2013 “PIÈCE DE RÉSISTANCE”
NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Aptly named to describe one’s highest achievement, an object that can stand the test of time, this wine represents our finest five barrels of Cabernet Sauvignon from the 2013 vintage. The only 100% Cabernet Sauvignon produced by Pahlmeyer, our “Pièce de Résistance” is an experience of this varietal in its purest form.

WINEMAKING
Still chilled from the early morning harvest, the grape clusters were hand-sorted, then gently destemmed. The resulting whole berries were sorted by hand and delivered into open-top fermenters for five days of natural cold maceration, followed by two- to three-weeks of 100% native yeast fermentation. 100% of this wine was puncheon fermented to intensify the aromatics and anthocyanin extraction, without taking in any bitter tannins. Once complete, the fruit was gently pressed and moved to barrel to finished primary and secondary fermentations. The wine continued to age in 85% new French oak – a combination of Taransaud and St. Martin barrels – for 26 months. It was bottled unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES
Black to the core and oozing with concentrated flavors of bittersweet chocolate and dark, ripe cherry, this wine is seamless and unctuous lifted by a surprising freshness. The intensity is consuming and demanding of your time and attention. Its incredible structure should allow this wine to age effortlessly over the next 20, perhaps 30, years.

VINTAGE NOTES
The 2013 growing season was characterized by drought-like conditions, which greatly enhanced the quality of our Cabernet Sauvingon. The relatively small berries drove intense, concentrated flavors with superb acidity and structure. Despite being the earliest harvest in years, our 2013 wines are stunning in their rich coloring and outstanding complexity.

ACCLAIM
100 points, Robert Parker. The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon “Pièce De Résistance” is a selection of the five best barrels in the wine cellar, aged in 100% Taransaud cooperage. The first perfect score I’ve given to Pahlmeyer – but highly deserving – this is a masterpiece of gorgeous crème de cassis, blackberry liqueur, forest floor, camphor, charcoal and white flowers, magnificent concentration, wonderfully subtle oak, and a finish of close to a minute. In short, Cabernet Sauvignon rarely gets any better than this, but latching onto a bottle or two will not be easy. Drink it over the next 30–40 years. Pahlmeyer certainly has one of the most consistently superb résumés for the last 30 years that any winery could desire.