



photo by Shira Yegar

THE VISION HG

A Short Tribute

◆ by Tzviah Idan ◆

In 1995 a most promising and refined filly boarded a US plane headed for Israel's famous Ariela Arabians so as to fulfill a request of farm co-owner Eitan Wertheimer: to locate and purchase a rare black straight Egyptian filly or mare of superior quality to round out the farm's valuable broodmare herd.

Who could have ever imagined the breedwide repercussions of such an ordinary request?

Then farm manager Chen Kedar recalls spending about two years searching for a suitable candidate. Eventually, veteran American Arabian trainer and handler Steve Dady presented the yearling filly The Vision HG to Chen and farm co-owner Uri Ariely at the 1995 Egyptian Event in Lexington, Kentucky. The rest, fortunately enough, is history.

Bred in America by Marilyn Geurin of Hot Springs, Arizona The Vision was one of the first, and is today considered



photo by Shira Yegar

by far the most influential daughter of world super sire The Desperado (The Minstril x AK Amiri Asmaar). Vision's dam was the highly-regarded bay mare Belle Staar sired by The Minstril (Ruminaja Ali x Bahila) out of The

Egyptian Prince (Morafic x Bint Mona) daughter Alia- Aenor (ex Hasnaa Albadeia). She was a fine representative of the Zafaarana family tracing in tail-female to the historic Saqlawi Jedrania foundation mare Radia.

Once seen, The Vision was not easily forgotten. She possessed a soft, rare and alluring beauty featuring the most extremely chiseled and refined face. This was, in turn, highlighted by a pair of extremely compelling deep, liquid eyes. She was typey to an extraordinary degree and altogether an exquisite vision painted in sultry black. Few of her photographs captured her electrifying and extraordinary presence.

The Vision surely sensed that she was something special as she established

herself early on as both 'boss mare' and diva — with her own preferences communicated unequivocally to horses and humans alike. She earned an enviable though limited show record, handled mostly by Frank Spönle, that included: 1995 Top Ten at the US Egyptian Event; 1996 Israeli National Champion Filly and Most Classic Head winner; 1996 Reserve Junior Champion and Most Classic Head winner at the Middle East Championships in Amman, Jordan; 1998 Israeli National Champion Mare; 1999 Israeli National Champion Mare

and High-Scoring Horse of the Show; and finally, 2007 Champion Mare at the Israeli Egyptian Event.

Of course, it was not as a show horse but through her career as a broodmare that The Vision was to earn the world's spotlight and her greatest and unprecedented acclaim. Covered by Paris World Champion Imperial Imdal (Ansata Imperial x Dalia) as a three-year old, her first foal, the charismatic bay colt Al Maraam, now deceased, exceeded the farm's wildest expectations. He had a most extreme



photo by: Shalom Nissim



The Vision HG

photo by: Shira Yegar



head and more refinement than any foal the farm had produced up to that time and he took the European show rings by storm, including winning the Reserve Junior Champion Colt title at

the All-Nations Cup in Germany as a yearling. Al Maraam went on to sire many champions of his own worldwide and his daughters are considered especially valuable broodmares.

The Vision's second foal was another colt, this one a grey sired by the farm's young homebred sire Laheeb (Imperial Imdal x AK Latifah) called Al Lahab. Purchased at the age of ten months by



photo by: Randi Clark



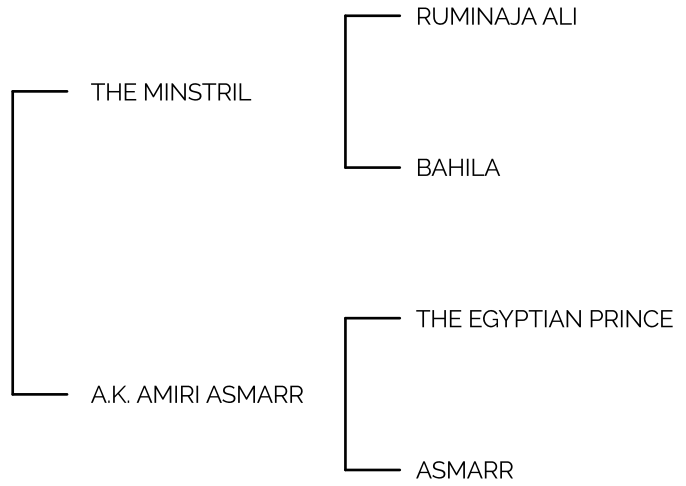
photo by: Randi Clark

The Vision as a foal



Thee Desperado

THEE DESPERADO



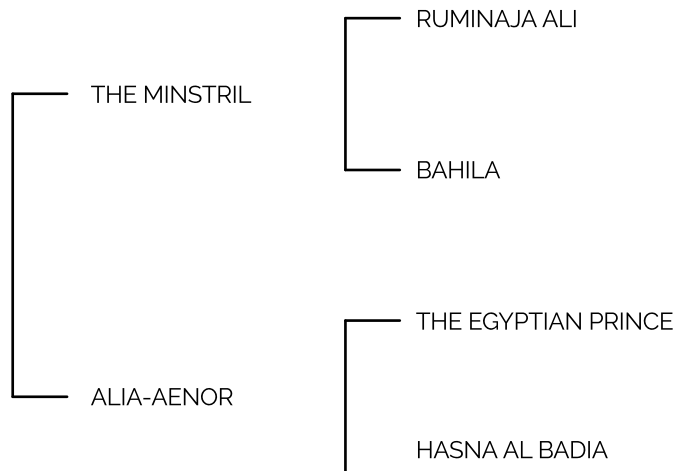
THE VISION HG

A Saqlawi Jedrania
1994-2018



Belle Staar

BELLE STAAR





The Vision HG





photo by: Bar Hajjal

The Vision at 23 years old



photo by: Manasha Cohen

The Vision at the 1998 Israeli Nationals



photo by: Irina Flisinger

The Vision during the 1996 Middle East Champ., Jordan

the Friedmann Family of Germany. Al Lahab was campaigned in show rings worldwide to be eventually crowned as Paris World Champion Stallion among countless other titles. He is

greatly beloved as one of the breed's most highly decorated show horses. Al Lahab's compelling beauty and charisma earned him the nickname 'the fairytale stallion' and he has also

gone on to sire countless show champions worldwide.

It became apparent with the birth of Al Lahab that The Vision was one of those



The Vision in the Judean Desert in 1996

photo by Rick Van Lent

Van Lent
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photo by: Gigi Grasso

Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG)

rarest of the rare broodmares who could produce stallions of the highest possible quality that in turn, could later recreate the best traits of their dam in their own get.

Since Vision had proven to nick exceedingly well with Laheeb, this breeding was repeated many times throughout her lifetime, producing the exquisite mare Al Halah AA, grand dam of 2019 Paris Gold World Champion Colt EKS Farajj, and three full brothers: Al Hadiyah AA [now deceased], Al Raheeb AA, and Al Wahab AA. These

went on to succeed in show rings in Israel and abroad, and each in turn has gained acclaim as a highly sought-after breeding sire.

The Vision was bred to many other valuable straight Egyptian stallions, crossing notably well with the German-bred Al Ayad (Moheeb x Al Mamunah), sire of Ariela's 2018 Paris Bronze World Champion, Al Ayal AA. Affectionately referred to as 'A Vision in White', Al Ayal won great international stature as both show horse and show sire while serving as equine ambassador for

Ariela. He made history at ten months old with his historical lease to the Ajman Stud, as the UAE and Israel had no diplomatic relations back then. Later the young stallion spent several years standing at farms across the globe, including five weeks at the Michalow Stud of Poland, a stay at the famous Al Shaqab Stud in Qatar, and was twice leased to Qatari HE Sheikh Jassim Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Aljassimya Farm. Al Ayal's direct impact has been widely felt in these and in numerous other programs worldwide.



photo by: Chen Kedar

From Right to Left: Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG), Al Lahab (Laheeb x The Vision HG), Al Raheeb AA (Laheeb x The Vision HG)

Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG)
The only horse at the 2018 World Championship who received perfect scores of 20 for Type across the board from all the judges!

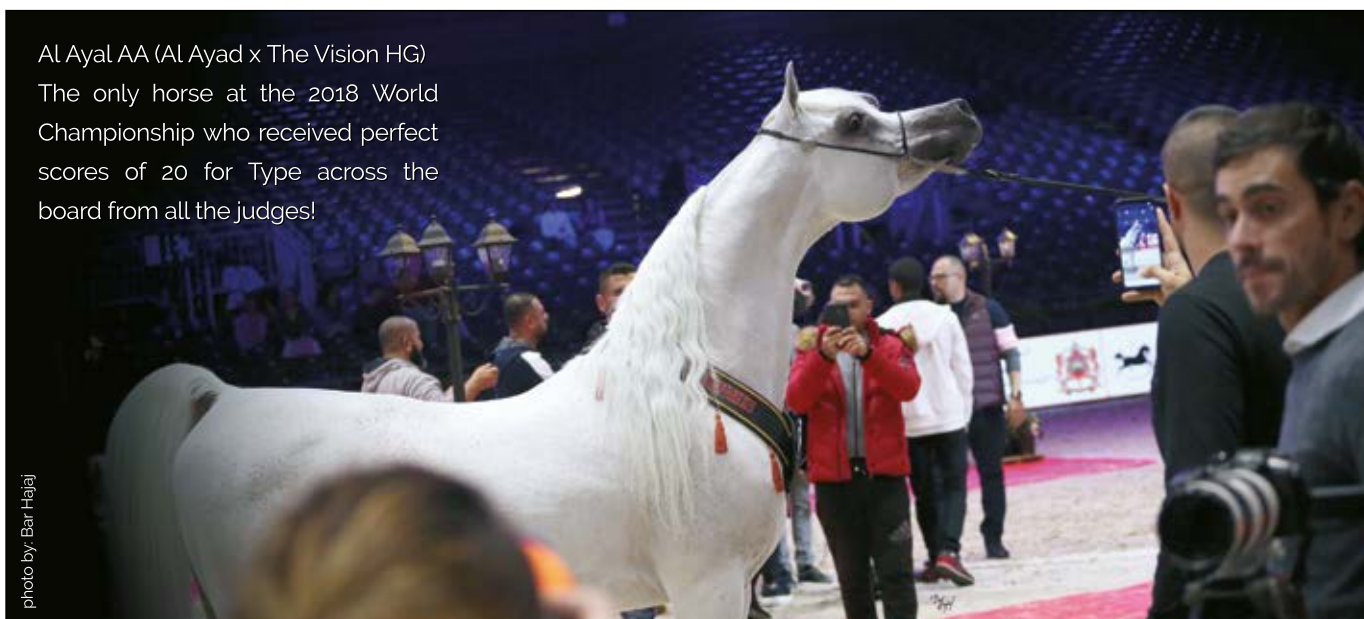


photo by: Bar Hajaj



photo by Gigi Grasso

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Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG)

photo by: Emma Maxwell

Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG)
2018 Bronze World Champion Stallion



EM

photo by: Elisa Grassi



Sajida AA (Al Ayal AA x Safiyah AA)

photo by: Bar Hajji



Sofiya AA (Al Ayal AA x Saniyyah RCA)
2018 Israeli National Champion Mare



Sofiya AA (Al Ayal AA x Saniyyah RCA)
2018 Israeli National Champion Mare

Al Ayal AA (Al Ayad x The Vision HG)





Lutfina AA (Nader Al Jamal x Latifah AA by Al Maraam)

In 2018, just months after the tragic loss of his dam, Al Ayal competed at the World Championships in Paris. In spite of his being much more of a breeding type stallion than show stallion in overall style, Al Ayal took home the titles of Best Male Head and Best Straight Egyptian Male in the Show and was eventually crowned 2018 Bronze World Champion Stallion. Incredibly, Al Ayal was also the only horse at the 2018 World Championships to receive perfect

scores of 20s for type from all of the judges.

Two yearling Al Ayal sons from the Aljassimya program also competed in Paris that same year. The first, Qutuz Aljassimya (Minwah), earned very impressive scores and placed Second in his age class. The second, Arraab Aljassimya (Om El Aisha Aljassimya), placed First in his class and was later named Silver World Champion Yearling Colt. Both have been retained

by Aljassimya as future sires for the farm program.

And ultimately, Ariela Arabians was named the Best Breeder/Owner of the 2018 World Championships, a bittersweet tribute to the legacy of The Vision and the farm's long dedication to the art of breeding Arabians.

Since returning from his engagements abroad, Al Ayal has become a tremendous sire of significance for the



Nader Alroeya AA (Nader Al Jamal x The Vision HG)

Paladin AA (Al Ayal AA x Prometida)

Dafina AA (Al Bilal (a son of Al Maraam) x Dumka)

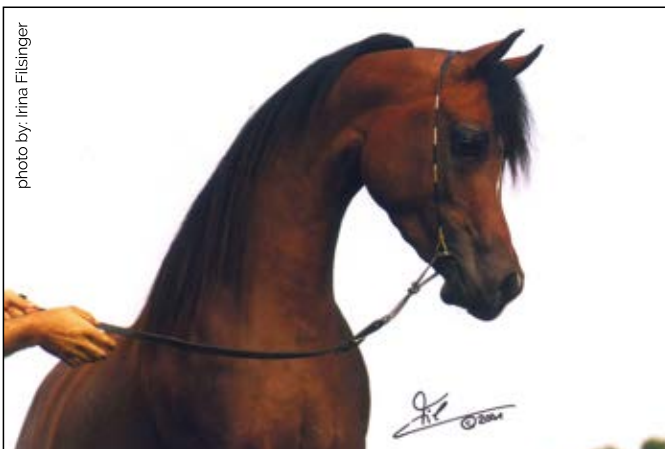


Al Maraam (Imperial Imdal x The Vision HG)

photo by: Linda Svensson

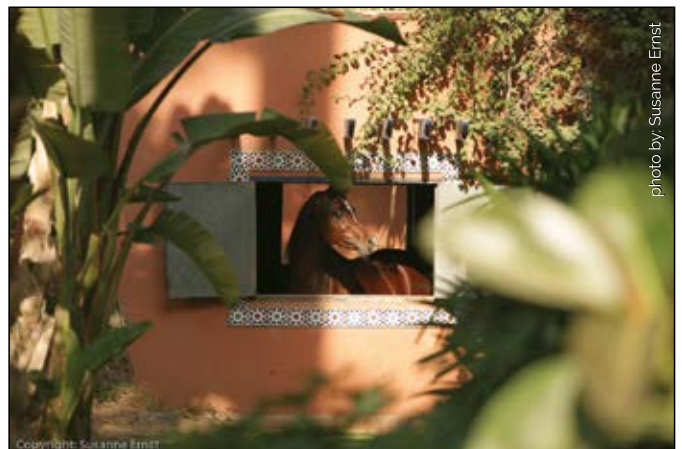


photo by: Irina Filsinger



Al Maraam (Imperial Imdal x The Vision HG)

photo by: Susanne Ernst



Al Maraam (Imperial Imdal x The Vision HG) during his lease to Dr. Nasr Marei of Al Badiea Stud, Egypt



photo by Alessio Azzali

EKS Bint Helwah (Laheeb x Helwah AA
(Al Ayad x Al Halah AA by The Vision HG))



photo by Alessio Azzali

EKS Farajj (Ibn Farid x EKS Bint Helwah)

Ariela program and is also very heavily used by judicious Israeli breeders and others abroad. At Ariela he is particularly valued for his stunning daughters; some of the best known include Sajida AA (Safiyah AA), Turkis AA (JPJ Talasha), Noya AA (Insha Sha

Latifa), and Sofiya AA (Saniyyah RCA). These valuable mares are show mares par excellence and have taken their places as the young vanguard of Ariela's famous broodmare band by proving themselves exceptionally reliable producers. Two younger

homebred Ayal daughters, Sereen AA (Saniyyah RCA) and Sanaa AA (Safiyah AA), look exceptionally promising as well.

When The Vision was still in her prime and very much 'center stage' at Ariela,



Al Amal AA (Halim Shah I x The Vision HG)
 Dam of Abyad AA, by Nader Al Jamal



Prunella (Abyad AA x Pradera)
 Polish National Champion Filly



Turkiz AA (Al Ayal AA x JPJ Talsasha)

a situation developed where just about every horse on the farm carried her blood close up, creating certain breeding challenges for the farm's straight Egyptian program. For this reason, a few especially selected straight Egyptian mares were purchased to broaden the farm's genetic base. The Vision's blood has

since been carefully blended with these newer additions, and with much success. In particular the combination of the blood of the mare Saniyyah RCA (Mishaal HP x My Shooting Star) with that of Laheeb and The Vision has created exceptional and reliable results. This particular blend could even be referred to the farm's 'golden

cross', and it will undoubtedly be written about in the future.

"The opportunities and the challenges emanating from Vision's primacy in our own small Egyptian program started us thinking about the important legacy that The Vision would be leaving behind for the entire breed," explains



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Abyad AA (Nader Al Jamal x Al Amaal AA by The Vision HG)
during his lease to Janow Podlaski Stud - Poland

Shafikah AA (Frasera Mashar x Sofiya AA by Al Ayal AA)
Unanimous Gold Champion Filly
at the 2021 Israeli Egyptian Event



photo by: Bar Hajaj



photo by: Bar Hajaj

Al Sharoura AA
(Nader Al Shamal AA x The Vision HG)



World Champion Stallion Al Lahab (Laheeb x The Vision HG)



Al Wahab AA (Laheeb x The Vision HG) owned by Ariela Arabians

Chen. "After much discussion Eliko and I came to the conclusion that it made sense to see what she might accomplish using bloodlines other than straight Egyptian."

Once this decision was made their first choice was to use one of their favourite Arabians, the international stallion Gazal al Shaqab (Anaza el Farid x Kajora). This cross produced the very impressive bay colt Al Ghazali AA, who is standing at Giacomo Capaci Arabians in Italy. Afterwards The Vision was twice bred to Marwan al Shaqab (Gazal al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame) to produce the lovely bay filly Layla Al

Shaqab for Al Shaqab Stud and the liver chestnut filly Vision of Marwan AA for Ariela. Vision of Marwan is following in her dam's footsteps and proving to be one of Ariela's best producers. Vision's 2012 breeding to ZT Marwteyn (Marwan al Shaqab x ZT Ludjteyna) resulted in the very special bay colt Aeneas AA, sold as an embryo to longtime friend and breeder Ferdinand Huemer of La Movida Stud in Austria.

Following these outcrosses Vision was once again covered mostly by straight Egyptian stallions. Her lifetime production record includes twenty-three foals, which are listed below;

fifteen of these are straight Egyptian.

Not only was she the most classic of Arabian mares in sheer physical beauty, she was also a wonderful example of the breed's great nobility and vast courage. It is not widely known, and it was the farm's special burden, that over many years The Vision faced serious health challenges and she underwent colic surgery on several separate occasions. This began many years ago while she was still in her prime, and although she received meticulous care, 85% of her large intestine had to be eventually removed.



Aeneas AA (ZT Marwteyn x The Vision HG)
owned by La Movida Stud, Austria



Al Hadiyah AA (Laheeb x The Vision HG)

Al Raheeb AA (Laheeb x The Vision HG)





photo by: Joanna Jontentz

Al Halah AA (Laheeb x The Vision HG)

Sereen AA (Al Ayal AA x Saniyyah RCA)

photo by: Elisa Grassi



Arraab Aljassimya (Al Ayal AA x Om El Aisha Aljassimya)

photo by: Emma Maxwell





photo by: Alessio Azzali

Shaheen AA (Al Ayal AA x Saniyyah RCA)

Chen recalls, "The veterinarians did not give her much of a chance and we were not left with much hope but Vision's great heart and formidable will always triumphed."

"Over many years she was kept on a strict schedule and regimen that never wavered: She was fed five small meals

a day at very specific times, she spent two hours a day at pasture, and she walked for twenty minutes on the walker twice each day."

Despite her precarious health, even as an aged mare the intrepid Vision actually continued to carry some of her own pregnancies to term; many other

valuable foals were produced by way of embryo transplant.

In 2018, at age 24, it became apparent to those who knew her best that Vision's time was gradually running out, and she had several critical episodes which eventually left her hospitalized. Realistically, it was truly



photo by: Bar Hajaj

Al Ghazali AA
(Gazal Al Shaqab x The Vision HG)

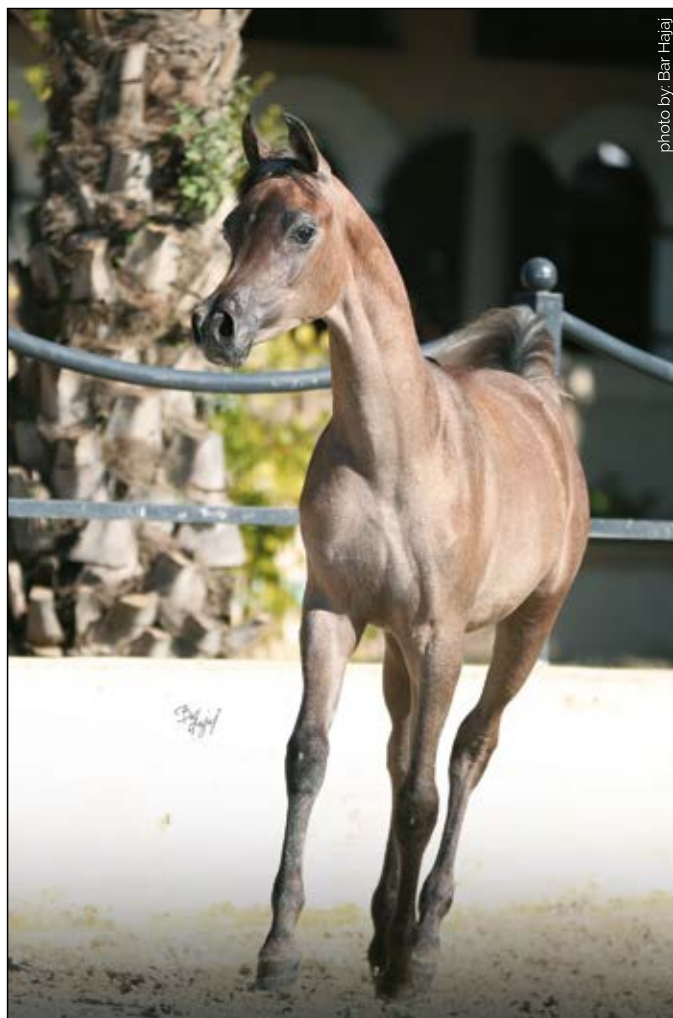


photo by: Javan

Baha AA
(Al Ayad x Baraaqa AA by Al Baraqai AA
out of The Vision HG)



Sanaa AA (Al Ayal AA x Safiyyah AA)



Sarab AA (Kenz Al Baydaa x Sofiyah AA by Al Ayal AA)

miraculous that she not only lasted, but thrived for so many years. Perhaps the greatest miracles of all were the valuable gifts that were delivered just a few short months before she died in the form of two last foals — both fillies.

The first filly is Al Sharoura AA, The Vision's only black daughter, a straight

Egyptian sired by the farm's homebred Nader Al Shamal AA (Salaa el Dine x Insha Shah Latifah). Although this filly is very similar to and perhaps even of better conformation than her dam she was disfigured early on in a misfortunate accident which ended any hopes of a show career. Presently Al Sharoura is in foal for the first time,

to Ariela's homebred Shams Al Din AA (Shams Sharav AA x Raliya).

The second filly, My Vision AA, is a bay bombshell sired by Al Movida Arabian's young superstar Jyar Meia Lua (RFI Maktub x Jiullya El Jamaal). My Vision is a super impressive filly of tremendous quality who to date has

The Vision HG (1994-2018) – Lifetime Production Record

1998	Al Maraam	bay colt	Imperial Imdal
1999	Al Lahab	grey colt	Laheeb
2000	Al Baraqai AA	bay filly	Baahir
2001	Al Hakim AA	black colt	Muhajjal
2002	Al Amal AA	bay filly	Halim Shah I
2003	Al Halah AA	grey filly	Laheeb
2005	Al Hadiyah AA	grey colt	Laheeb
2006	Al Raheeb AA	grey colt	Laheeb
2008	Al Ayal AA	grey colt	Al Ayad
2008	Al Amir AA	grey colt	Al Ayad
2011	Nader Al Roeya AA	grey colt	Nader Al Jamal
2012	Al Ghazali AA	bay colt	Gazal Al Shaqab
2013	Layla Al Shaqab	bay filly	Marwan Al Shaqab
2013	Aeneas AA	bay colt	ZT Marwteyn
2014	Vision of Marwan AA	chestnut filly	Marwan Al Shaqab
2015	Nile Farah AA	grey filly	Ansata Nile Pharaoh
2015	Al Wahab AA	grey colt	Laheeb
2017	Ein Shams AA	grey filly	Shams SharavAA
2017	Al Ashqar AA	chestnut colt	GT Shardh
2017	Al Lail AA	black colt	GT Shardh
2018	Al Sharoura AA	black filly	Nader Al Shamal AA
2018	Al Nakeeb AA	grey colt	Shamekh Al Danat
2018	My Vision AA	bay filly	Jyar Meia Lua

Vision Of Marwan AA
(Marwan Al Shaqab x The Vision HG)

photo by: Elisa Grassi



Veraj AA, 2022 Colt (D. Seraj x Vision Of Marwan by The Vision HG)

had a limited but successful show career, winning the coveted 2019 Gold Champion Yearling Filly title at the Mediterranean Countries Arabian Horse Championships at Menton.

We can only wonder what the future holds for these two, her final gifts. In the meantime, Vision's legacy quietly unfolds through the remarkable influence of numerous progeny, who are strongly contributing to the future

of the Arabian breed from Israel to the far-flung corners of the globe.

At the 2021 Egyptian Event in Israel, which was Israel's largest Egyptian show ever with 220 horses competing, twenty out of the twenty four championship titles were won by direct progeny of The Vision.

In show rings abroad we need only look at the Paris World Championships

and Aachen, where in 2019 Vision's daughter Al Halah (Laheeb) won her own quiet acclaim —earning her own place in history as the proud grand dam of 2019 Aachen Gold Champion Colt and Paris World Champion Junior Colt EKS Farajj (Ibn Farid x EKS Bint Helwa). EKS Farajj was bred by Elkusan Arabians in South Africa and proudly owned by AlKhashab Stud in Kuwait.

At the prestigious 2022 Mediterranean



My Vision AA (Jyar Meia Lua x The Vision HG). The Vision's last foal

Championships recently held in Menton, France the charismatic yearling colt Paladin AA (Al Ayal AA x Prometida by Kahil Al Shaqab), bred by Janow Podlaski Stud of Poland and owned by Ariela Arabians, won First place in his class with a great score of 93.08 and later captured the title of 2022 Bronze Champion Yearling Colt. And this was the youngster's very first show.

Back home at Ariela two 2020 homebred colts, Bahjat AA (Kenz Al Baydaa x Badriyah AA) and Sarab AA (Kenz Al Baydaa x Sofia AA) are just beginning their careers as junior sires. Both carry lines back to The Vision in new combinations and will add unique and interesting blends of this valuable blood to the farm program.

It is obvious that Vision's influence is alive and well and ever evolving;

perhaps even harder to realize that it has been four years since her departure to a more peaceful realm. The poignant words that Chen posted upon her passing probably still best express what we all feel for this iconic Arabian mare: "Just spread your wings and fly, Vision, just fly." ♦