



**Winemaker**

**Lynn Penner-Ash**

Photo courtesy of Andrea Johnson  
Photography.

After graduation from University of California, Davis, Lynn Penner-Ash, worked at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, Domaine Chandon, and Chateau St. Jean in California.. Intrigued by the emerging wine industry in Oregon, Lynn and her husband Ron moved there in 1988 where Lynn became winemaker at Rex Hill Vineyards, becoming the first female winemaker hired in Oregon. Consistently producing award-winning wines, she became Rex Hill's President and Chief Operating Officer in 1993 and continued on with Rex Hill until March 2002.

In 1998, Lynn started Penner-Ash Wine Cellars with husband Ron, carefully crafting small amounts of Pinot Noir and Syrah, while she was still at Rex Hill. Their early success with the label caused them to dream of what they could create and in 2001 Lynn focused full time on building Penner-Ash Wine Cellars.

## Penner-Ash

Founded in 1998, by husband and wife team Lynn and Ron Penner-Ash, Penner-Ash Wine Cellars embodies the spirit and passion of a boutique producer specializing in Pinot Noir, Syrah and Riesling from the northern Willamette Valley. With a portfolio spanning the 7 major AVAs of the Willamette Valley, Penner-Ash sources from some of the region's most distinguished vineyards, including the Shea Vineyard in Yamhill-Carlton, the Bramble Hill Vineyard in Ribbon Ridge, and the Zena Crown Vineyard in Eola-Amity.

The first woman winemaker of note in Oregon, Lynn began her career in the Willamette Valley with Rex Hill Vineyards. Lynn has been described as a master blender, skillfully working with each lot to bring forth the truest expression of a given vineyard site. In the winery, Lynn and her team focus is on small-lot indigenous yeast fermentation with extended cold soaks to extract a rich, fruit-focused, textured mouth feel. Each lot is vinified separately, and depending on the outcome, either blended into their Willamette Valley Pinot Noir or bottled separately as a vineyard designate.

In 2005, Lynn and Ron designed and built their sustainable, gravity-flow estate winery in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA. Surrounded by estate vineyards, the building appears to spring from the land itself and enjoys 360 degree views of the Willamette Valley, making the Penner-Ash tasting room a popular destination for locals and tourists alike.

