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VINA ROBLES APPOINTS NICHOLAS DE LUCA AS WINEMAKER

Paso Robles, CA— Vina Robles today announced the appointment of Nicholas G. de Luca as new winemaker. “Nick” de Luca will join Assistant Winemakers Julie Holme and Craig Holme. He brings over 15 years of experience in winemaking and vineyard management to our team.

Prior to this appointment, de Luca spent six years as Director of Vineyards and Winemaking at Dierberg & Star Lane Vineyards in Santa Ynez, CA. He grew up in Boston, MA and is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Cruz. Before working for Dierberg & Star Lane Vineyards, de Luca gained extensive experience at several wineries among them Byington Vineyard & Winery in Los Gatos, CA, Williams Selyem Winery in Healdsburg, CA, Highfield Estate in Marlborough, New Zealand, and Cline Cellars in Sonoma, CA.

De Luca takes over the reins from Swiss native Matthias Gubler, who has held the position of winemaker at Vina Robles since 1999. His departure has been planned for some time and he is now focusing on his family’s vineyard in Maienfeld, Switzerland. Gubler’s drive for quality and his strong passion for winegrowing defined the wines for Vina Robles winery. His winemaking approach is especially exemplified by the winery’s Estate Petite Sirah, the Cuvée collection wines that include the Signature blend (Petit Verdot and Petite Sirah), Syrée (a Cuvée of Syrah) and the acclaimed Suendero (Meritage). In addition he produced innovative new blends, such as the unconventional award-winning RED⁴ and the new WHITE⁴ blend of Viognier, Verdelho, Vermentino, and Sauvignon Blanc. Matthias will continue his involvement as contributing winemaker for Vina Robles.

“Nick de Luca will be able to build on a solid base established by the Vina Robles team over the past years. Our vineyards have now matured to a stage where they produce consistent quality grapes with distinct characteristics. It will be very exciting to see the next years of winemaking evolve at Vina Robles. We are welcoming Nick de Luca to our team and are looking forward to working with him,” says Managing Partner, Hans – R. Michel. “We would also like to take the opportunity to thank Matthias Gubler for his dedication and hard work and wish him and his wife Sina the very best with their family business.”

Vina Robles is a family owned estate that was founded in 1996 by Swiss entrepreneur Hans Nef. The winery crafts wines that represent a stylistic bridge between the Old and New worlds, capturing the finesse associated with European wines while celebrating the bold natural flavors of their estate vineyards in Paso Robles. Here, proprietor Hans Nef and managing partner Hans – R. Michel are bringing their Swiss heritage to California’s Central Coast, where they aim to unite the best of both experiences. Vina Robles wines are available across the United States and overseas, and can be enjoyed at the hospitality center in the heart of Paso Robles wine country. www.VinaRobles.com

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