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# GROUNDWORK

with CURT SCHALCHLIN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023 • 4PM - 7PM



Growing up in East Los Angeles, Curt Schalchlin didn't try his first wine until he was in college at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he majored in Business. It was through his part-time job during school at Trader Joe's that he discovered bottles from all over the world and his casual interest in wine tasting on the weekends turned into an eventual fascination and ultimately, his vocation. Later, Curt took the opportunity to help his friend McPrice Myers, who was starting his own winery. It was while working with McPrice and Russell From, of Herman Story and Barrel 27 wineries, that Curt first fell for Rhône varietals. A trip to the actual Rhône Valley in France and a conversation with Bernard Grippa—a third-generation grower in Saint Joseph—inspired Curt to start his own wine label and call it *Sans Liege*, which means “without allegiance” in French. Curt felt this was the ideal way to express his philosophy and “relentless search for independence”. Equally aligned

with the freedoms of the New World and the heritage of the Rhône Valley, he is careful not to hold too closely to either. Instead, he trusts an intuition of the microcosms of each vineyard site and vine to guide his work through each vintage.

This led to Curt creating a second label—*Groundwork*—to focus on single varietal wines, all of which are sourced from select vineyards on the Central Coast. Groundwork is all about the fundamentals. Putting to use the empirical knowledge he has gained from making wine for his first label, Curt seeks to bring his experience to a new set of wines that embrace the soul and simple living of the Rhône. Groundwork is built upon Curt's comfort and confidence as a winemaker, instructing him to trust in the fruit, the vineyards, and his own rich experience as the foundation.

THE WINES ARE SERVED AS TWO-OUNCE POURS AND 5-OUNCE GLASSES.

\$21 PER PERSON or \$17 FOR WINE CLUB MEMBERS

- 2022 Groundwork Picpoul Carbonique, Paso Robles - \$22.00
- 2022 Groundwork Grenache Rosé, Paso Robles - \$17.50
- 2021 Groundwork Graciano, Paso Robles - \$22.00
- 2020 Groundwork Syrah, Central Coast - \$22.00
- 2021 Groundwork Cabernet Sauvignon, Central Coast - \$27.00

IF QUANTITIES ALLOW, THE FLIGHT WINES  
WILL BE ON SALE FOR THE EVENING AT 15% OFF RETAIL  
TO THOSE WHO PURCHASE A FLIGHT.

These wines and many others can be found on our website: [www.fpwm.com](http://www.fpwm.com)