

## *Winemaker Biography Sheet*



BANSHEE

### Noah Dorrance, Co-Founder & BANSHEE Winemaker

Noah's passion for European wine began in college and continued as he lived and travelled through Europe in his early twenties. In 2006, Noah dove into winemaking when he went to work for San Francisco-based Crushpad. At Crushpad he assisted customers in making wine and it was there that he made his first barrels of wine (including the initial version of Banshee). In 2009, the downed economy gave Noah and his co-founders the opportunity to affordably purchase grapes from a number of seasoned growers and Banshee Wines was officially born. Noah now leads the winemaking team at Banshee Wines where his winemaking style is a nod to his Burgundian idols, with an appreciation for his California bearings. He prefers elegant, balanced and focused wines and is fired up to be on the ground floor of this next generation of California winemaking.

### Ross Cobb, Consulting BANSHEE Winemaker

Approaching his work with an extreme dedication to craft—in both viticulture and winemaking—Ross has quietly earned a reputation as a Pinot Noir specialist, producing benchmark single-vineyard wines. In the winery, Ross applies traditional techniques and a gentle hand to capture the personality of each vineyard, while emphasizing quality and complexity at every stage of winemaking. Ross started as the enologist and lab manager for Randall Graham at Bonny Doon Vineyard and later joined the Williams Selyem team as viticulturist and enologist. At Williams Selyem Ross was able to work alongside Bert Williams and Bob Cabral, while at the same time working with grapes from the Coastlands Vineyard. In 2000, Ross joined Flowers Vineyard and Winery as assistant winemaker. While at Flowers, Ross further refined his approach to Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir and ultimately took over from Hugh Chappelle as winemaker in 2004. During his tenure at Flowers, Ross and his father, David, founded Cobb Wines, crafting 130 cases of their inaugural Coastlands Vineyard Pinot Noir in 2001. In 2012, Ross joined forces with Banshee Wines to consult on and craft their vineyard designate Pinot Noirs.

### Katy Wilson, Consulting BANSHEE Winemaker

When Katy was 18 years old, she made up her mind to become a winemaker. At the time, she was studying agricultural business at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. Katy graduated from Cal Poly in 2005 with a degree in wine and viticulture, and agricultural business. She started her winemaking career as a harvest intern at Testarossa Winery in Los Gatos, California, where she made Pinot Noir and kept the cleanest winery around. From there, she went down under to work for Torbreck Vintners in the Barossa Valley where she made wine from some of the oldest vines in the world. She eventually returned to the Napa Valley, where Katy spent a harvest at Joseph Phelps and then traveled to New Zealand where she worked in Hawkes Bay at Craggy Range. After a few years of being a nomad she decided to land on the Sonoma Coast at Flowers Winery where she made distinguished Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Katy worked her way from harvest enologist to assistant winemaker. During this time, she fell in love with the Sonoma Coast and truly developed a passion for making Pinot Noir. In 2012, Katy joined forces with Banshee Wines to help consult and craft their vineyard designate Pinot Noirs.

### *Online*

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