

D Seraj

by Samantha Mattocks

photos: Gregor Aymar, Kelly Campbell,
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Now two-years old, D Seraj is a colt who has taken the Arabian show-ring by storm. Bred and owned by the Dubai Arabian Horse Stud in the United Arab Emirates, D Seraj oozes quality and potential – and his is a story that is only just beginning. D Seraj is sired by international superstar, and multiple champion, FA El Rasheem. Himself just six-years old, FA El Rasheem was bred in the USA and is also owned by Dubai Arabian Horse Stud. Celebrated from the moment he

was born, FA El Rasheem combines two of the most popular sire lines of the 21st century – Marwan Al Shaqab and Versace. His sire is the late FA El Shawan, a son of Marwan Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame) and out of Foxbriar Shakita (ZT Shakfantasy x Selket Mirror), while his dam is Virtuosa MLR. She is sired by Versace, a son of Fame VF (Bey Shah x Raffoleta-Rose) and out of Precious as Gold (El Shaklan x Autumn in Gold). Her dam in turn is





D Seraj

2015 grey, colt

FA EL RASHEEM*
b 2011
ARABIAN

FA EL SHAWAN*
b 2005
ARABIAN
AHR*621258

VIRTUOSA MLR
b 2001
ARABIAN

VERSACE*
b 15.3H 1995
ARABIAN
AHR*525640

LADI VERONIKA*
gr 2002
ARABIAN

NISRS NATEVKA*
gr 1987
ARABIAN
AHR*397834

MARWAN AL SHAQAB*
b 15.3H 2000
ARABIAN
AHR*599438

FOXBIAR SHAKITA
ch 2001
ARABIAN

VERSACE*
b 15.3H 1995
ARABIAN
AHR*525640

ALISHAHMAAL*
ch 1992
ARABIAN
AHR #485172

FAME VF*
b + 1982
ARABIAN
AHR*268987

PRECIOUS AS GOLD*
ch 15.3H 1984
ARABIAN
AHR*296213

ANSATA EL NISR*
gr 1967
ARABIAN
AHR*41581

FEZ FEATHER
gr 1977
ARABIAN
AHR*150386

GAZAL AL SHAQAB*
b 15.3H 1995

LITTLE LIZA FAME*
b 1987

ZT SHAKFANTASY*
gr 15.1h 1995

SELKET MIRROR
ch 1994

FAME VF*
b + 1982

PRECIOUS AS GOLD*
ch 15.3H 1984

ALI JAMAAL*
b 1982

NV ALIESHAH
b 1984

BEY SHAH*
b 1976

RAFFOLETA-ROSE*
b 1971

EL SHAKLAN*
gr 15.3 1975

AUTUMN IN GOLD*
ch 15.3H 1980

ANSATA IBN HALIMA*
gr 15.0 1958

ANSATA BINT ZAAFARANA*
gr 1958

EW FEZ*
ch 1972

MYECHO
gr 1973

ANAZA EL FARID*
KAJORA*

FAME VF*
KATAHZA*

EL SHAKLAN*
RH LIGHT FANTASY

FURNO KHAMAL*
PREFERRED TIME*

BEY SHAH*
RAFFOLETA-ROSE*

EL SHAKLAN*
AUTUMN IN GOLD*

RUMINAJA ALI*
HERITAGE MEMORY*

BEY SHAH*
AANDRAYA

BAY EL BEY*
STAR OF OFIR*

RAFFON*
LETA ROSE

SHAKER EL MASRI*
ESTOPA*

CLASSY MCCOY*
JULIEANN

NAZEER*
HALIMA*

NAZEER*
ZAAFARANA*

BASK*
FEREZJA

FADJURONIMO*
GWENHWYFAR*

Alishahmaal, a daughter of Ali Jamaal (Ruminaja Ali x Heritage Memory) who is another extremely influential sire over the past thirty years. Alishahmaal is out of NV Alieshah (Bey Shah x Aandraya), thus adding strong Polish lines to the pedigree.

Looking to D Seraj's damline, we have the fleabitten grey Ladi Veronika, herself a Reserve World Champion mare. The Versace influence in D Seraj is reinforced through his dam as she, too, is by this

great stallion. Her dam, however, brings in Egyptian lines as she is Nisrs Natevka, sired by Ansata El Nisr, a son of the legendary straight Egyptian stallion, Ansata Ibn Halima (Nazeer x Halima), and out of Ansata Bint Zaafarana (Nazeer x Zaafarana). Nisrs Natevka, also brings in Polish lines through her dam Fez Feather, who is by EW Fez (Bask x Ferezja) and out of Myecho, who in turn is by Fadjuronimo (Fadjur x Calina) and out of Gwenhwyfar.





FA El Rasheem

With five crosses to Bey Shah (Bay El Bay x Star of Ofir), three to Nazeer (Mansour x Bint Samiha), three to Fame VF (Bey Shah x Raffoleta-Rose), and two each to Bask (Witraz x Balalajka) and Versace (Fame VF x Precious as Gold), it is clear

to see that D Seraj has a pedigree that blends the older breeding lines with those of the modern age. The result has been exciting – a young colt with a particular look, and a style that is all of his own. So, with such a pedigree combined in one





FA El Rasheem



FA El Rasbeem

package, D Seraj had all the ingredients necessary to make an impression; and he certainly did in his yearling year! Naturally showy, this grey colt won his class at the 2016 Ajman Show and took the Gold Yearling Male Championship. At his 'home' show, the Dubai International Arabian Horse Championships, D Seraj was successful once more, as he again won his class and took the Yearling Male Championship title.

From there, the trip to Europe was made, and D Seraj continued his 'show doubles',

winning and taking the Gold Yearling Male Championship at the Mediterranean and Arab Countries Arabian Horse Championships held on the French Riviera in Menton. The All Nations' Cup in Aachen was the next challenge and again, D Seraj remained unbeaten as he won his class once more, and added the All Nations' Cup Gold Yearling Male title to his growing collection.

The final challenge for D Seraj in his yearling year was the Paris World Championships, where he went up



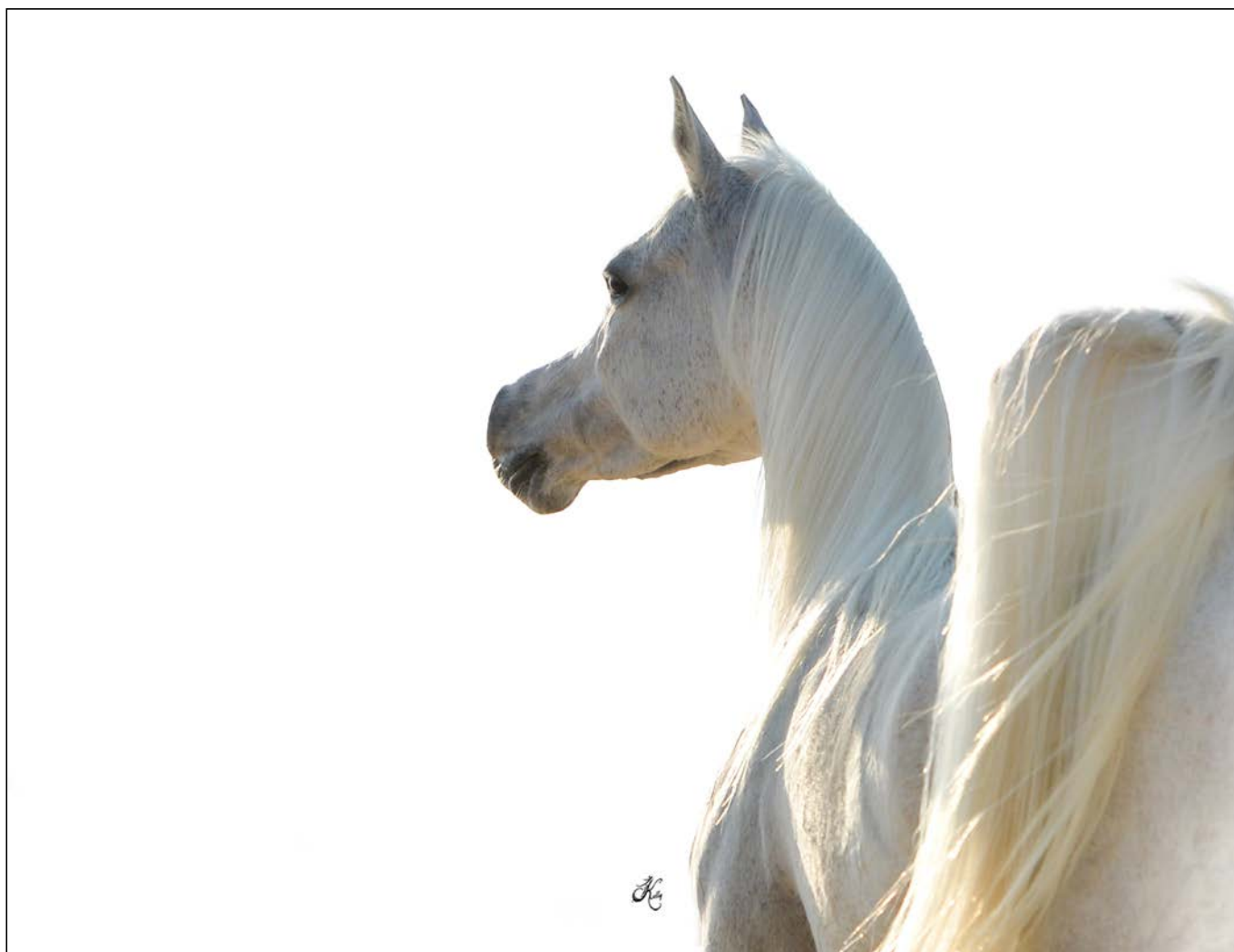
FA El Rasheem





Lady Veronika





Lady Veronika

against the best of the best. With his free movement, expressive attitude, undeniable show quality and clean, upright lines, D Seraj shone once more. He won his qualifying class on the Saturday, and come Sunday's championship, he took it all in his stride. D Seraj left Paris as World Yearling Male Champion, and became another homebred star for Dubai Horse Arabian Stud in the process. Indeed, his win in Paris helped to cement the Dubai Arabian Horse Stud's place in Arabian breeding history as his maternal half-sister, the yearling D Ajayeb by RFI Farid (RFI Maktub x RFI Fayara El Shiraz), won the Yearling Female Championship; the stud's straight Egyptian World Champion Royal Colours (True Colours x Xtreme

Wonder) went Platinum; and the farm also took home the Best Owner/Breeder Award. Quite the show for them!

D Seraj is clearly a future star for the Dubai Arabian Horse Stud. Rested as a two-year old, as so many of the top show colts are, he will doubtlessly be back in the ring once more come the first of the Middle Eastern shows in 2018. Then, D Seraj will return to Europe to contest for the most famous titles on earth once more. The breeding barn also awaits and, with such a pedigree behind him, his first foals will be interesting to see. One thing is for sure, however; the best is yet to come from D Seraj, and the world is eagerly waiting to see what happens next. ○



Photo: www.ErwinEscher.com

D Seraj, 2016 Abu Dhabi International Show



Photo: www.ErwinEscher.com



D Seraj, 2016 Dubai



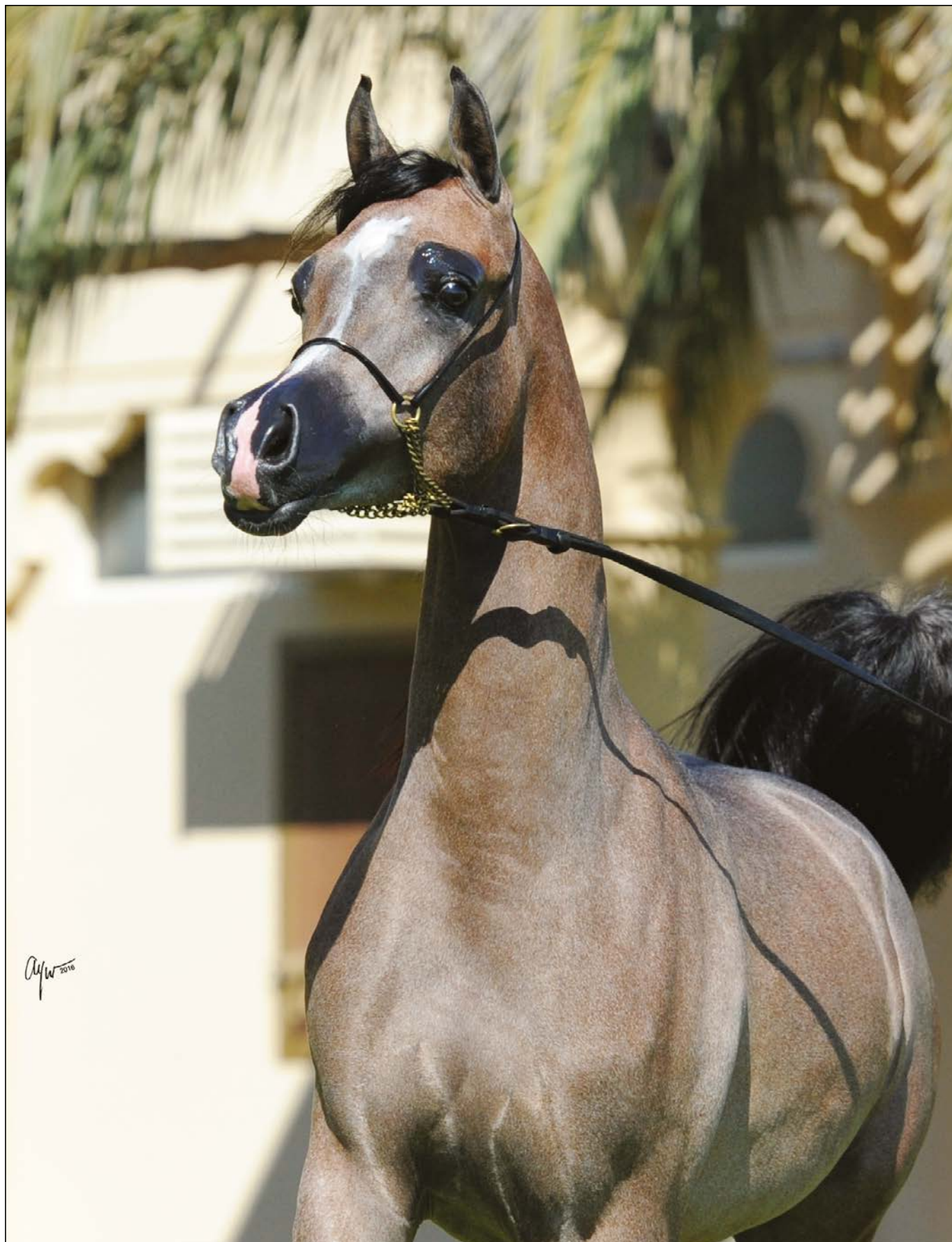
D Seraj, 2016 Menton



D Seraj, 2016 Aachen



D Seraj, 2016 World Championship Paris



AW 2016