

# FERRUM

## THE STAR

FOUND HIS BEST EVER HOME



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BLOODLINE



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**O**ne of the best stallions born in Poland in recent years, holder of 5 gold champion titles out of his 6 medal wins including European Yearling Champion, Polish National Champion and European Silver Junior Champion Stallion amongst of his other titles, scored over 92 and over 93 points during his show appearances and - at last but not least - one of the most correct confirmations you may ask from a stallion and a holder of a very attractive coat color...

Would you like to ask for more? OK, then he recently changed his ownership and his destiny is Branninge Gard, the stud owned by Sarah and Niclas Holm's family!

Niclas is the Chairman of the Swedish Arabian Horse Society since almost 10 years and was involved in almost every show organized for this breed in Sweden in the recent years while Sarah is famous for her passion for working with horses, not only Arabian ones. They are not only the owners of breathtaking farm in Sweden but also they are enthusiasts of a certain bloodlines that they collect since years. Their purchases of Michalów Stud bred broodmares of significance like Wilga and Waranga went to the history cards with a golden letters and believe it or not – but they went to 2023 Pride of Poland auction with intention to buy... a mare! But the history starts with putting Ferrum at the auction...

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Pride of Poland 2023



*This year's offer of Michałów Stud during the famous Pride of Poland was unprecedented. Never before have the State Studs presented for sale such a highly decorated four year old stallion with a lifetime of successes awaiting him and his future owner.*

*His debut was at Białka Junior Spring Show – the first testing ground for all Polish Arabian horses. And he made it with the highest score among yearling males (92,83 pts) and unanimous Yearling Gold Champion Stallion title. A month later Ferrum has proven his quality at the Polish Nationals in Janów Podlaski by winning the class with 93,6 pts (including a full set of top marks for his showy trot and two more for type), unanimously receiving the Yearling Gold Champion Stallion title and further topping it off with the Best in Show honors. He has since added the titles of European Yearling Champion, Polish National Champion and European Silver Junior Champion Stallion.*

*Looking back at his pedigree - Ferrum is sired by the most*

*known Michałów-bred stallions of the modern era – Morion, a World Junior Gold Champion Stallion, Qatar International Junior Champion Stallion and a double Polish National Junior & Senior Gold Champion Stallion, among his many show accomplishments. Morion himself is a stellar combination of his own two World Champion sires: Kahil Al Shaqab and Ekstern on his dam's side.*

*On the distaff side Ferrum traces to the family of Fanfara, whose members belonged to some of the highest sold horses at Janów Podlaski auction. His grandam Fermata is a maternal sister to Faustyna, a high-seller of the 2007 Pride of Poland Sale for 150 000 Euro, later called Austrian National Senior Mare Championship. Their dam Felicjana, in turn a high-seller of the 2009 Pride of Poland Sale for 105 000 Euro to the Middle East, is class winner from the Makkah Arabian Horse Show held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the senior mares category. Other high selling members of this family include Fantaska (240 000 USD), Fladra (125000 USD) and Figlarka (105 000 USD).*



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WARANGA

QR Marc x Wilga / Ekstern



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BR Phoenix



*Ferrum after proving his show potential as junior was moved to fulfill the breeding stallion duties. His semen has been collected and frozen and even under the new ownership will be offered to the breeders worldwide. Himself he is also ready to start a new, exciting journey with Branninge Gard in Sweden as senior stallion, but let's give a chance to his new owners, Sarah and Niclas Holm to explain the reasons why they have chosen Ferrum to their collection and what are the next plans.*

**UL:** *You are known as the collector of Michalów Stud mares, especially from the W-line, you used to own a dam and granddam of fantastic show horses – Wilga, then you added Waranga for 165 000 euro at Pride of Poland 2022, and you told me that your intention was to bid on Wildona (of course!) this year... how it has happened that you came back home with Ferrum then?*

**Sarah:** *yes, we did think about bidding on fabulous Wildona, but when we arrived in the barn I had only eyes for Ferrum.*

*He represents a damline we had a mare imported in utero in 1989 from, and the F-line is not very often seen. He also has all the marks I love in an Arabian horse; from the satinlike shining coat to the perfectly placed ears and eyes, powerful but fluent movement, the gentle temperament...I can go on for days describing what I love about him.*

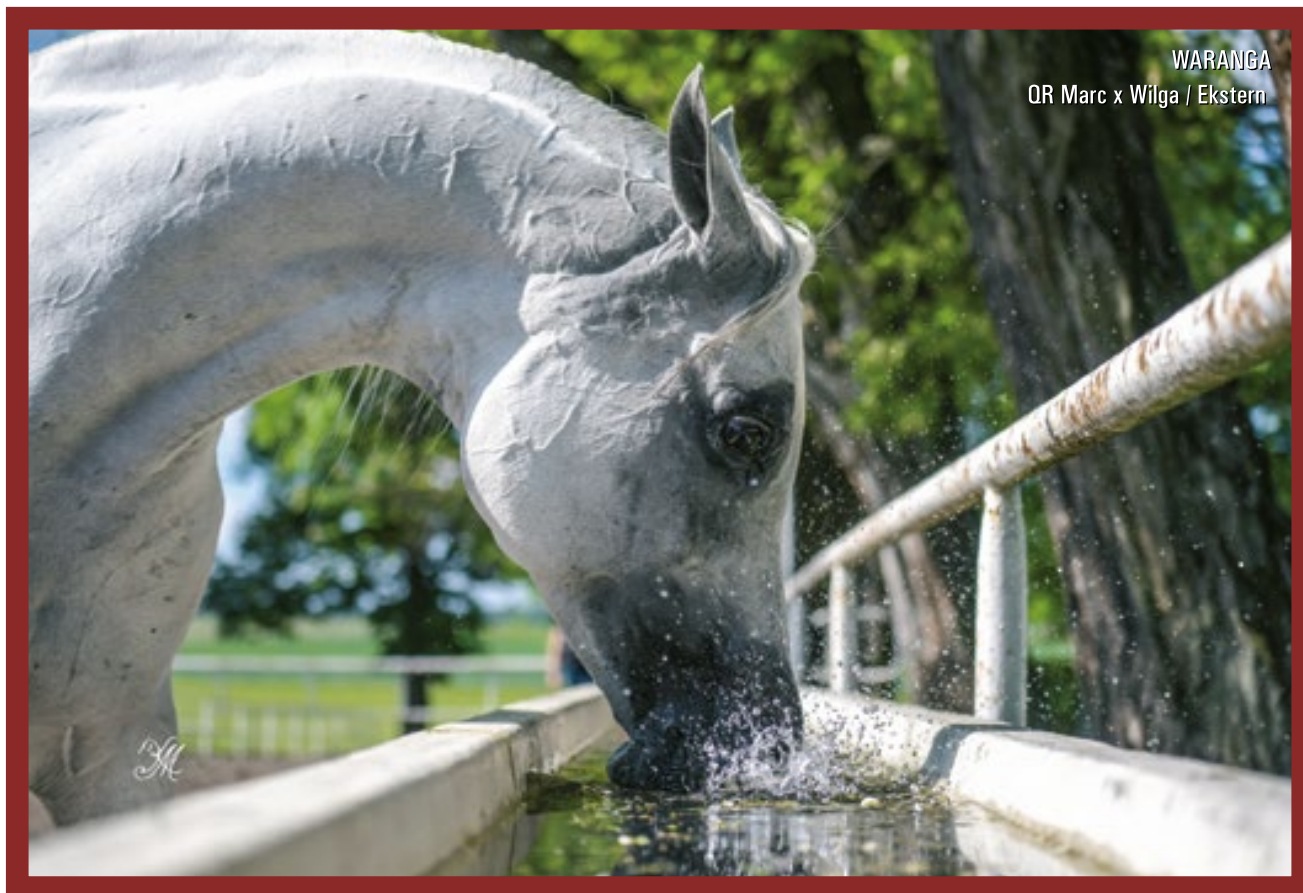
*Actually, we looked at each other when standing by his stall, both of us struck by the distant possibility to take Ferrum home. We talked all night about this and tried to come up with reasons to make this a somewhat sensible decision. To make matters worse we had just purchased a very pretty stallion (Aanan Lembarak) from the same sireline so it took some serious talking, I'll tell you. We also decided how much money we were willing to pay for him and none of us believed it would be enough!*

**Niclas:** *Being a collector at heart since childhood, I love auctions – and Pride of Poland never disappoints! Maybe it's also the fantastic environments or meeting up with*



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friends from the Arabian horse family around the world – the whole experience always leaves me feeling invigorated and inspired! Of course, sometimes you also find a horse you cannot part from – and this year Ferrum was that horse. I don't think I will ever forget seeing him in his corner box and look into his magnificent eyes! We've enjoyed following his very successful career but never I did imagine the possibility of owning him – it's just a dream come true.

**UL:** *What are the features of Arabian horses that you are looking for when you buy a horse? And why you have chosen so many Polish Arabian horses for your breeding program?*

**Sarah:** *We like solid, correct horses with huge eyes and a sweet disposition. Both myself and Niclas want our horses to move like a million, and have that really good neck and shoulders which tells you even from a far distance that this it is an Arabian. For me, excellent type is something more than just a pretty head, it is actually to spot an Arabian from*

*hundreds of meters away just because of how the horse carries itself.*

*Polish Arabians are the quintessence of all that, and in fact have been for a very long time. One of my favourite Arabians of all times is PIRUET, he exuded that classical type. We were fortunate enough to have his son WARES in our stud for six years which gave us a lovely collection of fillies for the future.*

**Niclas:** *I'm a history nerd, you know, and I like the idea of being the latest link in a long chain of breeders. You're directly dependent on the fruit of their labour, and it's your job to carry the flame further for a time before you hand it over to the next generations. If you're successful you have the power to change the direction of the Arabian breed forever – for better or worse – and it is your responsibility to not mess it up.*

*The Polish studs have carried the breed forward for a very*

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long time now, and actually made a fantastic job of refining an Arabian horse while also keeping their amazing ability for performance and sport. This is no small feat, and something we always aim for in our own breeding.

**UL:** From what we could have seen you were surely one of the happiest buyers during 2023 Pride of Poland auction. What did you think in this moment when the hammer went down for your bid for the third time?

**Sarah:** "OH MY GOD IT CAN NOT BE TRUUUUUUE".

**Niclas:** Yes, it was a moment of true happiness for all three of us – I'm actually so glad our son David, 11 years old, was also there to experience this first hand!

**UL:** You are famous for your collection of very nice, powerful, good moving stallions. Moreover I know that you work with them personally. What do you like about Arabian stallions and why do you like to keep and work with them?

**Sarah:** They are the gentlest, sweetest animals to be around but there is always an element of electric energy that is so interesting to handle. I truly enjoy the way an Arabian stallion is a "5-in-one" horse, but in the most energetic and happy way. Mares can be so grumpy and self-serving, I actually find stallions a lot easier to communicate with.

**UL:** Is Ferrum your favourite one now? Or you have any other that you particularly like and why?

**Sarah:** Every horse of ours I have in front of me is my favourite at that moment! People often say when they visit our farm "but you said that the other horse was your favourite, now you say it is this one?" and it is true, I tell every horse that it is my darling and my favourite when we talk. Ferrum is such an exotic, beautiful, sensitive horse and I already know that I will spend a lot of time with him to get to know all his quirks and fashions (did anyone say teddybears?)

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WILGA

Ekstern x Wenessa / Egon



*Of course, some favourites are more special than others – WILGA was such a horse. Unfortunately she died last summer while foaling and it was an absolutely harrowing experience. Imagine our feelings when the Pride of Poland sales list was published just a few weeks after this happened, and her beautiful daughter WARANGA was presented as lot 14...*

*Niclas had to fight hard for her at the auction, and she is worth every penny we placed in her. In character she is very much like her mother, just as sensitive, intelligent, sublimely beautiful and with an enormous integrity. I'm also lucky enough to have her two sisters WIKTORIA and BR WILJA in our stables, together with her fantastic brother BR WIRUS – they are all mummy's favourites!*

**UL:** *Let's now come back to Ferrum – what are the nearest future plans for him? Would we see him coming back to the showrings?*

**Sarah:** *For the last months he has been collected for frozen semen in Michalow. Now when he's coming home it's important to give him ample time to root himself properly at our farm Bränninge before it is time for the showring again – as you know it is often very stressful for a stallion to move.*

*I'm sure we will bring him back out into the showring eventually, but we are not in hurry, he is still young. For the next season we already have a lovely collection of mares lined up for him, by stallions like Ekstern, QR Marc, Eden C, Alert and many more. It is beyond exciting and slightly unreal to think of, to be honest...*

**UL:** *So we are going to observe some golden crosses made from Champions and sired by Ferrum in the next years at Branninge Gard. We wish you the best of luck and satisfaction in that journey together and we will for sure return to your barns to show the results to the worldwide community!*



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St Anne Stable

