

THEE DESPERADO

Thee dream isn't to live forever.
Thee dream is to create something that will. 1989 - 2013

by Joe Ferriss ■ photos by Randi Clark, Bob Dressler, Gigi Grasso, Johnny Johnston, Polly Knoll,
Jeff Little, Jean Pierre, Javan Schaller, Doug Shiflet, Suzanne Sturgill, Rik VanLent Jr, Stuart Vesty, Shira Yega

*Photos provided courtesy
of Arabians LTD and various owners
of Thee Desperado breeding

In the movies there seems to be a kind of charm attached to the image of a "Desperado." Even though portrayed as a bold rebel, a "Desperado" seems to have a kind of irresistible magnetism, a free but restless spirit playing by his own rules. The term has been associated with a famous song and album by the Eagles, a heavy metal band named Desperado, a popular film in which Antonio Banderas played the leading role, and even a line of motorcycles – almost anything associated with unbridled but restless freedom seemed to fit the label "Desperado". Is

this what inspired the namesake for Thee Desperado? Perhaps, but no matter how one looks at it Thee Desperado's story is uniquely his own.

This famous "Desperado" has long been the pride and joy of Judy and Jim Sirbasku, his proud owners for most of his life.

His beginnings in 1989 seemed to be with great anticipation. His dam AK Amiri Asmarr (TheEgyptianPrince x Asmarr) was owned by Tom and Martha Salome. She was one of the few straight Egyptian daughters of TheEgyptianPrince to be shown competitively since so many of them had a great reputation as exceptional producers, thus bypassing a show ring career. The Salomes were impressed with the young stallion The Minstril and his U.S. Top Ten Futurity win so thought he was a good choice for their excellent Egyptian Prince daughter. The Minstril was already making already himself a legend as a sire with a long line up of mare owners hoping for a perfect The Minstril foal. While it was only The Minstril's third season at stud, this mating was also to be AK Amiri Asmarr's



*Thee Desperado
at about three months
with David
Gardner & TD.*



Thee Desperado 1989 bay stallion (The Minstril x AK Amiri Asmarr) with western saddle. Despite all the fanfare about him and his long halter-winning career, he enjoys being ridden around the farm. Rik VanLent Jr. photo.

very first foal being a maiden mare. On April 5, 1989 she produced a beautiful bay colt with the most uniformly perfect markings, balanced proportions and overall excellent quality. But that did not impress AK Amiri Asmarr one bit because she wanted nothing to do with motherhood and did not want this little bay colt anywhere near her. However the boldness of this youngster was to foretell of a “Desperado” who would make a name for himself no matter what his mother thought.

His lifelong trainer, handler and friend, Shawn Crews tells how they all took turns helping out around the clock to make mother and son gradually become

a family and within two weeks they were settled in together. By the time he was five weeks old the Salomes sold 60 percent ownership in the little colt to Gardner Bloodstock, famed for their success in promoting Ruminaja Ali and his son The Minstril. A week later eight breeders bought lifetime breedings to him. Then trouble struck several months after Thee Desperado was weaned. He developed severe colic requiring emergency surgery at Texas A & M. Shawn recalls rushing over to see him shortly afterward and from the moment he jumped up he was as strong as if nothing had happened. Despite the early challenges and set backs, Thee Desperado would let nothing stand in

*Thee Desperado
at about twelve/thirteen years.
Gigi Grasso photo.*



SHAIKH AL BADI AHR*54456
Grey 1969

***MORAFIC** AHR*32261
Grey 1956

NAZEER RAS*247 Grey 1934
MABROUKA EAO*12 Chestnut 1951

***BINT MAISA EL
SAGHIRA++** AHR*23220
Bay 1958

NAZEER RAS*247 Grey 1934
MAISA EAO*213 Grey 1948

RUMINAJA ALI AHR*134937 Grey 1976

BINT MAGIDAA AHR*62907 Grey
1970

***KHOFO++** AHR*32265
Grey 1965

MORAFIC EAO*29 Grey 1956
NABILAH EAO*100 Grey 1950

***MAGIDAA** AHR*58075
Chestnut 1964

ALAA EL DIN EAO*352 Chestnut 1958
MAYSA EAO*519 Chestnut 1956

THE MINSTRIL AHR*322707 Bay 1984

IBN GALAL I GASB*784 Chestnut
1973

IBN GALAL ASBB*90
Chestnut 1966

GALAL EAO*109 Chestnut 1969
MOHGA EAO*131 Black 1950

11 HANADI ASBB*99
Chestnut 1968

ALAA EL DIN EAO*352 Chestnut 1958
RAHMA EAO*235 Bay 1951

***BAHILA** AHR*285239 Black 1977

BAKRIA GASB*801 Bay 1973

GHARIB SBWM*172 Black
1966

ANTER IOHB*28 Chestnut 1946
SOUHAIR EAO*107 Bay 1954

***BAHEIA** AAS*10 Grey
1966

NASRALLA EAO*128 Grey 1956
HEMMAT EAO*90 Grey 1922

Thee Desperado

1989 bay, stallion

***MORAFIC** AHR*32261 Grey 1956

NAZEER RAS*247 Grey
1934

MANSOUR RAS*111 Grey 1921
BINT SAMIHA RAS*133 Bay 1915

MABROUKA EAO*12
Chestnut 1951

SID ABOUHOUM RAS*285 Grey
1939
MONIET EL NEFOUS RAS*441
Chestnut 1946

THEEGYPTIANPRINCE AHR*45351 Grey 1967

***BINT MONA** AHR*30263 Grey
1958

NAZEER RAS*247 Grey
1934

MANSOUR RAS*111 Grey 1921
BINT SAMIHA RAS*133 Bay 1915

MOUNA EAO*22 Chestnut
1954

SID ABOUHOUM RAS*285 Grey
1939
MONIET EL NEFOUS RAS*441
Chestnut 1946

AK AMIRI ASMARR AHR*332829 Grey 1985

***ZAGHLOUL** AHR*68609 Grey
1963

GASSIR RAS*371 Grey
1941

KHEIR RAS*130 Grey 1924
BADIA RAS*203 Bay 1924

GHARBAWIA EAO*426
Grey 1951

HAMDAN IOHB*10 Grey 1926
GHORRA IOHB*122 Grey 1942

ASMARR AHR*188279 Bay 1979

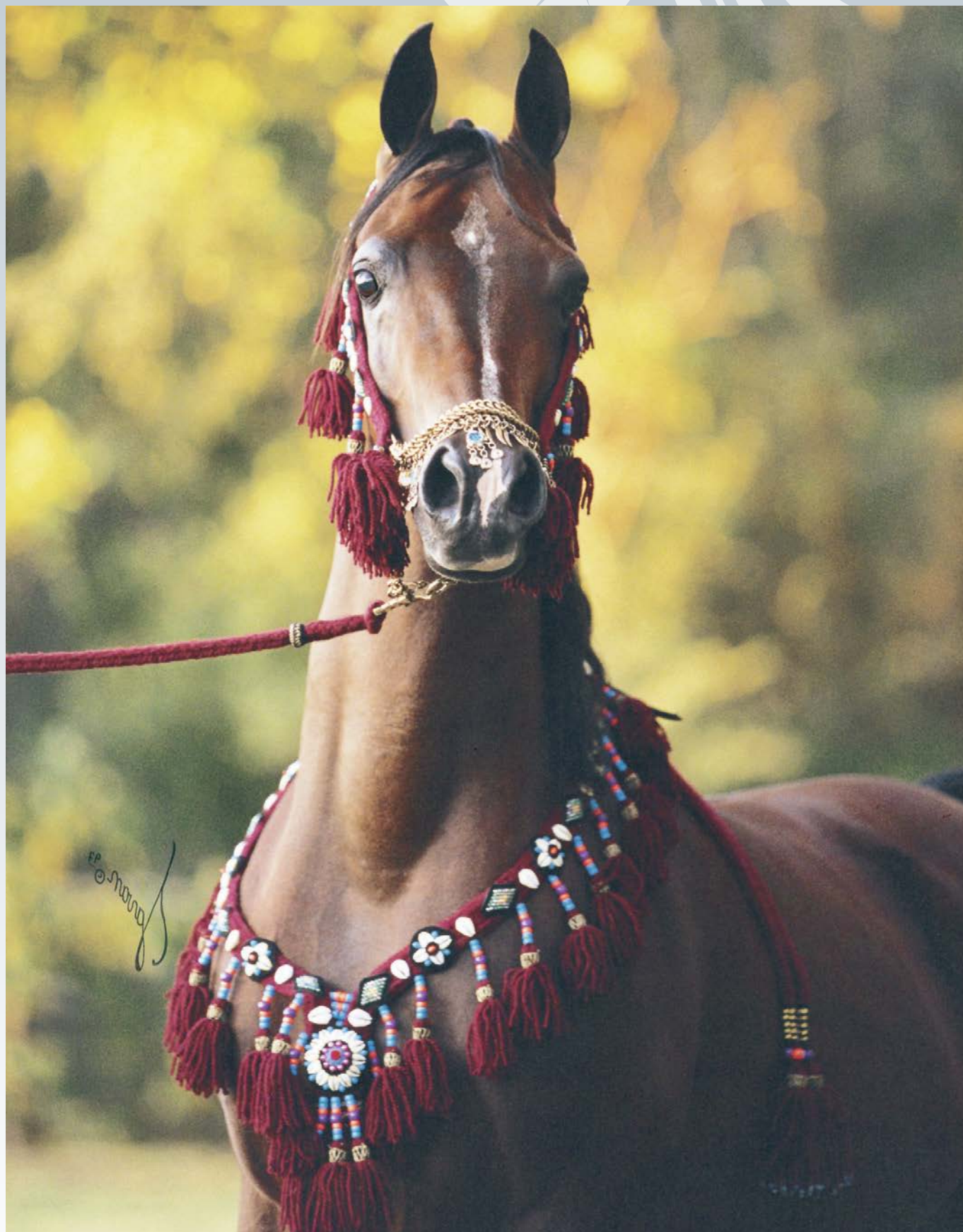
NAGLIAH AHR*82780 Bay 1972

***IBN HAFIZA** AHR*61769
Bay 1959

SAMEH IOHB*130 Grey 1946
HAFIZA EAO*516 Bay 1940

***NABILAH** AHR*32264 Grey
1966

ANTER IOHB*28 Chestnut 1946
FARASHA EAO*90 Grey 1921



The proud bearing and style of Thee Desperado as well as his overall quality assured him a very successful show career. Javan Schaller photo.

*The Minstril (Ruminaja Ali x Bahila)
1984 bay stallion, U.S. Top Ten stallion
and sire of Thee Desperado.
The Minstril has sired 586 get thus far
and is a leading sire of champions
on five continents.
Javan Schaller photo.*



*Ruminaja Ali 1976 grey stallion (Shaikh Al Badi x Bint Magidaa by Khofo)
Multi U.S. National championship winner and an international patriarch in
Arabian breeding. He is the paternal grandsire of Thee Desperado.
Polly Knoll photo.*



*AK Amiri Asmarr 1985 grey mare (TheEgyptianPrince x Asmarr), dam of Thee
Desperado. She is a class A Show winner and dam of champions Thee Desperado
and La Marsala [full sister to Thee Desperado].
Javan Schaller photo.*



Zaghloul 1963 grey stallion (Gassir x Gharbawia) imported to the U.S. in 1970, he one of the outcross elements in Thee Desperado's pedigree being without Nazeer or Moniet El Nefous breeding. Shown here in old age at Gleannloch. Polly Knoll photo.

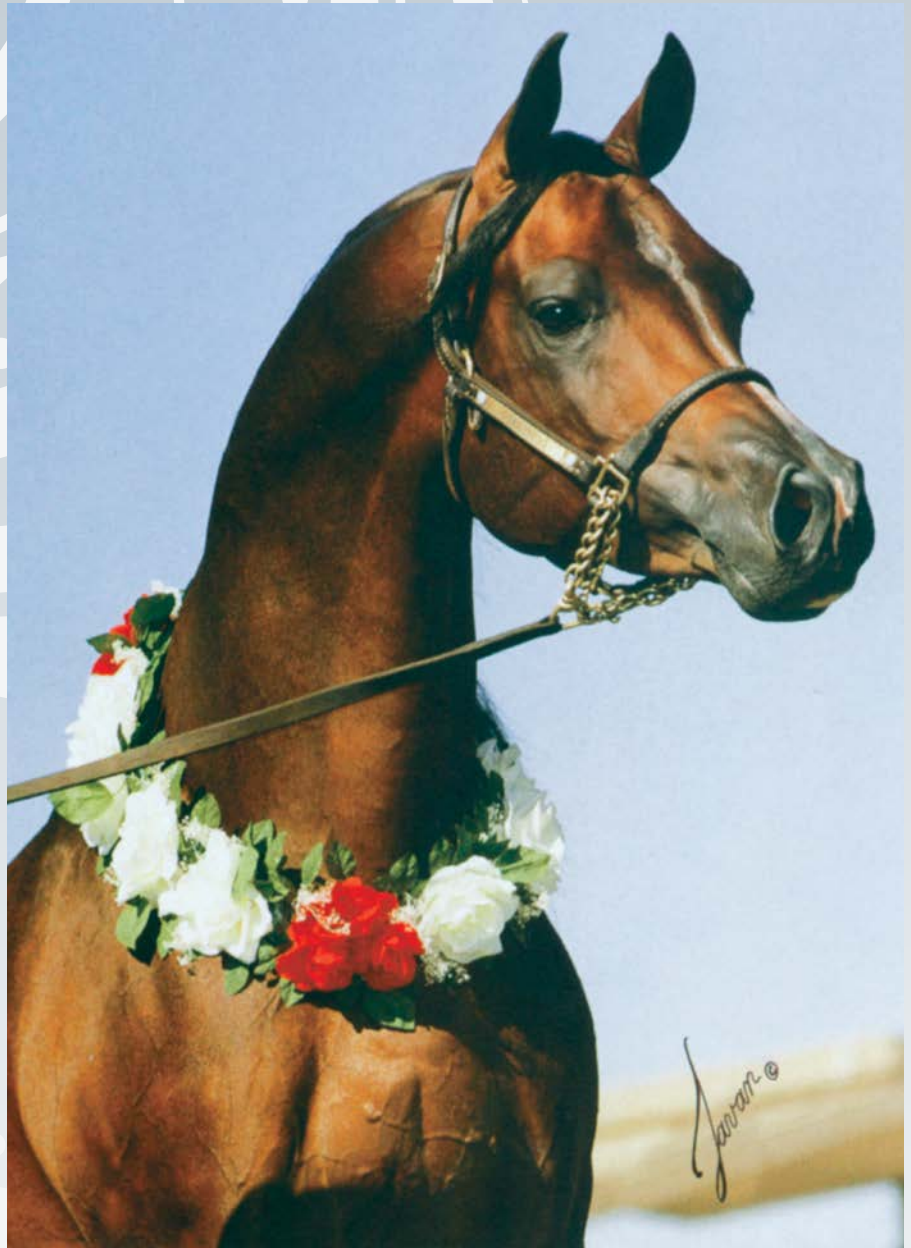


Nagliah 1972 bay mare (Ibn Hafiza x Nabilabbh). She was a lovely mare with large dark eyes. She is another outcross element in the pedigree of Thee Desperado also having no Nazeer or Moniet El Nefous breeding. She is the tail female line of Thee Desperado and he shows much of her facial character and rich mahogany bay color. Bob Dressler photo.



The Egyptian Prince 1967 grey stallion (Morafic x Bint Mona) another legend in Egyptian breeding, he is the maternal grandsire of Thee Desperado. Johnny Johnston photo.

*Thee Desperado, the charmer.
Javan Schaller photo.*



the way of the destiny he seemed to sense inside.

His show career began as a two year old and in his early years he won championships regionally and became Junior Champion at the Egyptian Event. Each year things got better and better in the show ring. Shawn points out that he caught the attention of trainer Bob Boggs who really liked the colt and wanted to become involved in giving him some top opportunities.

Under the direction and guidance of Shawn Crews, who was not only Thee Desperado's trainer but also his friend, Thee Desperado was allowed to become a star on his own terms. With such a seasoned team behind him Thee Desperado went on to win U.S. National Top Ten and Canadian Top Ten stallion in 1993 at the same time his sire The Minstril won the same honors, a father and son feat still unequalled. 1993 was also the year that Judy and



*BJ Thee Mustafa
1993 bay stallion (x Khalili El Bahar)
Javan Schaller photo.*

Jim Sirbasku purchased the majority interest in Thee Desperado. The following year in 1994 Thee Desperado won Scottsdale Champion Stallion, a very challenging feat, Canadian National Top Ten stallion and finally U.S. Reserve National Champion. Thee Desperado had finally achieved top recognition and Judy and Jim Sirbasku could no longer be content with part ownership so they became full owners of Thee Desperado, the horse of their dreams. And to this day

Thee Desperado lives a pampered and comfortable life at Arabians LTD.

What is so interesting about the pedigree of Thee Desperado? If you study it closely and review his ancestry you discover that he is a unique amalgam of both related and outcross elements blended into one individual who is uniquely his own identity. A good analogy for such a pedigree is like the recipe for the most unforgettable dish. Attend any fine restaurant that

*BB Thee Renegade
1994 bay stallion (x PH Safina)
Gigi Grasso photo.*



*BG Maasai
1994 bay stallion (x DM Mimosa)
Doug Shiftet photo.*

is famed for one particular dish of the most sought after bouquet of flavors that you remember forever, and the secret is found in their recipe. A good recipe finds a unique way to blend strong flavors that would stand on their own into a new and memorable flavor.

Certainly a strong flavor in the recipe

of many Egyptian pedigrees today is the immortal stallion Morafic. He is the sire line of Thee Desperado but also is present three times in the pedigree. Morafic's effect is strong for generations, imparting nobility, elevated carriage and style of movement. He also imparts very fine skin and clean flat bone. Much of this of course comes also from his sire Nazeer who is a key ingredient. The strain of Hadban Enzahi is highly desirable in Egyptian breeding and is not only the strain of Nazeer himself but also of the lovely Anter daughter Nabilahh (x Farasha). Her grandmother Yosreia produced the legendary Aswan (x Nazeer) in Russian and Polish bloodlines. Nabilahh is the tail female line of Thee Desperado, but she is also the dam of Khofo, the beautiful and athletic son of Morafic. And how is Khofo introduced into this recipe? He is the sire of the absolutely magnificent mare and champion producer, Bint Magidaa, dam of Ruminaja Ali, who has two lines to Morafic. Where else does the Hadban Enzahi strain appear in the



Atiq Haleeb (Laheeb x Hila B) grey stallion bred by Idan Atiq Egyptian Stud in Israel. A Supreme National Champion of Namibia and Supreme West Cape Champion at Worcester, South Africa. He traces to Fadl through both Fa-Habba of the Nile family and Habba, the dam line of Laheeb. Stuart Vesty photo courtesy of Tzviyah Idan.



*The Infidel
1995 bay stallion (x Bint Magidaa)
Jean Pierre photo.*

Windsprees Mirage
 1996 black stallion (x GL Lady Mirage)
 Gigi Grasso photo.



SA Thee Moon Dancer
 1997 grey stallion (x AK Shalina)
 photo courtesy of Sharon Kettwich collection.

recipe for Thee Desperado? From the beautifully proportioned Ibn Galal, who traces to Yosreia on both sides of his pedigree, and from the mare Bakria who is a Hadban Enzahi on both sides of her pedigree. The careful weaving of Morafic in the pedigree also introduces each time his immortal grand dam Moniet El Nefous, the undisputed queen of Egypt and a very strong source of classic beauty in the recipe. Her blood is intensified when Morafic was bred to his full sister in blood Bint Mona producing the legendary sire The Egyptian Prince, sire of Thee Desperado's dam. Yet for all the careful blending by line breeding these strong elements in the recipe, the female lines of both the sire and dam of Thee Desperado are relatively outcross having no lines to Nazeer in their pedigree. This is represented by the non-Nazeer mares Bakria, grand dam of The Minstril, and Asmarr grand dam of Thee Desperado. In each of these mares are multiple lines to the Rabdan El Azrak blood, noted for



Thee Asil
1997 chestnut stallion (x Alia Barakaa)
Stuart Vesty photo.

producing intelligent, athletic horses with long graceful necks and powerful shoulders and also a source of the dark bay and black color. Asmarr carries ten crosses to Ibn Rabdan noted for excellent bodies and long shapely necks. Thus the recipe for Thee Desperado is an amalgam of classic nobility and proud carriage with clean flat bone, fine skin, great beauty, beautifully balanced body, athletic talent from the Rabdan blood, all in a rich deep Mahogany bay color. However the soul is in the eyes and Thee Desperado has this in great measure from his magnificent great grandmother, Nagliah, a splendid mare who you can see much of in his face. I saw her years ago and was charmed by her lovely eyes and beautiful facial proportions.

This amalgam produced a very handsome kind of horse that is the total package for many admirers of the Arabian horse and obviously he has attracted a lot of attention. To see him in person, even now at age 20 there is a



True Colours
1997 chestnut stallion (x Dabeda)
Stuart Vesty photo.



Botswana
1998 bay stallion (x *The Minuet*)
Suzanne Sturgill photo.

Insignia DeSha
2000 bay stallion (x *Jubillee*)
Gigi Grasso photo.



The Sequel RCA
2001 bay stallion (x *La Marsala*)
Stuart Vesty photo.



PR Desert Rose+
1998 bay mare (x *AK Nadara*)
Jeff Little photo.



The celebrated stallion Royal Colours. He is double Thee Desperado being sired by True Colours, a son of Thee Desperado and out of Xtreme Wonder, a grand daughter of Thee Desperado. Stuart Vesty photo.



*Rhapsody In Black
1994 black mare (x Aliasbalm RA)
Suzanne Sturgill photo.*



quality about him like a fine sculpture in which all lines flow into the next regardless in which position you are standing, and all of this in his rich mahogany color.

A brief review of some numbers and details indicates how popular he has become as a sire. Thee Desperado is the sire of 948 foals so far and he is only twenty years old this year. He has the distinction of being the sire of the most get of any straight Egyptian stallion ever. Of those 948 less than 12 percent are geldings so that means that an exceptionally high percentage of his get are of breeding potential. For eleven years in a row Thee Desperado was

*The Vision HG
1994 black mare (x Belle Staar)
Shira Yegar photo.*



Thee Cappuccino 1994 bay mare (x Jubilllee) Gigi Grasso photo.



Deserree 1994 grey mare (x PH Maroufina) Randi Clark photo.



Queen Sheeba 1996 black mare (x MinstrilsGabriella) Jeff Little photo.



Sweet Eloise 1998 chestnut mare (x Kuhaylah Nitaya) Suzanne Sturgill photo.



A beautiful paint of the Thee Desperado

the leading sire of winners at the U.S. Egyptian Event. Even though he has been promoted heavily within the straight Egyptian community, he also attracted Arabian mares of other bloodlines. Aside from his many get in the U.S. and Canada, his get are now found worldwide with exports to the following countries: England, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, France, Germany, Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, The Emirates, Venezuela and Ecuador.

With those astounding statistics, it would be impossible within this space to give proper attention to all of his prominent get so we can only let the images catch your attention.

For the 2016 breeding season, Arabians Ltd. is pleased to introduce breeding to Thee Desperado via frozen semen. These breedings are available exclusive for mares in the US bred using the ICSI process, in conjunction with the program at Texas A&M. Please contact Arabians Ltd for more information. □



The last photo of Thee Desperado with Shawn Crews

Thee Desperado has certainly made a name for himself. Suzanne Sturgill photo.

