



SOME MEMORIES OF

Gaskonia

(PROBAT - GIZELA/PALAS)

by Jolanta Gębka ■ photos by Sylwia Iłenda

The eye-catching mare Gaskonia (Probat - Gizela / Palas) was born in 1987 at the Horse Stud in Michałów. She passed away in January 2018 at the home stud six days before turning 31. Probat (Pohaniec - Borexica / Exelsjor) - a stallion bred at Blommeröd Stud in Sweden, who was her father, was born in 1975 and also had Polish roots. Probat's father Pohaniec, son of Comet, was born at the Horse Stud in Michałów in 1965.

Exelsjor (Aquinator - Eleonora / Witraż), on the other hand, was bred in 1963 in Janów Podlaski. He went to Sweden as a one-year-old colt and got the title of the National Champion of Sweden in 1966. His daughter Borexica, mother of Probat, became the National Champion of Sweden in 1974. Probat

stayed in Poland on a lease between 1980 and 1984 and in 1986.

His offspring were characterized not only by their beauty but also bravery and stamina. Probat enriched the Polish breeding with excellent herd mares and valuable leading stallions and therefore rebuilt the Kubailana Afas family. His three daughters and three sons won the titles of the National Champions of Poland. These were, of course, Gascony and the mares: Egzotyka (Elana by Elf), who triumphed in 1991, and Empress (Emfaz by Eukaliptus), who became the Champion in 1998. When it comes to the stallions, these were: Fawor (Fatma by Anarchist), Garrison (Głownia by El Paso) and Janów's Pamir (Parma





DEBOWA LAKA - 2007, Gaspar x Debowa Go

by Aswan). One of Probat's most valuable sons is Michałów's Fawor who did great on the track and on the show rings. In 1983, he became the World Junior Champion Stallion in Paris and in 1990 the Senior Champion Stallion of Poland.

Gascony's mother, mare Gizela (Palas - Gilza / Esparto), was also bred in Michałów. Both Gizela and her mother Gilza were immensely meritorious for Polish breeding. In 1985 Gizela gave birth to the filly Garonne by Fanatyk, who in 1994 became the mother of the "epoch-making" stallion Ganges by Monogramm. Ganges combines the features of an ideal Arabian stallion: beauty, courage, athletic build and efficient, sweeping movement. He also has a successful racing, show and breeding career. Ganges won the title of the Junior Reserve Champion Stallion of Poland twice in 1995 and 1996. He became the International Champion Stallion in Blommeröd and Best in Show (2000), Senior Champion Stallion of Poland (2001), Reserve Champion Cup in Aachen (2001), winner of the

Top Ten US Championship (2002), Stallion Champion in Columbus (2002) and Reserve Champion of the USA (2003). To this day, Ganges still proudly "rules" in Michałów.

Beautiful and harmonious Georgia by Monogramm is another amazing daughter of Gizela. This milky-white lady is a dreamy horse. In 2014, at the National Show in Janów Podlaski she won the title of the Reserve Champion of Poland, and her score of 95,17 points was the highest score of the show. This high score was made up of seven "20s": the whole row for type and movement, and one for head and neck. At the age of 21, at the Pride of Poland Auction in 2015, she was sold for €105,000 to Athbah Stud in Saudi Arabia. The decision of Michałów Stud to sell Georgia raised a great deal of emotion since the mare has a considerable circle of fans. Georgia certainly belongs to the horses who catch the eye and heart of horse lovers and stay in their memory forever. For horses like Georgia the show ring is like a stage on which they give



GANGES
1994, Monogramm x Garonna



their own, individual performance. Georgia spent 21 years in Michałów, representing Poland on the international scene with dignity and success. Let's keep in mind that she was the Reserve Senior Champion Mare of Poland in Janów Podlaski in 2014, Silver Medalist of the Senior Mare Championship at the Al Khalediah European Arabian Horse Festival in Nowe Wrońska in 2014, she was also in the "Top Five" of the Senior Mare World Championship - Salon du Cheval in Paris in 2009. Michałów's mare is the embodiment of everything that makes Polish Arabians famous together with an extraordinary soul which lights up her hypnotizing eyes to which nobody can be indifferent.

In 2000, Georgia became a mother of a future Champion, Galilea by Laheeb. Galilea won the title of the National Senior Champion Mare of Poland in 2005 and repeated her success in Paris, where she was promoted to the World Senior Champion Mare.

In 2002, Gaskonia won the Senior Mares Class at the National Show in Janów Podlaski. At the same show, her son Grafik by Eucalyptus, born in 1996, firstly won the 4-8 year old Stallions



GALILEA - 2000, Laheeb x Georgia



GRAFIK and GASPAP



GASPAR - 1991, Ararat x Emigrantka

Class, and then won the title of the Reserve Champion Stallion of Poland. Galilea, Georgia's daughter, came second in the 2-year-old Fillies Class, and the aforementioned Probat's daughter - Eskalopka obtained the score of 94.67 points, which then translated into the title of the Senior Reserve Champion.

However, XXVIII National Arabian Horse Show in Janów Podlaski in 2006 turned out to be "historic" for Gaskonia. Nineteen-year-old Michalów-bred mare became the Polish Champion and Best in Show! This success was even greater because she had to face other Michalów's stars: Embra (Monogramm - Emilda / Pamir), Zagrobla (Monogramm - Zguba / Enrilo) and Kwestura (Monogramm - Kwesta / Pesennik). Gaskonia confirmed her great form by also obtaining the highest score of the show, i.e. 93.67 points, which consisted of six "20" (three for head and neck and three for movement).

What is more, Gaskonia's two sons, Grafik and Gaspar by Emigrant born in 1998, also competed at Janów's ring. Gaspar became a leader in the 4-8 year old Stallions Class after getting the second highest score of the show, i.e. 93.33 points, including





GEORGIA - 1994, Monogramm x Gizela





EMIRIONA - 2005, Grafik x Emmona

four "20". Grafik also won his 9-year-old and older Stallions Class with a total of 92.00 points. In the championship, the stallions also decided to divide the titles among themselves: Gaspar won the title of the Senior Champion Stallion, and Grafik became the Reserve Champion. At the auction, however, Georgia's full sister, Gehenna, turned out to be the most expensive horse as her bidding stopped at €180k.

In his show career, Grafik was the fourfold National Senior Reserve Champion Stallion of Poland (in 2002, 2005, 2006 and 2007). In 2008, he finally won the title of the Senior Champion Stallion of Poland. He also won the "Top Ten" title at the Senior Stallion World Championships in Paris twice (in 2007 and 2008). In addition, in 2007 Grafik became the European Reserve Champion Stallion in Verona in 2004 got the title of the Stallion Champion at the show in Falbork and Bełżyce, and in 2002, he also won the title of the Champion at the show in Warsaw.

At the Spring Show in Bialka, two-year-old Gaspar (2000) became the Polish Junior Champion Stallion and Best in Show! A year later (2001) he also won the title of Junior Champion Stallion in Warsaw, and in 2005 he won the title of Senior Champion Stallion at the show in Bełżyce. In 2006, besides the title of the Champion of Poland, he won the title of the Reserve Champion Stallion in Bełżyce.

It should be mentioned that Gaskonia's first son, Gaskończyk by Russian stallion Menes (Naberg - Metropolia / Priboj), born in 1993 and bred by SK Tiersk, was sold abroad quite quickly. In 1995, the only daughter of Gascony, mare Garsoniera by Wojślaw, was born. Garsoniera ended up at the private Polish Agricola Farm Stud, previously known as Tarus Arabians Stud.

Gaskonia did not leave Michatów her female successor. However, she played an important role as a foster mother at the stud. □