

5th Annual ARABIAN BREEDERS WORLD CUP 2011 Las Vegas, USA



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By Urszula Leczycka

Since the years pass by very quickly we have come up to the first "round" anniversary of one of the most advertised shows of the year that, since its first edition 5 years ago, was expected to be as prestigious as its name – Breeders World Cup. Indeed through the editions the organizers have been making all efforts to collect the best entries from various countries of all continents where Arabian horse breed exists. The best breeders are not only being awarded through the winning horses but also with the Lifetime Achievements Trophy and amateur handlers and other accompanying activities related to the breed take place each edition of this show. As every show also ABWC in Vegas points out the leading sires, bloodlines, most top breeders, owners and trainers... Let's have a look on the current fashions of Las Vegas spotlight.

Since already several seasons we can observe the domination of two significant sire lines that took the leadership almost on every show arena – the ones of Padron and Gazal Al Shaqab through their descendants. But unlike in Europe where the pool of winning sires seem to be quite narrow recently the big show in the US can bring up a lot of Northern and Southern American bred horses that represents some new continuators of those lines. And since there is still some steady interest of American breeders to introduce outside fashionable stallions across the Ocean, such show as ABWC can be in turn especially interesting for those non-American breeders who search for some new successful sires for the way back. This year the most successful as a direct sire of medal awarded horses was again Marwan Al Shaqab with 3 winning offsprings and while we count the total get of Gazal Al Shaqab male line the number raises up to 9 – with one son of Gazal and his 5 grandgets champion awarded in total. First of them and the only one winning unanimously we could have seen in Yearling Colts Championship was refined flaxen chestnut Barzan Al Shahania by Stival (son of Gazal). This colt shown by Greg Gallun and owned by Al Shahania Stud in Qatar has already 2011 Scottsdale Jr Championship on his account as well. The choice for Silver and Bronze in this category was quite tough – with 6 judges voting 50:50 for each of the two as the silver or bronze placed. Finally the Bronze medal went to the winner of section C – Oceanos O sired by Enzo, owned by Oone LLC while the Silver went to the colt combining the two sirelines of above – both grandson of Gazal Al Shaqab and Enzo – Aria Tresor IA, cute tiny colt sired by Brix IA and owned by Majestic Arabian Horse Partners. His sire himself being another good cross of Gazal and Versace made a good record too, winning his class in the elders and being placed Top 10.



Just behind the medalist in yearling colts we could have seen the full brother of well known Maharaja HDM – Maharani HDM shown by Michael Byatt this time went Top 10. As the colt and filly championships were divided into two sections – yearlings and juniors, more young horses has chances for the medals during the Breeders World Cup. In the elder group of young males the medals went to all the class winners of the 3 classes of junior stallions and all of them were already famous in the past. With most of the votes (4 out of 6) as Golden was awarded Brazilian owned (by Luciana Fasano) Aas-Elishahh by Eden C in the hands of Michael Byatt. This colt was already named 2010 US National Champion Yearling. Silver went to Cavalli owned by Pegasus Arabians, the colt by Da Valentino out of Padrons Psyche mare, 2010 Gold Champion from Las Vegas and Scottsdale Jr Reserve Champion 2010. Bronze was presented to Regal Actor JP's son – LC Athens, owned by The Athens Partnership, Scottsdale - 2010 Las Vegas Reserve Champion and full brother to Las Vegas Supreme Champion Stallion in the past – Arbitur. When it came to the Yearling Fillies Championship Greg Gallun was on his way to repeat the success from the yearling males this time with Eden C sired (carrying incredible amount of 5 lines to Bey Shah) Royal Encantata owned by Cindy McGown & Mark Davis, USA. And he did it though the most of the votes for Gold and Silver were unquestionable but none of the two champions were unanimous. The Silver one was US bred but sold to the new owner – Claudio Cristiani from Argentina – Forever Amore by Ever After. The very typey Scottsdale Reserve Champion Yearling this year and class winner of section D in Las Vegas – Nada Al Shahania by Besson Carol, co-bred by Michael Byatt and shown by him for Al Shahania Stud of Qatar went Bronze this time. The junior mares competition was one of the most interesting to watch. With all the top fillies representing excellent quality, all the section winners sired by some most fashionable stallions of the world currently: Gazal Al Shaqab, Marwan Al Shaqab, Magnum Psyche and Ajman Moniscione and of course the big favorite from across the Ocean – Alma AL Tiglio with Frank Spoenle who just won the gold medals in Dubai and at Al Khalediah Festival to name her 2011 successes. Indeed this time she didn't fail again gaining the rare 20-ties especially for type, head and neck however in the championships she got the hard competitor from Argentina (Maras Mayed) against JJ La Baronesa by Magnum Psyche (out of Argentinian national champions producer

— NV Angelica by Bey Shah) with David Boggs on the lead. The breathtaking elections of winners brought 3 votes for 1st place to Alma and 3 for JJ La Baronesa and it was as close as the matter of one vote that gave the preference to the higher place for Alma finally awarded as Gold for Sh. Ammar of Ajman Stud and Family Buzzi - representing this partnership at the show this year. The Bronze went to WC Godiva, nice daughter of Gazal Al Shaqab marriage with Ali Jamal mare presented by Giacomo Capacci for Holly Woods Dillin. Senior classes of Breeders World Cup in Vegas used to be a good, well known stars meeting, for many breed's enthusiasts the first and maybe the last chance to see the famous horses entering the competition. And this was again it this year. However not all those entered to the catalog competed, the final championships of senior stallions gathered the collection of: 2009 Triplecrowned winner in Europe – Abha Qatar (by Marwan Al Shaqab) bred by Marieta Salas and owned by Al Mohamadia Stud of Saudi Arabia competing with Michael Byatt, Da Vinci FM (by Versace) of Sally Bedeker– the incredible sire and grandsire of winners around the world, himself competing mostly in the years 2000-2007 with 2 times US National Reserve Championships, 2 times Scottsdale Reserve Championship and one Champion title amongst of all – with Frank Spoenle; and the guest from Southern America – FA El Shawan (by Marwan Al Shaqab) representing El Shawan Partners – Unanimous Brazilian National Champion twice, shown this time by Greg Gallun. It wasn't strange that the judges could have had different preferences while presenting the medals and so the championships took time and results were far from unanimous. Finally the only horse in this group that received the nominations for 1st or 2nd places only was FA El Shawan and it was him who took the Gold medal home to Brazil. A bit of sad surprise could have been seen on the European and Middle Eastern side when the silver went to the big winner from the past - Abha Qatar, and Da Vinci adds to the long list of his wins the Bronze medal of Breeders World Cup this time. The smile on the faces of the guests from across the ocean came back again in the senior mares championship. Actually, considering the current owners all of the medal awarded mares most of them were non-Americans. I don't think there was anyone on the arena tribunes of South Point Hotel & Casino this year who may doubt that the gold medal was deserved by 2006 World Reserve Champion Panarea by Palawan (by WH Justice – the only medal awarded get of this sire that is so rare in the rings nowadays) owned by Ajman Stud.



DA VINCI FM - CHP Br Stallion 12yrs over Bronze Chp Br Stallion Supreme Chp



SELKIE MARQUE



MASTERMIND M



Chosen almost unanimously with just two votes out of 1st place similarly to the silver champion – Star of Marwan, elegant and very “US-bred Marwan look alike” mare, 2005 Region 1 unanimous winner and both 2007 US and Canadian Nationals Futurity Champion, shown by Andy Sellman for Mystica Arabians of Australia. The third to join the medalists was El Sanadika IA, a very good combination of Sanadik El Shaklan and Magnum Psyche daughter owned by Al Hawajer Stud of UAE.

The win with Panarea by Palawan was the second gold medal and 5th in total won by the horses shown by Frank Spoenle in Vegas this time, however the really happy and popular person at the show was undoubtedly the other trainer - Greg Gallun – who won 3 gold medals with his horses. Greg was also acting in a new role of the movie star this year... After Saturday competitions the world premiere of Horsefly Film production took place in the theaters of SouthPoint Hotel. The occasion was a tribute to the world's most successful Arabian horse breeding in the world – the Polish Arabian horse, described also in the movie as the second world's most influential source of Arabian horses for the world, just after Middle East itself. This movie production called "Path to Glory – the rise and raise of Polish Arabian horse" is probably the first like this full time coverage of Arabian horse breeding history containing the old and many unpublished yet before video and photo archives showing legendary horses as: Skowronek, Nabor, Bask, El Paso, the first 6 Arabian mares imported to the USA or Polish Ovations auction sales for horses which prices are unbeaten by this day. The archives were shown in the focus of Poland's history and includes the valuable comments by Arabian horse authorities of the past and present – as Sheila Varian, Patricia Lindsay, Izabela Zawadzka, Wayne Newton, Gene LaCroix, Scott Benjamin, Greg Gallun and Polish State Studs directors – the past and the present ones. The event and the movie was sponsored by Hennessy Arabians, Haras de Cardenas and Sobieski Vodka and attended by many important breeders and trainers from around the world - the best proof for the interest in the production was the fact that all the tickets were sold before the premiere. One of the honorary guests of the evening was Marek Trela – director of Janow Podlaski State Stud, acting as a judge of ABWC this year. On Sunday during the Championships he was presented the Lifetime Achievements Award for State Studs of Poland from Arabian Horse Breeders Alliance Board of Directors. Greeted by standing ovations of the crowded public Marek Trela assured about the steady continuation of Polish State Studs and Polish breeding program and hoped that in consequence another Polish breeder will have a chance to get this Trophy in the future. At the end of the speech the living proof of Polish breeding appeared to the arena – 21 years old but still in great show condition,

1995 Polish National Champion Stallion, 2005 Region II Champion and US Nationals Top Ten in the US, sire and grandsire of many valuable show and breeding horses in Poland and abroad few years ago acquired to USA from Janow Podlaski Stud and currently owned by Haras De Cardenas.

And once again no one can deny that Arabian Breeders World Cup is the special event in world's show scene providing every year with a lot of quality horses, exciting competition and moving moments of contribution – to the past and the future of Arabian horse breeding



The show was judged by: Koenraad Detaillieur (BE), Marek Trela (PL), Deb Watson (AUS), Richard Adams (US), Fabio Amoroso (BRA), Doug Dahmen (USA).



CELEBRATION & WORLD PREMIERE SCREENING

from left: Tomasz Skotnicki, George Zbyszewski, Urszula Leczycka, Dorota Skotnicka, Krzysztof & Ewa Poszepczynscy, Joanna Kozinska-Frybes - Consul General of Poland in Los Angeles

PATH TO GLORY: The Rise & Rise of the Polish Arabian Horse



*A documentary feature film
by Horsefly Films*

ARABIAN BREEDERS
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Cox Communications Children's Educational Hour



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Gala Highlights



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