighted the purpose behind these awards: to shine a light on the talented professionals working quietly in wineries. According to Schmitt, these individuals often do not receive the recognition they deserve, despite being behind some of the most brilliant wines on the market.

For Cristina Torres, these accolades are not just personal achievements but a reflection of her team's hard work and her mother's dream realized. Having started producing Pinot Noir in 1992, Torres notes that this wine continues to amaze, even 30 years later. This is a significant acknowledgment for the entire team at Marimar Estate and a nod to the legacy of striving for exceptional winemaking that Torres's mother envisioned when she dreamt of establishing a winery in California.



Marimar Estate's La Masía Pinot Noir 2019 comes from the Don Miguel Vineyard, named in honor of Cristina's grandfather. Located in the Green Valley, the coolest and foggiest part of the Russian River Valley and less than 10 miles from the Pacific Ocean, the vineyard was planted in 1988. The unique climate and terroir produce grapes of extraordinary quality, resulting in a wine characterized by its elegance and complexity. Tasters can expect to find notes of berries and jam, velvety tannins, and hints of vanilla and spices, making the La Masía Pinot Noir 2019 a standout representation of what Marimar Estate and Cristina Torres have to offer to the world of wine.

This story of achievement and recognition serves as a beacon for aspiring winemakers and a reminder of the passion and dedication required to produce wines that not only impress but inspire. Cristina Torres and Marimar Estate have firmly planted their roots in the annals of wine history, marking a legacy that will undoubtedly continue to flourish for generations to come.