

FOR: BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



BLACKBIRD
VINEYARDS

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BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS WELCOMES AARON POTT AS WINEGROWER

(Napa Valley, CA)—Coinciding with its third release this fall of a Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine, Blackbird Vineyards is pleased to announce that Aaron Pott has been named Winegrower. Pott brings with him domestic and international winemaking experience from notable producers, including—Quintessa and Saint Clement in the Napa Valley to Château La Tour Figeac and Château Troplong Mondot in Bordeaux, France.

"Aaron is a great addition to our growing team. I learned more about the subtleties of winemaking on the right bank of Bordeaux during my first meeting with him than in the last four years of studying the region. His practical experience as a winemaker in France combined with Sarah's known talents is a captivating combination for Blackbird. His technical and cultural expertise with the wines of the Bordeaux region will further solidify our positioning as a producer of Pomerol inspired wines," says Polenske.

Pott worked for nearly six years making wine in France before returning to the States to take a position with Beringer Wine Estates. As a winemaker for the company's international brands in France, Italy and South America, he had the pleasure to work with French winemakers Jean-Louis Mandrau, formerly of Château Latour and André Porcheret, whose resume includes the Hospice de Beaune and Domaine Leroy. Pott's joined St. Clement as winemaker in 2001. In 2004, he accepted the position as winemaker and general manager at Quintessa.

In 2007, Pott formed "Huis Clos Wines" and is dedicated to consulting for a limited quantity of notable producers as well as making wines of his own.

Founded in 2003 by Michael Polenske, Blackbird Vineyards is an artisanal producer of Pomerol inspired wines from the Napa Valley. Planted in 1997, the estate vineyard is located in the heart of the Oak Knoll District—a region appreciated for its moderate climate and deep, gravelly soils. The vineyard's valley floor topography presents optimum growing conditions for winemaker Sarah Gott and winegrower Aaron Pott to produce an elegantly styled, appropriately balanced red wine that offers short and long term cellaring potential. Limited quantities are available through an allocated mailing list direct from the winery and in the finer restaurants and hotels around the world. www.blackbirdvineyards.com

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