Crystallum

Crystallum Cuvée Cinema Pinot Noir 2023 is a captivating single-vineyard expression , embodying the elegance and complexity of South Africa's Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge. With its vibrant fruit and refined structure, it is a true standout.

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Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Cuvée Cinema Pinot Noir 2024

Walker Bay, South Africa

Region and Vineyards

Cuvée Cinema is sourced from a **single vineyard** in the **Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge**, a sub -region of Walker Bay on South Africa's Cape South Coast. Situated at an altitude of **300 meters**, the vineyard enjoys a **cool southeast-facing slope**, moderated by coastal breezes from Walker Bay. These conditions ensure slower ripening, preserving freshness and enhancing complexity.

The vineyard is planted with **Dijon clones** at high density on **clay and shale soils**, which naturally limit vine vigor and reduce yields, allowing for optimal flavor concentration. The **2023 vintage** experienced a challenging growing season, with a dry and warm start followed by cool, wet weather in mid-December. Sporadic rainfall in February had minimal impact, and the resulting wines are **focused and precise, with a riper fruit profile** compared to previous vintages.

Winemaking

Cuvée Cinema 2023 was fermented in **stainless steel tanks** using only **indigenous yeasts**, reflecting Crystallum's commitment to natural winemaking. **60% of the fruit was left as whole clusters**, enhancing structure and aromatic complexity.

The wine was then aged for **11 months in 228-liter old French oak barrels**, reducing the influence of new oak to allow the purity of the fruit to shine. This meticulous vinification process preserves the wine's vibrant character while adding depth and finesse.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Bright ruby red with a luminous clarity.
- **Aroma**: Pronounced notes of brambles, black cherry, and spices, with hints of aniseed and a savory edge.
- **Palate**: Elegant tension and phenolic grip lead to plush red fruit flavors, including wild strawberries and pomegranate, complemented by savory undertones of tomato leaf. The spicier vintage finishes with a refreshing salinity.

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Did you know?

The name **Cuvée Cinema** is inspired by the single vineyard's proximity to a historic open-air cinema in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, connecting the wine to the region's cultural and natural heritage.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck breast with cherry reduction**: The wine's bramble and cherry notes complement the rich flavors of duck and the tangy sweetness of the sauce.
- **Mushroom and thyme tart**: The savory undertones and elegant structure balance the earthy flavors of the mushrooms.
- **Seared tuna with sesame and soy glaze**: The wine's saline finish and red fruit vibrancy pair beautifully with the umami richness of the tuna.
- **Aged Gruyère cheese**: The wine's acidity and spice accentuate the nutty, creamy character of the cheese.

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2023)

Opening to a darker, red-fruited nose, the 2022 Cuvee Cinema Pinot Noir leaps out of the glass with notes of potpourri and black tea with hints of oak spice. Medium-bodied, the palate offers a firm-gripping tannic edge and bright acidity that will either need time or food; I suspect both. It's still a baby and super tight, so be patient, give it time and start enjoying it in 2025. Just over 5,500 bottles were filled after resting for about a year in all French oak, 25% new. I can see where this is headed, and it's an absolute crusher of a bottle. Your patience will be rewarded.