



FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA WINERY RELEASES NEW RED WINE, *ELEANOR*, NAMED FOR FRANCIS'S WIFE

GEYSERVILLE, Calif. (June 14, 2012) – Francis Ford Coppola Winery is pleased to announce the inaugural vintage release of *Eleanor*, a small production Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon blend aptly named for Francis's wife, Eleanor Coppola. The 2009 *Eleanor* retails for \$50 and is available nationally in limited amounts, or may be purchased at the winery or by visiting www.FrancisCoppolaWinery.com.

"Eleanor has always been a true partner in all my endeavors, bringing her creativity, honesty and generous spirit to it all -- she's wife, mother, artist, filmmaker -- collaborator and inspiration," said Francis Ford Coppola. "For all this and more, after fifty years of marriage, I want to honor her with 'Eleanor' her own wine."

Venturing from the winery's typical Sonoma-centric wine program, Director of Winemaking and General Manager Corey Beck and team sourced fruit from Napa Valley's Rutherford appellation for the 2009 *Eleanor*, reflecting Eleanor's love of the land she's called home for more than three decades.

By combining 54 percent Syrah sourced from Rutherford in Napa Valley and Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley with 46 percent Cabernet Sauvignon from Francis Ford Coppola Winery's estate vineyards in Sonoma County's Alexander Valley, Beck and his team have created a wine with exceptional depth and complexity. The fruit for the debut release was fermented in open-top fermenters and punched down 3-4 times daily. The wine then spent two years in French oak to achieve tannin refinement and integration. The sheer intensity of the fruit coupled with the wine's density make *Eleanor* an ideal cellar selection that will reward additional aging.

Eleanor Coppola has given not only her name to this rich red wine, but has also created its beautiful label. The floral design on the label expresses Eleanor's love of textiles. She has traveled the world in pursuit of her passion for unique fabrics. This label reflects her special love for patterns that were prevalent during the Art Deco period.

Boasting a deep, saturated color and intense bouquet of black cherry, cola, mocha, and vanilla oak, the palate explodes with rich, concentrated flavors of blackberry, boysenberry and cassis layered upon exotic notes of anise and minerals that build and broaden on a long, spicy finish. Well textured with decisive tannins, this wine offers just the right amount of polish and flair to make it a true beauty.

For more information, please visit www.FrancisCoppolaWinery.com or call Guest Reception at (707) 857-1471. Schedule updates can also be found on the winery's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CoppolaWine.

About Francis Ford Coppola Winery

Francis puts it best, saying the winery is “a wine wonderland, a park of pleasure where people of all ages can enjoy all the best things in life – food, wine, music, dancing, games, swimming and performances of all types. “A place to celebrate the love of life.” Francis Ford Coppola Winery is located at 300 Via Archimedes in Geyserville, California, accessed from US HWY 101 and the INDEPENDENCE LANE exit. Among the many unique attractions at the property, Francis Ford Coppola Winery features wine tasting, two restaurants, a swimming pool, a movie gallery, a performing arts Pavilion and a park area with game tables and bocce courts. Francis Ford Coppola Winery opens at 11 a.m. daily. For more information, call (707) 857-1400, toll free (877) 590-3329 or visit www.FrancisCoppolaWinery.com.

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