## KOTHAM CITY OPEN FINNISH INT'L ARABIAN HORSE SHOW AT HAMINA

by Topi Kuusinen ■ photos by Nina-Maria Fredrikson, Topi Kuusinen, Milla Sitomaniemi

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he main event of the Finnish Arabian Horse Society, the annual Arabian Horse Show was held this year as an Ecaho Int'l C-Show at Metsäkylä, Hamina, Finland. This year, the judges were Marianne Tengstedt of Denmark and Irina Stigler of Italy/Russia - top-notch judges. The DC in the show was Alicja Poszepczynska of Poland; she's worked as the DC in our show for many times now, always doing a splendid job. The ringmaster in the show was Topi Kuusinen of Finland.

The exhibitors of the Finnish show are mainly Finnish owners of one or two horses or small breeders. This also means that the level of preparing and showing the horses varies a lot, but the enthusiasm, joy and appreciation of the horse is quite tangible there.

After a cold and rainy summer, the weather was favourable at the show and the first horses to enter the beautifully decorated ring were a non-Ecaho class of partbreds.

Unfortunately, purebred yearling fillies as well as twoyear-old fillies also only had one entry each. Of three year-old fillies there were two and the winner of the class, Walentina DK, also scored a nice 90.5 points.

While there was only one colt at the show, the gelding classes had a bit more entries, junior and senior geldings had a total of four entries after one no-show.

There were a total of eight senior mares in a total of three classes, with KA Madjila DK being awarded the highest

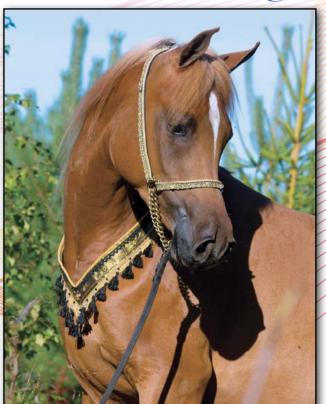
score of the mares.

Amazingly, there were a total of six stallions shown in two classes, and it can be argued that the class winners of the both the younger and older stallions, Laurent DK and Mohaned Al Sahab QA, were the highlights of the show. Both of these showed a nice type with charisma you'd expect from Arabian stallions, Mohaned even scoring the only 20 of the day – for his head and neck.

Finally the champions were chosen. Again, in the championships it was the stallions' championship that was the most interesting, with Laurent winning the Gold Champion title and Mohaned awarded Silver Champion title.

This left just the selection of Best in Show, the prize of the BIS being the Lewenhaupt Trophy, a beautiful bronze statue of an Arabian mare and her foal, presented by Countess Penelope Lewenhaupt as a trophy to be annually awarded for the best show horse registered in Finland. The judges chose Laurent DK as the winner.

## Walentina DK



## Laurent DK



Gold Champion Junior Mare
Walentina DK

Gold Champion Junior Stallion
Phi Paciano SE

Gold Champion Gelding
Maranello FI

**Gold Champion Mare** KA Madjila DK

Gold Champion Stallion
Laurent DK

**Best in Show**Laurent DK

photo by Topi Kuusinen

## Maranello FI

This little show sported a friendly atmosphere and a surprising amount of spectators in the favourable weather. Finland will be ready to welcome foreign entries for the next year's show, of course – more information will be available at http://finnisharabianhorseshows.com/ when the date and location have been decided.



Phi Paciano SE

KA Madjila DK

