



ONLY SERONDELLA

FROM AN ARISTOCRAT IN THE MAKING TO A PROMISE FULFILLED IN BRAZIL

◆ by Mario Braga - photos by Alessio Azzali ◆

The concept of the mare families always fascinated me. To be able to identify fine traits that repeat themselves generation after generation, for decades, sometimes centuries, is a central part of the secrets of genetics that most breeders have been trying to unveil since it all started over two thousand years ago in the hot sands of the Arabic Peninsula.

No one can deny the presence of the eventual element of chance in this equation, resulting sometimes in an unpredictable outcome of a certain cross that was not planned or expected, either for good or for bad. And there is nothing wrong with that.

But what a pleasure to be able to witness the making of an aristocratic mare family flourish on a ground that has been carefully prepared with dedication, knowledge, research, wisdom, hard work, thoughtful selection, reverence and love. A true work of art, having crossed already six successful generations and keeps going strong.



Only Serondella (*AAS Elishahh x Jelabie Serondella). 5 times Brazilian National Champion

We have seen it done very seldom, but history has given us some illustrious examples to follow such as the mares Sahara, Mlecha and Gazella in Poland, Nomenklatura in Russia, Rodania at Crabbet Park, Murana I at Marbach, Moniet el Nefous in Egypt, Bint Sahara for the McCoys, Hanan for

Dr. Nagel and more recently the likes of Estopa, Bachantka, Emenee, TW Forteyna and our Brazilian gem Jullye el Ludjin, just to name a few.

Our tale takes place in Brazil, with the foaling of a special bay filly in 2013. Her name: Only Serondella.



Rhaydee Serondella ('El Tino x Only Serondella), Brazilian National Bronze Champion Young Mare

The history of Only Serondella starts officially with the first mare that appears in her pedigree right after the first so called desertbred female whose name was lost in time along with her ancestors before her. Arabka de Pompadour was bred in France at Haras Royal de Pompadour, an iconic breeding farm acquired by King Louis XV in the year 1764. The farm has been closed during the French revolution only to become even more important afterwards with Napoleon Bonaparte bringing Arabian horses from the desert after his expedition to Egypt.

Somehow Arabka found her way to Sachny Stud in Poland, where two more generations of her family were crafted before it went on to Spain where, for eight more generations (from 1906 to 1982) the work continued by the gifted hands of master breeders such as the Yeguada Militar at Jerez de la Frontera, Domeq y Ybarra, the Duke of Veragua, and Diego Mendez Moreno, who bred the great Parana.

Parana came to Brazil, imported by heritage breeder Caetano Fabrini of Haras Fabrini who had

a special predilection for the Spanish bloodlines. She was named Spanish National Reserve Champion mare and was one of the three rare daughters of Galero ever to be imported to Brazil. Her pedigree boasts the elite of Spanish bloodlines with the pillars of Yeguada Militar Galero and Jacio, but also with Congo the grandsire of Estopa and Ocalina the grandam of the iconic Abha Hamir.

With the herd dispersal of Haras Fabrini in the 90's, Parana was sold and somehow she became



Simoneta LF ('AAS Elishahh x Jelabie Serondella). National Gold Champion Young Mare

part of Murilo Kammer's famous broodmare band. It was there that Fabio Amorosino of Haras Serondella spotted and was able to purchase her, thus launching a new wave of planned breeding decisions with this wonderful mare line that led to the creation of Only Serondella.

When bred to Encore Ali, Parana foaled Nuk Serondella who was then bred to El Nabila B before being exported to Italy. From this cross came the beautiful champion Ehva Serondella, herself a dam of distinction at the farm.

Her daughter with Vektor el Ludjin, Jelabie Serondella, was chosen for the recently imported US National Champion AAS Elishahh, a sire line that has five US National Champion stallions in the first five generations of his pedigree, who bred several mares at Haras Serondella resulting in many beautiful get. The daughter of Jelabie was an instant favorite from what I can remember and I guess her name, Only Serondella, was an indication of her uniqueness even at an early age.

Later on that same cross had once

again proved to work in the highest possible level for a full sister to Only called Simoneta LF was born and purchased by Haras Serondella who showed her to Brazilian Gold Champion Young Mare.

Being a fourth generation of Serondella-bred since Parana, Only headed to the highest level of show ring competition in Brazil, being named five times (!!!) Brazilian National Champion including Bronze National Champion Filly once, twice Silver National Champion Young Mare, once National Champion



Unno Serondella ('El Jahez WH x Only Serondella). Two Times Brazilian National Champion

Bronze Young Mare and also once Silver Senior National Champion Mare. That alone should suffice to guarantee her position of an all time favorite but it was in the breeding shed that the great surprise was yet to be revealed.

Modern technology can be a useful tool with horse breeding. But so far no one still can't predict or figure out if a champion mare with a stellar pedigree will succeed as a good broodmare, let alone as a great one.

Only Serondella, though still very young, has proved herself as a dam of distinction, having produced offspring of superior quality with several different stallions.

I was fortunate enough to have seen these treasures up close back in mid 2021 at Haras Serondella, right before the Brazilian Nationals. A parade, one after the other, of strikingly beautiful get. And most amazing is the fact that Only is producing high quality of both males and females.

All three of her living sons that were bred by Serondella at the time of my visit were of undeniable stallion quality. Unno Serondella by El Jahez WH a grey two year old was undoubtedly among Jahez very finest. Her two yearling bays, one by AF Maden and the other by Preludio OSB, were equally impressive and very hard to fault.

Though having big shoes to fill, her beautiful daughters Rhaydee by El Tino, Samoah by HP Ali, Simply by

TS Khidam el Shawan, Unicah by AF Maden and Vanity by Talaal Serondella, like her mother, are all show mares.

A few months later the time for the ultimate test had come: The 2021 Brazilian Nationals. Team Serondella was comprised of five offspring of Only Serondella including Unno, Vision, Veron, Simply and Rhaydee Serondella. Those were the their names and each of them from a different stallion. This family that made their mother and their breeders proud by winning the

coveted Produce of dam class and also the Silver Young Colt, the Silver and the Bronze Junior Colt, the Top Ten and the Bronze Champion Young Mare winners respectively.

To affirm that it was expected that Only might place well in the mare class or that some of her offspring should get well awarded would be common ground. But no one in their right state of mind could have predicted that in a single show this bay beauty would not only be named Brazilian Silver Champion Senior

Mare in one of the toughest classes ever at Nationals, but that all of her sons and daughters would place high in their classes, two of which becoming Bronze and two becoming Silver National Champions.

A testimony to the Amorosino family who bred and owned her and all of her sons and daughters by the time she reached the Aristocrat title. Because of her Haras Serondella was righteously awarded the best breeder and exhibitor of the 2021 Brazilian National show.



Samoah Serondella (*HP Ali x Only Serondella)



Vision Serondella (AF Maden x Only Serondella). Brazilian National Silver Champion

In the following two years after my visit the number of National wins amassed by the Only Serondella family kept increasing as the family itself was also growing.

Ever since, her El Jahez son Unno has won additional titles at Nationals, as did her daughter Rhaydee. The beautiful Simply Serondella has been exported and produced the National winning colt Amir Serondella, by Santorini. Samoah Serondella by HP Ali was finally shown and collected a National Top Ten in Mare Halter

in 2022 but most importantly she produced the 2023 Brazilian National Gold Junior Champion Filly Acqua Serondella, an exquisite filly by Brazilian dual Silver National Champion Stallion Abbas Al Ventur. As for the promising champion colt Vision Serondella by AF Maden, he was raised to chief sire status at the farm proving to be a great producer for Serondella.

An amazing epilogue to a successful tale that could easily become the script of an adventure movie if Only

(the double meaning is intended) it weren't a true story!

The family of Only Serondella is surely to impact worldwide breeding programs for the ages. And these unique individuals that I was fortunate to see then and hopefully will see again this year, are the promise of the continuous success of the this amazing mare line, so well cared for by their guardians Fabio, Felipe, Fernando and Pedro Amorosino, for many generations to come. ♦



Acqua Serondella (Abbas al Ventur x Samoah Serondella, by *HP Ali x Only Serondella). Brazilian National Gold Champion Junior Filly



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