

## Deovlet, John Sebastiano Pinot Noir

- Ryan Deovlet's newest single vineyard Pinot Noir
- Energetic and plush, reflecting this exciting young vineyard
  - Wine & Spirits' Top 100 Winemaker from 2014

### The Producer

Ryan Deovlet is one of the most exciting new winemakers in the Central Coast. With each of his small-production Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays, Deovlet strives to give identity to the vineyard, a nod to the old world and a kiss of fruit. Like new producers in Burgundy, Deovlet partners with vineyards as if he were the estate owner, controlling the whole process from vine to bottle with passion, artistry, and intuition.

His inspiration to make wine came unexpectedly in 2004 during a college vacation in Hawaii, when he tasted fresh coffee from a local coffee plantation. Having grown up with a green thumb, he was struck with the desire to create a product from the land. He quickly decided to pursue wine and embarked on a 4-year exploration to learn everything he could about making it.

Deovlet sought to learn first hand from great winemakers and viticulturists, gaining apprenticeships with Stephen Dooley of Stephen Ross Wine Cellars, David Ramey at Red Car Wine Company, and Paul Hobbs of Viña Cobos in Mendoza, Argentina. Through this work he developed a vision for managing vine balance—versus vineyard yields—to achieve optimal phenolic ripeness. He also gained conviction about being impeccable in the cellar, doing things by hand, and not being dogmatic about vinification. Thorough in every detail, Deovlet next studied his customer, taking the certified sommelier exam.

Deovlet returned to California in 2008 with the aspiration to start his own label. While developing estate projects for Santa Barbara clients (including Refugio Ranch, where he is now winemaker), he landed a vineyard parcel of his own at La Encantada from Sta. Rita Hills winemaking legend, Richard Sanford. He quickly showed himself to be a true partner of the vineyard by working together on farming techniques and producing outstanding wines that give the vineyard identity. That auspicious beginning led Deovlet to develop enduring partnerships with other prime vineyards in the Central Coast.

Today Deovlet produces Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from great vineyards in the Central Coast including La Encantada, Sanford & Benedict, Solomon Hills. Each wine is produced in very small quantities (200 cases or less). His second vintage, 2009, earned more than 90 points from Parker.

### The Wine

On the eastern edge of Sta Rita Hills, John Sebastiano is an emerging new vineyard burgeoning with star winemakers like Siduri, Foxen, and Paul Lato. Enter Ryan Deovlet. With his vigneron-style approach to keeping a focus on the vineyard, Deovlet captures the terroir in his inimitable style – with one foot in the new old world, one foot in the new. The wine is energetic and plush with a purity of fruit leaning toward dark cherry and black raspberry, with promising density and concentration. Deovlet uses partial whole cluster fermentation to maintain freshness.



**Region:** Central Coast

**Appellation:** Sta. Rita Hills AVA

**Vineyard:** John Sebastiano

**Soils:** Marina sand and Chamise shaly loam

**Varietal Blend:** 100% Pinot Noir

**Vine age:** Planted in 2007

**Vinification:** Partial whole cluster fermentation; 5 day cold soak with once-daily pump-overs and 7 day fermentation implementing pigeage and punch downs

**Aging:** 15 months, French oak, 42% new