



# Wizja

(El Paso x Warmia)

## *The Polish breeding* **VISION...** successful family of Wizja

text by: Urszula Łęczycka

photos by: arch. W.Kwiatkowski, arch. StanRed Arabians I. Filsinger, A. Mattson, S. Ilenda, S. Vesty

The eldest of Poland's Arabian horse dam lines is that of Szweykowska, created in Polish eldest Arabian horse farms established around 1506 in Slawuta (Ukraine territory nowadays) by Polish Count Sanguszko' family. There, in 1800 the filly Szweykowska was born, founder of the whole dynasty existing in Poland and further – around the world until this day. The quality of Slawuta bloodstock in XIXth century was worldwide known, its best proof was Slawuta-owned mare Melpomena who gained Gold Medal at the horse exhibition in Paris in...1900! During Bolshevik revolution in 1917 the Slawuta stud was robbed and devastated but the line of Szweykowska survived through few mares safe kept at other farms. In 1921 two mares from that line (9th generation after the filly Szweykowska herself) were found in the area of former Slawuta. One of them was Kalina born 1909 (by Ibrahim db.) included into Janów Podlaski Stud herd. She produced 5 foals at Janów but the only daughter who extended this family line through Ist World

War was the filly born when Kalina was sold to private Polish breeder - Mr Dunka de Sajo in 1931. The filly Aghani born 1932 was lost in 1944 during II World War but hopefully before, in 1937 she left a daughter – Kalina Wnuczka (by Koheilan I). This was one of the only two mares of Szweykowska line to survive the turmoils of the war at all but being lost again, not all of her war history is known. In 1943 Polish breeders again were collecting safe kept horses from state and private studs to organize the breeding during hard, war times. Kalina Wnuczka was found in 1941 and during the evacuation towards Germany in 1943 she was covered in 1944 to Janów Podlaski Stud bred stallion Wojski and she was later included into Janów Podlaski stud broodmares band being temporary runned at German territory at this time. On 19th March 1945 she foaled the chestnut filly named Werbena (by Wojski). Kalina Wnuczka herself as well as the stallion Wojski were lost during war operation in 1945 and were never found again. Happily



*Kalina*  
born 1909  
(Ibrahim d.b. x Lezginka)



*Warmia*  
- dam of Wizja  
(Comet x Wadera)

THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA



## Wiazma

(Arbil x Wizja)

Werbena survived and after the war in 1947 she did her race training at Warsaw racetrack winning Oaks Stakes! She returned from race training in 1949 as a broodmare to Klemensow State Stud, the future Michalów State Stud. Her daughters established own subfamilies and the most important one became Wadera by Doktryner. Wadera who died in the age of 19 produced 11 foals including Polish National Champion – Wenera (by Negatiw) and one of the “Queens of Michalów” – Warmia (by Comet). Along with Eunice at Janów Podlaski, Warmia embodied all that was spectacular in the daughters of Comet, giving the Polish breeding program 8 excellent daughters and 3 useful sons. She crossed the best with one particular stallion – El Paso and the best of her daughters was unquestionably WIZJA (whose name in Polish means -“VISION”) born 1973 sired by El Paso (Czort x Ellora by Witraz), the stallion sold to USA later on for 1 million of dollars and US National Champion Stallion. His daughter – Wizja followed him one

year later to promote the sire in the US and also became US National Champion Mare. Described as the most beautiful and most resembling her mother, Wizja was personal favorite of the breeder, Ignacy Jaworowski, the first director of Michalów Stud and she was considered as the ideal of Arabian horse type at that time. As one of the very first Polish horses on lease overseas Wizja went to Lasma Arabians in Arizona and gained 1977 US National Champion Mare title. In the same year her maternal halfbrother – Wandal (by Negatiw) born 1970 was imported to USA and became Top Ten US and Canadian Stallion in Pleasure Driving. Several of Wizja siblings, sons and daughters spread the family out around the world but most accomplished amongst of her offsprings were: Wizjon (by Bask) born 1978 during Wizja’s lease to USA, bred by Lasma Arabians, first foal of Wizja ever born, who became Top Ten Stallion at Star World in 1987 and sired many National and Regional Champions and his daughters are valued as

*Warranty*  
(Aladdin x Wizja)



THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA



*Wilga*  
(Ekstern x Wenessa)



## Wilga

(Ekstern x Wenessa)

excellent producers. Second foal of Wizja was Warranty born 1982, bred also by Lasma, by US National Champion Aladdinn. He went 1987 Champion Stallion and Supreme Exhibit at the New South Wales National Stud Show and 1988 National Champion when sold to Australia. His sons and grandsons also gained the titles of Australian National Champions and Warranty himself was re-exported to USA again where he became Canadian National Reserve Champion in English Pleasure and

sire of halter and performance horses. Another son of Wizja accomplished at shows was Wigwam by Probat, born after her return from lease to Poland. Wigwam was exported to his sire's homeland - Sweden, and became 1993 Blommerod International Champion Stallion. But the power of Wizja family were her daughters who became the most valuable ones establishing own subfamilies very well known from show rings nowadays. These two daughters of Wizja included into Polish breeding program were:



## Wilda

(Gazal Al Shaqab x Wilga)

*WIZJERA and WIAŻMA. Looking at the foaling history in Wizja's family its interesting to observe that very often the first daughters of the mares became the most valuable ones... First daughter of Wizja herself - WIZJERA (Tallin x Wizja), born 1988, later in her life exported to USA (Canterbury Farm), as her first foal born in Poland in 1993 she produced Wenessa. This chestnut mare (sired by Polish National Champion Stallion - Egon), later on sold to Ferlita Arabians in USA, became the dam to both race and show*

*champions in Poland such as Michałow-bred stallion Wadi-Nur (by Gazal Al Shaqab), winner of Sambor and Koheilan 1 Stakes in Warsaw Racetruck still in use in Polish breeding of performance horses, and the most prominent one - the daughter Wilga. Wilga, the first foal of Wenessa - grey and very sire-like filly by Ekstern, awarded as Junior Spring Show Reserve Champion Filly, class winner at the Polish Nationals, All Nations Cup and European Championships happened to be exceptional broodmare giving birth*

THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA



## Weridiana

(Etnodrons Psyche x Wiaźmianka)

to Falborek Show (Poland) Reserve Champion Filly and Polish National Reserve Champion Mare - Wilda (by Gazal Al Shaqab), then Junior Spring Show Top Five Colt - Willars (by Al Maraam) and the colt Wembley (by Galba) – exported in 2010 to Italy. Wilga herself was sold to Belgium for 82000 Euro in 2010.

The other daughter of of Wizjera, Wizula born 1996 (full sister to Wenessa mentioned above), sold to

private breeder in Poland was a dam of typey Ekstern daughter – Wizga (Bred by Koblinsky Stud), as one of the rare Polish private bred horses being sold to Saudi Arabia in 2009. the first daughter produced by Wizga in Poland was pretty Willa Rosa (by Psytadel), exported in 2011 to Switzerland.

The branch of WIAŻMA (Arbil x Wizja), born in 1991 was even more successful. Wiaźma herself - 1993 Junior Spring Show Champion Filly became a



## Walida

(Etnodrons Psyche x Wiaźmianka)

broodmare supreme. Her first daughter ever born was Workuta 1996 (by Monogramm) who was exported to USA (Valley Oak Arabians), before being sold she left in Poland mostly colts and only 2 daughters, but very important for Polish private breeding – Wisenna (by Eldon) now being owned by Arni Arabians where she joined Wadi Vena (by Gaspar out of Wadi Musa – daughter of Wenessa); and Wiaźmianka (by Angor) who produced a very handsome offsprings at StanRed Arabians, such as

Walida and Weridiana – both by Etnodrons Psyche (by Padrons Psyche). But the most famous of Wiaźma produce was the female dynasty of “Towers”- the Wieża sisters (“Wieża” meaning “tower” in Polish). First of them, born 2000 Wieża Babel (by Ekstern) – 2001 Junior Spring Show Champion and Best in Show, sold at last Pride of Poland sale 2011 to France, was the line continuator giving birth to 5 „Towers” sisters at Michałów, out from which the most entitled is 2009 Polish National Champion Filly

THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA



## Wieża Babel

(Laheeb x Wiażma)

and Junior Spring Show Top Five Filly - Wieża Róż (meaning the "Tower of Roses", by Ekstern). One year younger daughter of Wiażma was Wieża Wiatrów ("Tower of Wind", by Ganges) born 2001, Polish Spring Show Junior Champion/Best in Show, Polish National Reserve Junior Champion Filly, twice World Top Ten Filly and record-setting seller at the 2002 Pride of Poland auction sold to Al Khalediah Stables for 220 000 USD where she continues to be a champion producer with her

daughter Shammaa Al Khalediah (by F Shamaal) - holding 2008 International Show in Egypt (El Zahraa) Junior Champion and 2009 Qatar International Reserve Champion titles. Next to be born, the daughter of Wiażma was Wieża Marzeń ("Tower of Dreams", by Ekstern), born 2003. Despite she has not show titles on her account she became a great broodmare producing Wieża Mocy ("Tower of Power", by QR Marc), born 2010 who already gained the titles of 2011 Polish National



## Wizja Róż

(Ekstern x Wieża Babel)

*Junior Champion, Bialka Junior Spring Show Top Five and 2011 European Bronze Champion Filly.*

*Out of her 9 foals born in Poland Wiaźma produced only 3 sons out from which the most widely used was Wołyń (by Emigrant), bred in Michałów and sold at Pride of Poland 2005 to private Polish breeder. Wiaźma herself in the age of 16 was sold in 2007 for 80 000 EUR to Belgium.*

*Wizja, after her return from the lease to USA in late '80-ies never returned to her perfect shape so, if one may expect even more from her, Wizjera and Wiaźma were maybe not the best that she could produce, so let's just imagine what she could produce without all the stressful life at the shows and travels overseas... Wizja left to the greener pastures in 1995. The family of Szweykowska – the filly foaled in 1800 at the territory of nowadays Ukraine is being continued nowadays in Poland, USA, Sweden, Australia, Saudi*

THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA



*Wieża Mocy*  
(QR Marc x Wieża Marzeń)



*Shammaa Al Khalediah*

(F Shamaal x Wieża Wiatrów)

Wizja - back at Michałów Stud breeding herd

Arabia, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and several other countries all over the world and all of them track back to Wizja – the example of Polish breeding consistency, consequence and Vision... Before she died, Wizja managed to influence also some non-Polish Arabian horse breeders and authorities of nowadays - herself and directly. This is how she is recalled by the family. Kristofferssen, whose representative - Anne-Li was the establisher of OKS Arabians in Sweden (the owner of World Reserve Champion, Polish-bred Girlan-Bey): "Anne-Li visited Poland for the first time in 1994 and was blown away by the overall quality of the horses she saw. At Michałów, she had the unique opportunity to see the first foal crop by Monogramm, barns full of grey or chestnut foals with white markings, of outstanding quality. And last but not least, the ethereal beauty Wizja, who was gravely ill at the time, managed to make a lasting impression as one of the most beautiful horses Anne-Li had ever seen.

Wizja became a dream that to this day has never come true: to own one of Wizja's daughters or granddaughters. All of these impressions were burnt into Anne-Li's memory and represent the level of quality we have strived for in our own small way ever since".

Scott Benjamin, the Arabian horse trainer, judge and breeding adviser with long experience and passion to work with Polish Arabian horse says: "There are many other special horses with whom I have had the chance to work that have left a lasting impression on me. In Poland, it was the mares. Wizja – she was the epitome of grace and presence with the best eyes I have ever witnessed - period. Even infirmed, she was radiant. She made the world a better place".

With thank you to Izabella Zawadzka, Scott Benjamin and Anette Mattson for sharing their memories and archives.

THE POLISH BREEDING VISION... - SUCCESSFUL FAMILY OF WIZJA