



# DAMMAM

## KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup>, 2018





# ASHARQIA

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## ARABIAN HORSE FESTIVAL

Text and photos by: Monika Luft  
Translation: Joanna Krawczyk

*Asharqia, the Eastern Province, is one of thirteen provinces of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia bordering on Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, Oman and Yemen. In the world of Arabian horses this name has become known thanks to a new event organized at the end of February in the province's capital, Dammam (more precisely in Al Khobar, which is part of the metropolis), under the name of Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival. It was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Saud Bin Naif Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Governor of the Eastern Province.*

*The Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival consisted of two Arabian horse shows – the Asharqia Arabian Horse Classic*

*and the Gulf Straight Egyptian Arabian Horse Cup, an educational conference titled “Where It All Began” and the Art & Archeology exhibition. After the event, on Monday February 26th, guests were invited for a farm tour of three nearby studs.*

*The entire event was supervised by the President of the Higher Organizing Committee, Sheikh Khalid Al Gabtani. It has to be said that it is not often that an event organized for the first time has such scope and splendour. The organizers clearly wanted to match the most prestigious shows in the world in terms of lavishness and organization – and they succeeded. Elegance, attention to detail in stage*



design and comfort of guests, tastefully designed logo, neatly published catalogues, spaciousness made available to horses and people – all this was of highest quality. The bar has been raised extremely high already during this first edition. “Approximately 60.000 people attended the whole Festival over 4 days”, confirms the show manager Ronny Vosch. “After the first day the Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival was no 1 activity on social media in the KSA and this continued for over 5 days, having the biggest number of “impressions” – over 25 million – on different platforms”.

“This project has been planned already some years ago”, explains Ronny Vosch. “Originally the intention was to organise a Straight Egyptian show only, but due to the Rules and Regulations of KAAHC, we had to organise a C-National Show first. What some people referred to as “a little show in the Eastern Province” finally became a huge event, already at its inaugural edition, with over 450 entries. This number put high stress on our logistics as the space and the facilities at the Sport City Center are limited. I am happy to say that all the teams worked very well together to put this new event on the map. Most shows can only be jealous on the fully occupied public seating area. And on the relaxed atmosphere in the VIP section, very spacey and well organized, too. For sure there are points to improve in the future. We know them and already are looking into the possibilities and our strategy for 2019. The management of KAAHC confirmed their support for a C-International Show”.



The Festival was held under the Patronage of HRH Prince Saud Bin Naif Al Saud Governor of the Eastern Province



photo by Fabio Brianzoni



بن قريعة  
BIN QURAYA



SALAYEL

أرامكو السعودية  
saudi aramco



شركة الصيد للدرمجات  
SUKAT



الراشد  
ALRASHID

***Sh. Khalid Al Gahtani, President of the Higher Organizing Committee:***

Our vision was to create a new and exciting Festival that would become an important event for the Eastern Province, but beyond that, an event that would create enthusiasm for the Arabian horse and its legacy throughout the Kingdom and beyond.

We wanted to make the Festival much more than just a horse show – creating an event that provided entertainment and activities for families and visitors who perhaps had not experienced the world of Arabian horses before. Another important aspect for us was to hold the Kingdom's first show for Straight Egyptian Arabians, and also include art and education as vital elements. While competition is always important, art and educational elements are vital to the bigger picture of preserving the heritage of the breed and encouraging broader involvement for new generations of Arabian horse enthusiasts.

***Sh. Hamad A. Al Quraya, Vice-President of the Higher Organizing Committee:***

The response to the show was overwhelming! For a first time event, the number and quality of horses entered was fantastic – we had over 290 horses in the Classic and 162 horses in the Gulf Cup, making the total the largest number of horses at any show ever held in the Kingdom. Not only were owners and breeders in attendance, but the viewing stands for the general public were full for both shows and all were enjoying the horses. This was an important goal of our Organizing Committee – not just to present horses to those already involved, but to let others experience the excitement and beauty of these wonderful animals.

***Sh. Abdulaziz M. H. Bukanan, Vice-President of the Higher Organizing Committee:***

I think the success of the formula was to make it more than just another horse show and creating an event that would attract people from throughout the region, the Kingdom and beyond. We estimate that over 60,000 visitors attended over the four days, enjoying the cultural village, the art exhibition, the seminar and the horse show itself. And remember that many of these people may never have actually seen an Arabian horse up close before! This kind of outreach is so important for the future of the Arabian breed, and also, in the Kingdom, it is vital to emphasize the unique cultural legacy to encourage future generations of Arabian horse breeders.



photo by Fabio Branzoni



# ASHARQIA

## ARABIAN HORSE CLASSIC

FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>-23<sup>RD</sup>

Text and photos by: Monika Luft - Translation: Joanna Krawczyk



292 horses in the catalogue – this was the attendance of the C-National ECAHO affiliated show. There was prize money (5 thousand Saudi Riyals SAR) for each of the top five horses in class. The show was judged by: Claudia Darius (Germany), Maria Ferraroni (Italy), Tamas Rombauer (Hungary), Abdullah Almokbel (Saudi Arabia), Lucas Goździalski (Poland) and Mohamed Machmoum (Morocco). Among the exhibitors were both individual Saudi breeders, as well as world-renown studs, such as Al Khalediah Stables, Al Khaled Farm, Athbah Stud and Al Muawd Stud. The top three horses from each class qualified for the championships, which were held in an open formula.

The first class, the A series of the yearling fillies, was held in heavy rainfall. Victorious was Oxotica Al Khaled (QR Marc – FS So-Viva Exotica/Charismatic BVA) with a score of 91,63. A charming chestnut, graduate of Sheikh Khaled Bin Ahmed Bin Baker Bagedo, the later yearling gold champion mare, was one of the examples attesting to the strength of the stud's breeding program. The junior classes, not surprising at

all, were dominated by horses of Saudi breeding. It was only in the senior classes that imported horses were found. The B series of the yearling fillies class was won by Rahbah Athbah (EKS Alihandro – Mawee Athba/QR Marc), with a score of 91,5, from the stud of HRHP Abdulaziz Bin Ahmed Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, later chosen yearling silver champion mare. Second in this class was Mubdeat Al Khalediah (Razi Al Khalediah – Sahwat Al Khalediah/El Palacio VO, 91,38) whose both parents come from the breeding of HRHP Khaled Bin Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud. In the finals she received a bronze medal. The judges were very frugal with their top marks and the first "20" came no sooner than in the B series of the two year old fillies.

There were 10 participants in the yearling colts of the A series and the best turned out to be Ameer Al Washm (Eden C – CC Psaaz/Psyttadel), bred and owned by Mohammed Bin Abdullah Bin Mohammed Al Manea. The graduate of Al Washm Stud gathered 90,5 pts, but in the finals did not find himself on the podium. He was bested, among others, by a rival

photo by Jan Kan



from the same class, Nabil Alsakab (Excalibur EA – Scandall Mirage TGS/Mirage LM), who had the same amount of points, but placed second due to lower marks for type. However in the finals he was awarded the silver, to the joy of the breeder and owner, Abdul Aziz bin Ibrahim Al Bargash (Al Sakab Stable).

The winner of the B series of this age category, the bay Raslan Al Khalediah (out of Mazoon Al Khalediah by El Palacio VO), is another offspring of the extremely handsome Razi Al Khalediah (by Marquis CAHR). With a score of 90,5 he bested his rivals (in the hands of Philippe Hosay, who presented all horses from Al Khalediah Stables) and claimed the bronze in the finals, yielding to the afore mentioned Nabil Alsakab and the graduate of Athbah Stud, who entered the finals from second place in class. The gold medallist, Almaa Athbah (Shael Dream Desert – Bint Marajji/Marajji), received 89,88 pts.

Triumphant among the 2 year old fillies of the A series was the daughter of Janów Podlaski-bred Perespa by Enzo (exported in 2015) – chestnut, correct, with a pretty head and the name Al Jazi Alsayed by Ascot DD. The breeder of the filly, who received 90,75 pts from the judges, is Khalid Bin Said Bin Abdullah Al Sayed. In this class we had the chance to see daughters of other Polish dams – Middle East (Emerald J – Pinga/Gazal Al Shaqab) and Hayat Al Faris (Shael Dream Desert – Baklava/Kabsztad). Out of these two the better was the daughter of Baklava, a filly with a very sweet expression, who placed sixth with the same score as her rival from fifth spot (Hayat Al Faris

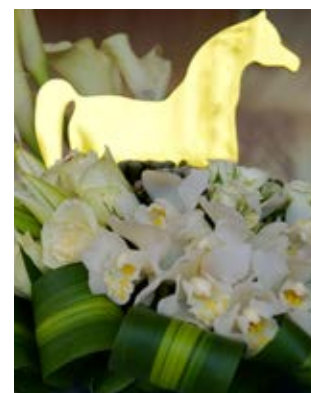
lost due to movement). Pinga's daughter, an elegant filly with a long neck, placed tenth (89,5).

In the next series of this age category (there were three in total) was the later junior gold champion mare, the delightful chestnut Resalat Al Khalediah, a full sister to Raslan Al Khalediah and at the same time a representative of her sire, Razi Al Khalediah (who was on the cover of the 2017 Al Khalediah European Arabian Horse Festival in Nowe Wrońska, Poland). Resalat can boast the first "20" of the show – for head and neck, inherited from her exotic in type sire (final score: 91,63). She bested 17 rivals in her group.

Almost as numerous was the C series of the two year olds, won by Najd Al Muawd (Emerald J – Ryaanh Al Muawd/Stival), awarded in the finals with a bronze medal. This filly, with plenty of Polish blood in her pedigree (not only as a daughter of Emerald J, but also a great-granddaughter of Ekstern and a far descendant of the Polish Alfa by Wielki Szlem), received 90,75 pts from the judges. The silver medal went to the winner of the three year old fillies B series, the bay and expressive Asayel Nawayef Nahd (Fadi Al Shaqab – Famira KA/Farres), bred and owned by Abdulla Bin Amir Al Nahdi, with score of 91,5 pts. Earlier, the A series of the three year old fillies was won by the US-bred daughter of Shanghai EA and Thee Rae of Hope/Thee Desperado, the grey Salma Aljawad (90,38), with a strongly dishd head, bred and owned by Abdulaziz Ahmed Abdullah Alfouzan (Tala Stud). Third place in this class went to the daughter of Michalów's Felicjana by Ekstern (sold in



photo by Fabio Brianzoni



2009 for 105 thousand Euro). Yakotah Arsan (by Marjan Al Zobair), bred and owned by Abd Al Elah Bin Abdulaziz Bin Abdullah Al Mousa, received 90 pts. An interesting feature was also the participation of M-Hoor Alnibras (by Vitorio TO), daughter of Mandjuria Tersk/Angleter. We saw her recently (as a foal under her dam) during the “Figura Animalis” exhibition of Rooby Cyron in Warsaw. She was present on a photograph there and in Dammam she placed seventh in class (88,75).

Between subsequent classes were several performances of a folk group from Dammam, which presented clothing and dances typical of the region. The presentations referred to local traditions (for example fishing) and there were also pop culture accents, such as the performing of songs in other languages – huge applause came after Bob Marley’s “No Woman No Cry”. The colourful artistic group was warmly welcomed by the audience every time and was sometimes even joined by a spectator. The atmosphere of fun accompanied the event from beginning till the end.

The next day – Friday – was the second day of the show and a very long one, because not only were 9 subsequent classes held, but also 6 championships. The first winner of the day was again a representative of Al Khalediah Stables and again a son of Razi – the bay, long-necked Wajeh Al Khalediah (out of Bushra Al Khalidiah/Abha Ifni), who ended his performance in the A series of the two year old colts with a score of 91,63 and later in the finals added one more gold to the trophies of Al Khalediah Stables. The second in this class Equador (Emerald J – Just So Versace AM/Vivegas, 91,25), bred in the US and owned by Nasser Jasser Saif Alsobaie, gained the silver in the finals. The best in the B series was General (Emerald J – E.S. Mahbuba/Ajman Moniscione, 91,00), bred by Al Muawd Stud, owned by Naif Fahd Abdullah Al Ouidah.

The second “20” of the show came in the 3 year old colts class. It was awarded for movement to the grey Safeer Al Mshalia (Wadee Al Shaqab – Shaklan Lady/Om El Bendigo), bred in Italy and owned by Meshal Bin Srou Al Zaidi (Al Mshalia Stud). However with a score of 90,5 he did not beat the winner of this age group, the chestnut Singaar Gharnatah (Shamal Al Khalediah – SG Marwah/Marwan Al Shaqab, 90,63), with nicely shaped nostrils, the later bronze medallist, bred and owned by Naser Bin Klifekkh Al Hajeri.

And finally came the time for the senior mares, the classes which are most awaited for by Arabian horse enthusiasts. On Friday afternoon the stands for the public were full and the VIP tent continued with the amicable atmosphere of fun, mutual cheering on for each other and healthy rivalry. In the 4-6 year old mares class we saw the later silver and bronze medallists. The grey, with a dark eye Khadija Al Khalediah (El Palacio VO – IM Kadidja Cathare/Padrons Image) won with a score of 92,13 before the German-bred, chestnut, similar to her sire with a very exotic head Bourhani Sharifa (Ajman Moniscione – Psynesica/Psyadel), owned by Al Muawd Stud (91,25). And similar was the order on the podium, though Khadija Al Khalediah took the silver and Bourhani Sharifa the bronze. They were bested by the winner of the 7-9 year old mares class, the bay Ajadore (Ajman Moniscione – Cerenephantasy/SH Phantom Echo), with a shapely head and protruding eye, of US breeding and owned by Abdul Aziz Bin Ibrahim Al Bargash (Al Sakab Stables), who received 91,88, including a “20” for head and neck.

Only two 10 year old and above mares showed up on the arena at Dammam. Victorious was the UK-bred, flea-bitten Laminiah (Laman HVP – CS Kalliope/Pilot), owned by Tala Stud, with a score of 90. There were still three classes of the senior stallions left, divided according to age, just like the senior mare classes. The bred in Sweden HF Santiago de



*Magnifique (Magic Magnifique – Gazals Serina/Gazal Al Shagab), who was awarded 90,75 pts, owned by Abdulaziz Bin Ibrahim Alajlan, turned out to be the best among the 4-6 year old stallions, and it was the most numerous class. Luckily the arena was so large that 20 stallions could safely parade before the judges during their comparison. In the finals HS Santiago de Magnifique gained the silver, while the gold went to a stallion from second place in class, Bade Al Hawajer (Marajj – Valentyna F/Psytdel), an owner of a classic pedigree widely regarded as a superb combination. Bade Al Hawajer (90,25), bred in the UAE by Dr Ghanem Mohammed Obaid Al Hajri, is owned by Abdul Aziz Bin Mohammed Bukhamseen. This class finally saw the so desired top marks for movement – for Lattaf Al Janadriyah (WH Justice – Lateefah Al Rabiab/Wadim Ibn Sharkassow), bred by King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud (Al Janadriyah Farm) and owned by Abdulaziz Bin Othman Bin Abdul Rahman Al Hssoun. The stallion received 3x20 for movement, but lower points for the other traits gave him sixth place in class.*

*The next class was won by Aja Andreas, the British son of WH Justice out of Aja Anouska/FS Bengali, with a score of 89,75, owned by Jaffer Muqbel Husan Alsaihati. As his score*

*shows, the quality of this class was not extremely high, but still the victorious stallion enjoyed great popularity, because he was surrounded by crowds of enthusiastic supporters. The oldest stallion class belonged to the black Ibn Jameelat Al Khaleidiah (Moutaz Al Biwaibiya – Jameelat Al KhalEdiah/BJ Thee Mustafa, 90,00), the later bronze medalist, a horse of masculine beauty and charisma.*

*Though there was no „shower” of highest marks (however there was a shower of rain), it was clear that the breeders and owners accepted both the location and the formula of the event, because they showed up in crowds, bringing with them decent horses of good quality, as befits a C-National show category. We can expect that the next editions will also bring a visible increase of quality and rivalry. The enthusiasm of the participants is worth mentioning. „This is a very successful event”, confirms Lucas Goździalski, the show’s judge. „Well organized, with very high standards. The first edition showed that the organizers know what they are doing and a powerful promotional and marketing campaign will definitely be positively received in the international community. I saw several breeding pearls on the arena, especially among the mares. Two of them I would like to bring to Poland if there was such a possibility...”*





*Another one of the judges, Mohamed Machmoum, says: „The Arabian Horse Festival of Asharqia was for me a pleasant and interesting surprise on more than one plane. Regarding the show, the quality of horses was excellent for a C-national for the first edition. The audience and public gave the show a very friendly atmosphere and we felt like actors inside an Arabian horse “operetta” with the public. The art gallery offered visitors a trip tracking the Arabian horse history, starting from archeological discoveries of the drawings from thousands of years ago through some extraordinary photo collection and contemporary collection of paintings and sculpture by very famous artists. The social exhibition space annex to the show added to the event a warm dimension of traditional feast. And finally, the conference for me is a lighthouse idea. It offered an important opportunity of exchange and education around the Arab horse in general. The only way to understand how to develop the good knowledge of the Arabian horse and correct the false concept and attitude increasingly recognised. I can say in conclusion that this festival has a “soul”. The key to success of this was the cohesion and human attitude of his team. Technical and organisational improvements will certainly be needed but for sure this event will be an important meeting in the region in the future”.*



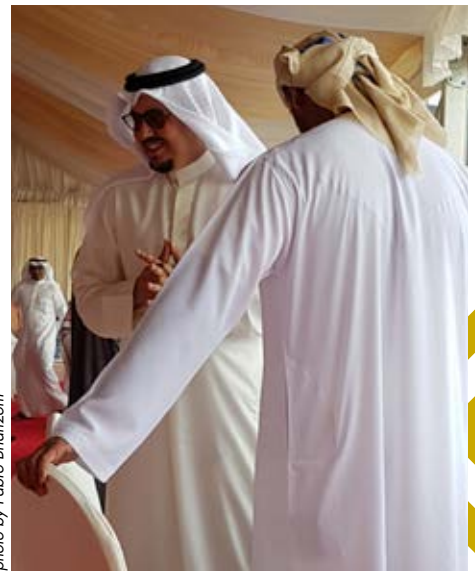


photo by Fabio Brianzoni

photo by Fabio Brianzoni

photo by Fabio Brianzoni



## GOLD YEARLING FILLIES

OXOTICA AL KHALED

QR MARC | FS SO-VIVA EXOTICA

B/O: KHALED BIN AHMED BIN BAKER BAGEDO



## SILVER YEARLING FILLIES

RAHBAH ATHBAH

EKS ALIHANDRO | MAWEE ATHBA

B/O: ATHBAH STUD



## BRONZE YEARLING FILLIES

MUBDEAT AL KHALEDIAH

RAZI AL KHALEDIAH | SAHWAT AL KHALEDIAH

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES



## GOLD YEARLING COLTS

ALMAA ATHBAH  
SHAEL DREAM DESERT | BINT MARAJJ  
B/O ATHBAH STUD



## SILVER YEARLING COLTS

NABIL ALSAKAB  
EXCALIBUR EA | SCANDALL MIRAGE TGS  
B/O: ABDUL AZIZ BIN IBRAHIM AL BARGASH  
AL SAKAB STABLES



## BRONZE YEARLING COLTS

RASLAN AL KHALEDIAH  
RAZI AL KHALEDIAH | MAZOOON AL KHALEDIAH  
B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES



## GOLD JUNIOR FILLIES

### RESALAT AL KHALEDIAH

RAZI AL KHALEDIAH | MAZOOON AL KHALEDIAH

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD - AL KHALEDIAH STABLES



## SILVER JUNIOR FILLIES

### ASAYEL NAWAYEF NAHD

FADI AL SHAQAB | FAMIRA KA

B/O: ABDULLA BIN AMIR AL NAHDI

## BRONZE JUNIOR FILLIES

### NAJD AL MUAWD

EMERALD J | RYAANH AL MUAWD

B/O: SONS OF ABDULLAH BIN MUHAMMED AL SUBAIEE  
AL MUAWD STUD



## GOLD JUNIOR COLTS

### WAJEH AL KHALEDIAH

RAZI AL KHALEDIAH | BUSHRA AL KHALIDIAH

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD - AL KHALEDIAH STABLES



## SILVER JUNIOR COLTS

### EQUADOR

EMERALD J | JUST SO VERSACE AM

B: MISS V MARSH & MR R JONES

O: NASSER JASSER SAIF ALSABAIE



## BRONZE JUNIOR COLTS

### SINGAAR GHARNATAH

SHAMAL AL KHALEDIAH | SG MARWAH

B/O: NASER BIN KLIFEEKH AL HAJERI



## GOLD SENIOR MARES

### AJADORE

AJMAN MONISCIONE | CERENEPHANTASY

B: STEVE MILES AND DARLA MILES - O: ABDUL AZIZ BIN IBRAHIM AL BARGASH - AL SAKAB STABLES



## SILVER SENIOR MARES

### KHADIJA AL KHALEDIAH

EL PALACIO VO | IM KADIDJA CATHARE

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES

## BRONZE SENIOR MARES

### BOURHANI SHARIFA

AJMAN MONISCIONE | PSYNESICA

B: HANNELORE BOURDEAUX  
O: SONS OF ABDULLAH BIN MUHAMMED AL SUBAIEE  
AL MUAWD STUD



## GOLD SENIOR STALLIONS

### BADE AL HAWAJER

MARAJJ | VALENTYNA F

B: DR. GHANEM MOHAMMED OBAID AL HAJRI - O: ABDUL AZIZ BIN MOHAMMED BUKHAMSEEN



## SILVER SENIOR STALLIONS

### HF SANTIAGO DE MAGNIFIQUE

MAGIC MAGNIFIQUE | GAZALS SERINA

B: WILDA WILSOLAN

O: ABDULAZIZ BIN IBRAHIM ALAJLAN



## BRONZE SENIOR STALLIONS

### IBN JAMEELAT AL KHALEDIAH

MOUTAZ AL BIWAIBIYA | JAMEELAT AL KHALIDIAH

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES

# THE GULF

## STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN ARABIAN HORSE CUP

FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup>

Text and photos by: Monika Luft - Translation: Joanna Krawczyk



*The second show held as part of the Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival was dedicated to Straight Egyptian horses. 162 horses were entered and it has to be underlined that it was for the first time in the Kingdom that a Straight Egyptian Arabian Horse show was organized. It was judged by Michaela Weidner (Germany), Francesco Santoro (Italy), Koenraad Detaillieur (Belgium), Christian Moschini (Italy), Talal Al Mehri (Kuwait) and Majed Al Mehyawi (Saudi Arabia). The money prizes for the top five horses from each class were the same as during the Asharqia Arabian Horse Classic, which was 5 thousand SAR each. The show was also open for horses from outside Saudi Arabia, with participants hailing from Bahrain, Kuwait and UAE. Four championships were held, for junior and senior horses.*

*The guests and participants were welcomed by wind and rain, which were more problematic than before – the show had to be stopped several times due to heavy rainfall and a slippery ground. The yearling fillies class was won by the grey Saudi Teif Al Tinbat (AA Loay Al Aadeyat – DSA Baby Dhall/*

*Mishaal HP), bred and owned by Abdullah Bin Fahad Al Haqbani (Al Tinhat Stud), with a score of 89,88. Her dam, shown in the 7-9 year old mares class, won that competition after which she became gold champion. When her daughter matures and turns grey (she celebrated her first birthday in January) she stands a huge chance to match her dam in terms of beauty. In the yearling colts class we saw the later junior silver champion – Muheeb Al Rashediah (Jamil Al Rayyan – Maleeha Al Rashediah/Tammam Albadeia), bred and owned by Abdulrahman Mohamed Abdulla Aljasmi (Al Rashediah Stud, Bahrain). His score was 91,5. Also awarded with a silver was the winner of the 2 year old fillies class, Sabla Al Khaled (Ibn Dabra Al Khaled – Sukayna Al Khaled/El Thai Khemal Pasha), representing the breeding program of Al Khaled Stud owned by Sheikh Khaled bin Ahmed Bin Baker Bagedo. Her score was 91,63. An identical score was achieved by the later gold medalist, the winner of the 3 year old fillies class (among as many as 17 rivals), Nadirah Al Rashediah (ZT Faa'iq – NK Naeema/NK Hafid Jamil), a representative of Bahrain and owner of a fantastic head and neck – a mare of really excellent*



photo by Ian Kan

quality. The bronze went to a mare that placed second in the two year olds class: D Masha'a Allah from Dubai, daughter of Royal Colours and Frasera Mashara by Shahil who is a numerous medallist from shows in Europe and the Middle East. The result of D Masha'a Allah was 91,5 pts.

The two year old colts class brought victory to an incredibly valued graduate of the Saudi Al Fala Stud owned by Mohammed Bin Abdul Rahman Al Tobaishi – Helal Al Fala (Ansata Nile Echo – LF Aliah Bint Adeed/Al Adeed Al Shaqab), who in the hands of Giacomo Capacci was awarded with 92 pts, including a “20” for type. This grey stallion with a nice head and long neck was next unanimously chosen as

junior gold champion. The bronze went to the second colt in this class – the representing Kuwait Lail El Kuwait (Rea El Kaream – Lulua Elkuwait/Ansata Hejazi), bred by Arabian Horse Center and owned by Abdullah Eid Al Mekhyal (Al Eid Stud) – 90,25. The Kuwaiti participants were more than pleased with this medal, as the day of the final was also National Kuwait Day. Among the 3 year olds the best turned out to be the milky-white Madledg Al Naif (Sinan Al Rayyan – Thamraht Al Naif/Ansata Nile Echo), bred in Qatar and owned by Saeed Bin Abdul Jalil Al Eid from Saudi Arabia. He collected 90,13 pts.

The representative of Saudi Arabia, a bay filly with a good body





and nicely set tail, AA Layal Al Aadeyat (Naif Al Khaled – Lily of the Valley El Salm/EC Power Play), gained 91,63 pts. This mare owned by Marbat Al Adyat For Arabian Horses (Khalid Bin Saad Haddad) won the 4-6 year olds class. The afore mentioned DSA Baby Dhall (Mishaal HP – DSA Hey Baby/Thee Desperado), grey, full of charm, correct, with a shapely head – bred in the US and owned by Al Tinhath Stud – was shown in the 7-9 year old mares class in the hands of Gerald Kurtz and broke the bank with her “20s”: she received as many as six of them (3 for type and 3 for head and neck)! This feat was accomplished by just one more horse during both shows (the silver champion mare, in a moment more about her). The final score of DSA Baby Dhall was 92,75. The daughter of a very successful show mare, DSA Hey Baby, is doing very well on the show arena on her own, impressing both judges and the public. A gold medal for a mare that additionally received an award for best head did not surprise anyone. For her owner, Abdullah Bin Fahad Al Haqbani, it was another huge success. In 2015 he received the WAHO Trophy for best breeder for

the successes of the year old at the time colt Fahd Al Tinhath (Shanghai EA – Barbarella RV/Falcon BHF).

In the next class, the 10 year old and above mares, were mares that later stood on the podium behind DSA Baby Dhall. The first of them is the bred in Italy Alfabia Jumeira (Phaaros – Grea Bint Khattaara/Moroc) from Al Fala Stud, a mare with a long neck and pretty head. Her score was 92,25, including 3x20 for type and 3x20 for head and neck. She won the class and received the silver in the finals. Second was the flea-bitten and dark-eyed Haifa Al Khalediah II (F Shamaal – Ansata Nile Pearl/Ansata Hejazi), who with one “20” for type and two for head and neck received a final score of 91,75 and later the bronze medal.

On Sunday beautiful weather spread over Dammam and accompanied the senior stallions. The 4-6 year olds class was won by the later gold champion, the representing Dubai black, extremely showy D Haydar (Royal Colours – Hearts





*Embrace/Thee Desperado*). This six year old stallion, presented by Paolo Cappeci, showed impressive movement and received 3x20 for this trait. His final score 92,88 was the highest awarded on the Sport City Center arena during both shows. The classified behind him Barq Al Dantain (*Dahes Al Rayyan – Letizia Star/Ansata Shaamis*), bred by Abdullah Nasser Al Ajmi and owned by Abdullah Al Mekhyal (*Al Eid Stud*) from Kuwait, also drew the attention of the judges with his unique movement (2x20, final score 91,63). The silver medal went to the winner of the 7-9 year old stallions class, Nayiel Al Khaled (*Ansata Safeer – Nefertiti/Alidaar*), another representative of Al Khaled Farm. He is a stallion with many show successes already to his name, both in Europe and the Middle East. The graduate of Sheikh Bagedo this time received 92,38 pts. The bronze went to the bay Salman Al Khalediah (*F Shamaal – Thee Evening Star/Thee Desperado*), who won the oldest stallion class with 91,38 (including a 20 for head and neck). There was an interesting situation in this class: two full brothers performed here, very much similar in quality, born in 2008: Ameer Al Shakhoura and Safir Al Shakhoura. Both are the sons of Naif Al Rayyan and Dana Al Shaqab by Safir, bred in Bahrain (Shakhoura Farm). We can assume that their entering into this world marked the beginning of an era of embryo transfers in the Middle East. The first of them (90,75)

is the property of Bashar Mustafa Jaafar Alsayed, the second of Waheed Hasan Alaali. The latter fared better, because he placed third (90,88) before his brother, who placed fourth.

The championships had a very formal setting, as the victorious senior horses were decorated by His Royal Highness Prince Saud Bin Naif Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Governor of the Eastern Province. His arrival to the show was preceded by a performance of the military orchestra. Earlier there were attractions for the numerous spectators – for example there was a lottery with iPhones.

And that's how the show part of the Festival came to an end. Despite the changeable weather, the show was a great success. "It was a great pleasure to judge these wonderful Egyptian horses in such a great judging panel", said Michaela Weidner. "Even if the weather was very surprising – it was raining heavily and the ground was very slippery. But even in this very bad circumstances these wonderful mares were moving and dancing with the tail up! Honestly some of the mares gave me real "goose bumps" and let me totally forget the very bad weather. It was such a great pleasure to see these very classic Arabian mares... And so this kept us going with great pleasure until the late evening".





## GOLD JUNIOR FILLIES

NADIRAH AL RASHEDIAH

ZT FAA'IQ | NK NAEEMA

B/O: ABDULRAHMAN MOHAMED ABDULLA ALJASMI - AL RASHEDIAH STUD



## SILVER JUNIOR FILLIES

SAHLA AL KHALED

IBN DAHRA AL KHALED | SUKAYNA AL KHALED

B/O: KHALED BIN AHMED BIN BAKER BAGEDO  
AL KHALED FARM

## BRONZE JUNIOR FILLIES

D MASHA'A ALLAH

ROYAL COLOURS | FRASERA MASHARA

B/O: DUBAI ARABIAN HORSE STUD



## GOLD JUNIOR COLTS

HELAL AL FALA

ANSATA NILE ECHO | LF ALIAH BINT ADEED

B/O: AL FALA STUD - MOHAMMED BIN ABDUL RAHMAN AL TOBAISHI



## SILVER JUNIOR COLTS

MUHEEB AL RASHEDIAH

JAMIL AL RAYYAN | MALEEHA AL RASHEDIAH

B/O: ABDULRAHMAN MOHAMED ABDULLA ALJASMI  
AL RASHEDIAH STUD



## BRONZE JUNIOR COLTS

LAIL EL KUWAIT

REA EL KAREAM | LULUA ELKUWAIT

B: ARABIAN HORSE CENTER  
O: ABDULLAH EID AL MEKHYAL - AL EID STUD



## GOLD SENIOR MARES

DSA BABY DHALL

MISHAAL HP | DSA HEY BABY

B: JERRY & ANNETTE BOLES - O. ABDULLAH BIN FAHAD AL HAQBANI - AL THINAT STUD



## SILVER SENIOR MARES

ALFABIA JUMEIRA

PHAAROS | GREY BINT KHATTAARA

B: AZ.AGR.PIETRO DE DAMILANO

O: AL FALA STUD - MOHAMMED BIN ABDUL RAHMAN AL TOBAISHI

## BRONZE SENIOR MARES

HAIFA AL KHALEDIAH II

F.SHAMAA | ANSATA NILE PEARL

B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES



## GOLD SENIOR STALLIONS

D HAYDAR

ROYAL COLOURS | HEARTS EMBRACE  
B/O: DUBAI ARABIAN HORSE STUD



## SILVER SENIOR STALLIONS

NAYIEL AL KHALED

ANSATA SAFEER | NEFERTITI  
B/O: KHALED BIN AHMED BIN BAKER BAGEDO  
AL KHALED FARM



## BRONZE SENIOR STALLIONS

SALMAN AL KHALEDIAH II

F.SHAMAAL | THEE EVENING STAR  
B/O: HRHP KHALED BIN SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD  
AL KHALEDIAH STABLES

# WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Text and photos by: Monika Luft - Translation: Joanna Krawczyk



photo by Fabio Brianzoni



*The Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival also had an educational character. „The Arabian horse has been featured in centuries of art and within countless cultures and civilizations and have been portrayed in art more than any other breed of equine. Therefore it is natural that an event celebrating these beautiful horses includes art”, announced the President of the Higher Organizing Committee, Sheikh Khalid Al Gahtani in his talk with “Tutto Arabi”. “While the rock art reflects the ancient past, the second element of the exhibition demonstrates that the Arabian remains a source of passion and inspiration for artists around the globe”, he added.*

*The exhibition, located in a pavilion not far from the show arena on an area with a traditional Arabian flea market, enjoyed great popularity among the public. Its first part was dedicated to archeological discoveries in the Tabuk province in the north-western part of the Arabian Peninsula. Under the guidance of Dr Sandra Olsen, a professor at the Division of Archeology at the Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum at the*

*University of Kansas, research was done near the city of Tayma, once an oasis and an important spot on the caravan path (Al Daksh, Jebel Habib, Al Naslaa). Rock paintings were discovered there, dating as far back as 800 BC and 200 AD. Those drawings of horses leave no doubt that already in those times the Arabian horse had the same traits that we value in it today. The author of photographs used in Sandra Olsen’s book “Stories in the Rocks” dedicated to these discoveries, and exhibited also in the British Museum, is Richard T. Bryant. Rock drawings that could be seen at the exhibition on photographs were also the subject of an academic conference organized on Sunday (25.02) in Kempinski Al Othman hotel. Cynthia Culbertson, an author of many publications on Arabian horses and the exhibition’s consultant, was a key speaker. Works of artists from 2,5 thousand years back prove that the Arabian horse was present in the culture of the Arabian Peninsula peoples long before Islam. Centuries ago these horses were called “sea horses”, because their ancestors came here by sea from India. Today we often say that they have heads “like a sea horse”.*



photo by Fabio Brianzoni



photo by Fabio Brianzoni



photo by Fabio Brianzoni

*A crucial moment for their history was the spreading of Islam and together with it horses of this breed. During the crusades people of the West came in contact with Arabian horses and gave them the respect and recognition. Thanks to the discovered rock drawings in Saudi Arabia we can be sure that the Arabian horse has survived thousands of years in an almost unchanged form. The drawings are not just an archeological feature, analysed by high-tech devices (including three-dimensional laser scanning), but also cause admiration for the skills of the artists of old, who were able to capture the beauty and charm of the Arabian horse so precisely.*

*The other part of the exhibition was titled “The Arabian Horse through the Eyes of the World”. It included the works of several artists, among them the world-known American sculptress Karen Kasper. As Karen Kasper admitted during her presentation at the conference, she was fascinated by Arabian horses since early childhood when she saw a book with an Arabian on the cover. The six year old resolved the dilemma whether to buy a book or*

*sweets in favour of the book. As a 13 year old she furiously drew horses. 15 years later she created her first sculptures, inspired by the paintings of Antoine Charles Horace Vernet (1758-1836), who was a master of showing the nature of the horse and its relationship with man. The Arabian horse, often treated as a member of the family – both in the old times and today – is the best example of such a relationship. The artistic credo of Karen Kasper is to capture the truth about the horse’s sensitivity, his intelligence, pride, charisma, energy and the deep maternal instinct of the mare. “I try to tell the truth about the body language of the horse”, she explained. Her vision of the Arabian horse changed radically on the day that she saw desert horses. “That moment, that spirit that I saw at the desert, it changed my life”, she confessed. “The movement of the desert-bred horses was so different from the one that we can see at shows”. “Showing the Arabian horse in art is to see how close it is to real life. The artists tell the truth”, she summed up and in the end asked: “Please give the children a book, a magazine, show them a picture, a sculpture”. Maybe the admiration stirred in a child by an image*

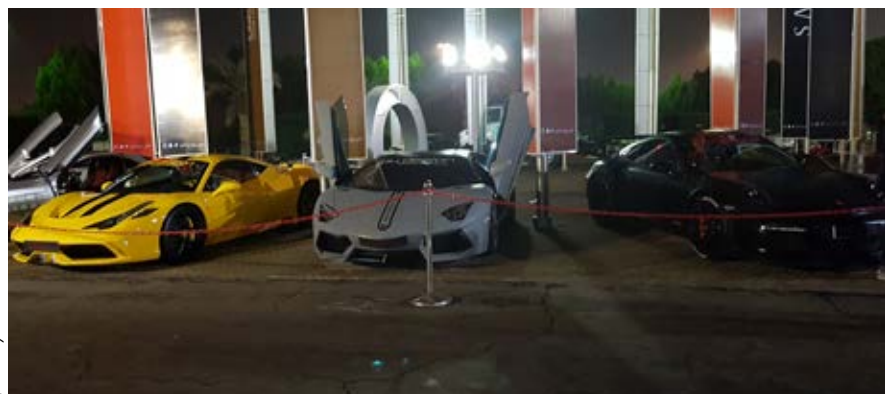


photo by Fabio Brianzoni





of a beautiful, proud Arabian will be the beginning of another artist's path?

Also presented were photographs of Gigi Grasso and paintings by Ali Almimar, while during the conference we had the chance to listen to a lecture by Judith Forbis, without whom Straight Egyptian breeding would not be what it is today. An author of 22 books, a breeder, initiator of establishing the Pyramid Society, registrar of the Straight Egyptian stud book. Her encounter with Arabian horses happened when she was three years old and since then she has remained their admirer and promoter. She says that her first inspiration were the stories of "The Black Stallion" from the pocket book series of Walter Farley (the adventures of the black stallion were published for the first time in 1941). The first Arabian mount of Judith Forbis was

owned by the American film star, the born in Budapest Zsa Zsa Gabor (1917-2016). An important source of knowledge to her was also the manuscript of Emir Rzewuski, which she thoroughly studied, especially the illustrations of Arabian horses. "I think you should know the breed before you start breeding", she explained. She herself, before she took to breeding, tried to learn all she could about Arabians, through travelling and visiting studs as well, also in Egypt, where she searched for an ideal Arabian horse. She found one in the shape of Nazeer, who at the time was 22 years old. The purchase of three yearlings and later also daughters of Nazeer became the beginning of the Forbis' breeding program: "The pedigree is a road map. It is very important to understand the pedigree". When asked what is a Straight Egyptian horse, Judith Forbis answers: "It is a horse that traces back to horses listed in the Straight Egyptian Stud





*Book". What specific traits does a horse from the Judith Forbis breeding program have? "The Ansata horse is a strong horse, with good conformation, beautiful head, and ready to be ridden". Of course breeding an ideal horse is a never ending challenge: "The joy is the journey. The beauty is truth. Truth is the beauty. The beauty is the only excuse for me".*

*Among the invited speakers was also Dr Doug Antczak of Cornell University, who spoke about genetic aspects of Arabian horse breeding. His research shows that the population of Arabian horses in Poland has a low genetic diversity, while the greatest is observed in the Middle East. The Arabian horse has a unique genetic profile, clearly divided into two separate lines today – racing and shows.*

*The exhibition and conference wonderfully broadened the significance of the Festival. Apart from the competition part of the shows and an inspection of some of the breeding programs of Saudi Arabia, we had a chance to participate in an academic and artistic experience, allowing to discover an unknown cultural wealth associated with the Arabian horse. We owe a huge thank you to the organizers for spreading the knowledge about a breed that takes up so much space in the lives of a large group of people worldwide.*

photo by Fabio Brianzoni



# FARM TOUR

Text and photos by: Monika Luft - Translation: Joanna Krawczyk

*On Monday the multi-language guests of the Festival – English, Arabic, French, German, Italian and Polish could be heard on the bus – were invited to visit three studs near Dammam: Salayel Arabians, Alwadi Stud and Kenana Stud. We experienced great hospitality from the hosts. As the announcer of the breeding parade at Salayel Arabians Klaus Beste said, Sheikh Khalid Al Gabtani created a true paradise on Earth here for both horses and people. Indeed this is true. A charming garden, space, greenery, murmuring fountains – and beautiful Arabians. One of the pearls of the Sheikh's collection is the proudly carrying her tail, feminine, with good movement Salayel Jazdan (Shabin – Sadeen Hedayah/Nabeel II), a wonderful example of a classic Egyptian mare. Another valuable mare is Salayel Nujoud (Tammam Albadeia – Ajmal Nejdiah/Ansata Hejazi), exotic, charismatic, with a large dark eye. Very gracefully shown was Shahd El Farida (Said Hafid El Chamsin – LV Asmaraa/Al Lahab), a silver senior champion mare from the Saudi Nationals in 2017 and Imperial Koublah (Imperial Al Kamar – Imperial Falaah/Imperial Imdal) described as a "milestone" in this breeding. Whereas Saladin Al Qusar (NK Hafid Jamil – 241 Tisrina B/Salaa El Dine) is a classic Egyptian stallion, serving duties as chief sire.*

*The next stop was Alwadi Stud (in Dhahran), set up in 2005, owned by Hamad Bin Awad Bin Quraya – another impressive collection of Straight Egyptian horses, which are the owner's passion. The breeding presentation took place to live music. The most represented damline in this breeding program is that of A Dahmah Shabwaniyah d.b., the line's foundress through her born in 1880 daughter El Dahma. This line was prolonged by Bissaan Al Naif, who opened the presentation. She is a daughter of the bred by Judith and Donald Forbis stallion Ansata Nile Echo, son of the famous and valued in Straight Egyptian breeding stallion Ansata Hejazi and the mare Juayriya Al Naif by Ansata Sirius, daughter of Ansata Prima Nile, also from the breeding of the Forbis' and a representative of the Falima damline from the breeding of Henry Babson, from whom lots of mares were leased by Judith Forbis in her time. Another mare from this line is the daughter of Bissaan Al Naif – Mazionat Al Wadi (by Montasir Al Rayyan), who impresses with movement. Several other broodmares*

*were shown from this same line, including the extremely eye-catching Saita Al Rayyan (Ashhal Al Rayyan – RN Safia/Ali Kamal). One of the damlines present at Alwadi Stud is also A Hadbah Enzabiyah d.b. (~1880), represented by the mare Kelthoom Kenana (Majd Al Rayyan – AA Noor Aladeyat/Farres), with an exotic head and expression. The presentation ended with the stallion Safeer Al Wadi (Majd Al Rayyan – Shawq Al Zobair/Al Aaqib Al Zamet) from the damline of A Kuhaylah Rudaniyah, dam of the mare Rodania d.b. 1869, bred by Anazeh Ruala (B), imported in 1881 to Crabbet Park Stud (GB), known also as the foundress of a popular damline in Polish breeding.*

*The last of the visited studs was Kenana Stud of Abdul Aziz Bukanan, established in 1996. The concept of the owner is to breed a small number of horses of the highest quality, athletic, but exotic in type. The guests were shown daughters of Majd Al Rayyan, such as Karam Kenana (out of Alia Al Rayyan/Ansata Nile Pasha) and the lovely, with a large dark eye, flea-bitten, with a liking for showing and being admired AA Aliaa Al Aadeyat (out of Simeon Sitri/Simeon Sadik), as well as Malakah Al Wadi (out of Qasseadat Kenana/Anaza Nahzir). The foundation mare of this stud, Talijah Al Naif (Ansata Nile Echo – Ansata Paloma/Prince FA Moniet), was welcomed with applause. Great appreciation was shown for the daughters of Montasir Al Rayyan, including Kadmah Kenana (out of Talijah Al Naif/Ansata Nile Echo) and Fyda Kenana (out of AA Noor Aladeyat/Farres); as well as daughters of Afif Al Shaqab (Karaz Kenana out of Karam Kenana and Shaheen Kenana out of Malakah Al Wadi). Afif Al Shaqab (Safir Al Rayyan – Tamina/Maydan-Madheen) himself, a chief sire at Kenana Stud, was shown at the end of the presentation.*

*And so, with a strong breeding accent ended the Asharqia Arabian Horse Festival – an unforgettable experience for all participants. We can hope that the idea to combine horse shows with cultural and educational activities will be taken on by other organizers too, though it does require an additional effort. In Dammam this concept has been fulfilled and will perhaps serve as an inspiration for the Arabian horse community all over the world. □*



SALAYEL



photo by Fabio Brianzoni







photo by Fabio Brianzoni







photo by Fabio Brianzoni





photo by Fabio Brianzoni





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