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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BIDDING NOW OPEN AT FIRST-EVER WILLAMETTE VALLEY COLLECTORS' AUCTION

- 89 Rare, Library and Collectible Lots Hosted by Zachys Wine Auctions -

**Portland, Ore. - March 29, 2022 -** The Willamette Valley Collectors' Auction opens today, premiering a collection of 89 exclusive, rare and library bottlings available to lucky bidders online over the next ten days. Kicking off the <u>Willamette Valley Wineries Association's (WVWA)</u> first-ever partnership with <u>Zachys Wine Auctions</u>, the event will conclude with a live close on Thursday, April 7 beginning at 3:00 p.m. (PDT).

"For our first-ever Zachys partnership, we pulled out all the stops to offer something truly special to collectors across the globe," said WVWA Executive Director Morgen McLaughlin. "We could not be more proud and excited to debut this striking list representing the Willamette Valley's beautiful vintage variation and tremendous producers."

The Willamette Valley Collectors' Auction features library treasures as far-back as 1987, cellar-worthy gems from the critically lauded 2021 vintage and large-format bottlings up to five liters, as well as experiences such as custom blending seminars and extended winery visits. From Antica Terra and Bergström to Walter Scott and The Eyrie Vineyards, the producers on offer showcase the Willamette Valley's stunning quality and diverse range of sites and personalities.

Powered by Zachys, the Willamette Valley Collectors' Auction opens for online bidding Tuesday, March 29 and closes with a live-streamed auction on Thursday, April 7 beginning at 3:00pm (PDT).

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Charles Antin, Head of Zachys Auction Sales and Auctioneer, comments, "At long last, we're open for bidding! I can't wait for the live-streamed close in just a week and a half. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with any questions you may have!"

To kick off the bidding, wine critic Josh Raynolds of Vinous will host a seminar on Wednesday, March 30 featuring a star-studded panel of winemakers in a conversation about vintage variation and ageworthiness in the Willamette Valley. Taking part in the discussion are Steve Doerner of Cristom Vineyards, Kate Norris of Division Winemaking Co., Brian O'Donnell of Belle Pente, Lynn Penner-Ash of Penner-Ash Wine Cellars and Dusky Goose, and Harry Peterson-Nedry of Ribbon Ridge Winery. Learn more and register for this seminar here.

All proceeds from the Willamette Valley Collectors' Auction benefit programs to promote, preserve and advance the prestige of Oregon's Willamette Valley AVA and its wines. The Auction is open to all who wish to bid. Learn more.

## About the Willamette Valley Wineries Association

The WVWA is a nonprofit industry association dedicated to achieving recognition for Oregon's acclaimed Willamette Valley as a premium Pinot noir-producing region. The WVWA has more than 230 members representing wineries, tasting rooms and vineyards throughout the Willamette Valley. The organization also hosts Willamette: The Pinot Noir Auction, Oregon Pinot Camp, Pinot in the City, May in Wine Country, The Giving Season and the Cellar Season. Visit <u>willamettewines.com</u> for more info.

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