

YEAR'S BEST: RHONE, SYRAH AND ZINFANDEL

Wine & Spirits

WINE & SPIRITS FEBRUARY 2012

AMERICAN **NEW RELEASES**

Our blind panels tasted **610** new-release American wines for this issue. Our critics rated **62** as exceptional (90+) and **42** as Best Buys. **Joshua Greene** reviews California wines; **Patrick J. Comiskey** reviews New York, Oregon and Washington wines.

Find a complete list of wines tasted and all reviews at wineandspiritsmagazine.com.

PINOT NOIR



90 | Arista **\$38**
2009 Mendocino Ridge Pinot Noir Black olive and earthy mushroom scents balance this wine's dark fruit. The sweetness of the fruit keeps the tannins in check, finishing soft and cushioned. For roast beef. (277 cases)
Arista Wines, Healdsburg, CA