

## 2019 PROJECT M **KAIROS “AXIOM”** PINOT NOIR



At PROJECT M, we believe every wine tells a story having three chapters: People, Place, and Time. Our Kairos Series Pinot Noir honors Time. Like time, Kairos never repeats, with each vintage bearing a unique name and label image. Winemaker Jerry D. Murray creates these wines to mark the passage of time and life.

The 2019 vintage provided an opportunity to test the philosophy behind our picking decisions. The 2019 Kairos, titled “Axiom,” is offered as a dissertation supporting our assertion that grape development is the function of a reproductive rhythm not influenced by environmental conditions. The label image is *Round Poetry* by Wassily Kandinsky and suggests our belief that structure is the mark of a great wine.

### VINTAGE

Even seasoned growers and winemakers would consider the 2019 vintage “cool,” just .3°F above long-term averages. The valley saw few days above 95°, a deviation from recent vintages. Rain and humidity in the growing season increased disease pressure, posing challenges for those that extended hang time in hopes of accumulating more sugar. At PROJECT M, we stayed the course, basing our picking decisions, as usual, on the grape’s reproductive cycle, not chemistry. The vintage yielded low-alcohol wines with bracing acidity and age-worthy structures.

### VINEYARD

The 2019 Kairos “Axiom” is sourced from three Vineyards. First, the field blend of clones from Filament Vineyard (35%) in the Eola-Amity Hills contributes acidity and elegance. Next, Bednarik Vineyard’s (33%) old vine, own-rooted, Pommard and Wadenswil, bestows savory notes and power. Finally, the Dijon Clone 115 from the Biodynamically farmed Momtazi Vineyard (32%) in the McMinnville AVA adds complexity and mystery.

### WINEMAKING

PROJECT M’s 2019 Kairos “Axiom” was assembled from a selection of single vineyard wines, all spontaneously fermented. The Bednarik and Momtazi vineyards were 100% destemmed, while the Filament Vineyard was fermented with 20% whole clusters. Wine spent 11 months in 25% new French Oak barrels before being filtered and bottled.

### TASTING

The aromas emanating from PROJECT M’s 2019 Kairos “Axiom” Pinot Noir are those of plowed earth, exotic wood resin, dried herbs, and delicate red fruits. Sweet fruits mark the focused, sleek entry. The midpalate sees a modest expansion in volume and the expression of dark red fruits, namely cherry and ripe red plum, that descend into a dark complexity of undifferentiated earthy flavors. The tannins are firm, promising to reward patience in both the glass and cellar. The finish is bright with juicy red fruits, cedar resin, and horehound candy flavors.

pH: 3.42  
TA: 5.7 g/L  
Alcohol: 12.7%  
AVA: Willamette Valley

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