## a Wonder of the Arabian Horse World

## by Kamila Kozłowska

photos: Paola Drera, Gigi Grasso, Glenn Jacobs, Ziggy Wellens

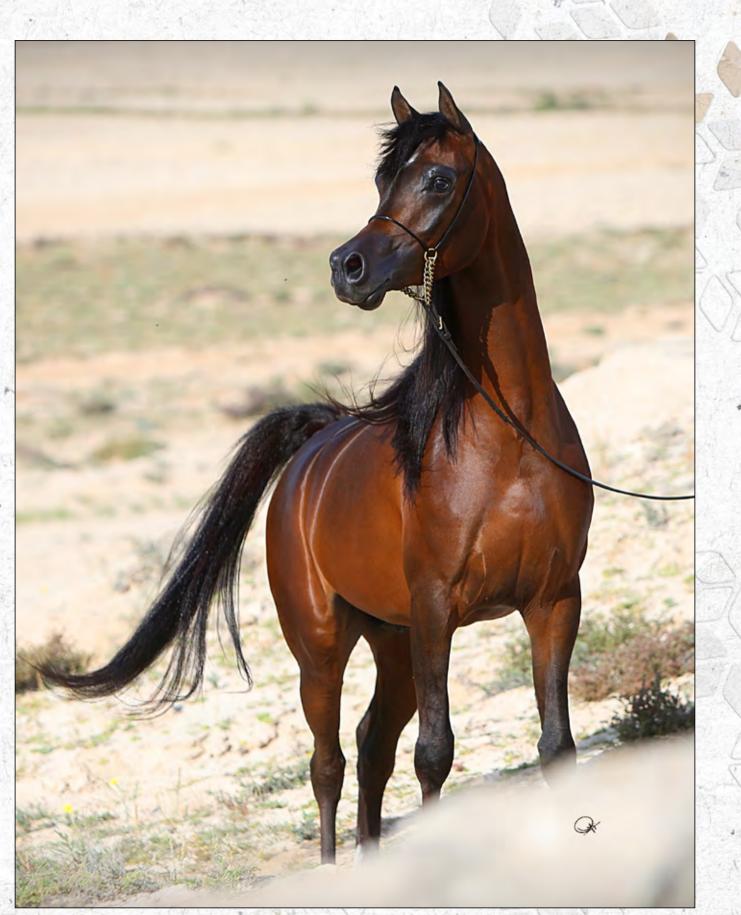


Apart from the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt, which today is far from its original splendour and greatness, the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the most marvellous architectural and artistic human achievements, are long gone and unavailable for admiration. Limited only by imagination, one can try to envision the excellence of the Colossus of Rhodes, the Lighthouse of Alexandria, the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, the Temple of Artemis, the Statue of Zeus at Olympia and the Hanging Gardens of Babylon based on the detailed description provided by ancient authors. Nevertheless, nowadays one can only wonder how magnificent these ancient monuments must have been.

Impossible as it may seem, the equivalent of the ancient Seven Wonders exists in the Arabian Horse World thanks to the highly-accomplished Al Shaqab Stud of Qatar, one of the most influential breeding programmes in the world and the member of the Qatar Foundation. The founder of the Stud, His Highness

Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, gave the greatest gift to all Arabian horse aficionados in the form of seven spectacular World Champion Stallions: Gazal Al Shaqab (Anaza El Farid - Kajora / Kaborr), Al Adeed Al Shaqab (Ansata Halim Shah -Sundar Alisayyah / Ruminaja Ali), Marwan Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab - Little Liza Fame / Fame VF), Fadi Al Shaqab (Besson Carol - Abha Myra / Marwan Al Shaqab), Kahil Al Shaqab (Marwan Al Shaqab - OFW Mishaahl / Mishaah), Hariry Al Shaqab (Marwan Al Shaqab - White Silkk / Dakar El Jamaal) and, last but not least, Wadee Al Shaqab (Marwan Al Shaqab – OFW Mishaahl / Mishaah). Each and every one of these extremely successful show champions and superb breeding stallions is a Wonder in his own right.

Except for being classified as one of the Seven Wonders of the Arabian Horse World, Wadee Al Shaqab represents the royalty of the breed. He descends from the majestic dynasty of champions commenced by his paternal grandsire,



Wadee Al Shaqab (Marwan Al Shaqab x OFW Mishaahl)

ANAZA EL FARID b 1988

GAZAL AL SHAQAB b 15.3 1995

LITTLE LIZA FAME

b 1987

Wadee Al Shaqab

KAJORA b 15.2 1979

FAME VF

KATAHZA b 1981

b 1982

gr 15.1 1970 EDJORA

gr 1968

BEY SHAH b 1976

RAFFOLET A-ROSE b 1971

RUMINAJA ALI

BINT DEENAA

gr 1976

b 1979

KABORR

AZA DESTINY b 1971

AFHAR RAHZA gr 1969

GG JABASK b +/ 15.2H 1973

EUPHORIAA ch 1981

BEY SHAH b 1976

BINT RASWIA b 1971

BEY SHAH b 1976

b 1976

BASQUISETTE gr 1969

BASQUINA

SHAIKH AL BADI BINT MAGIDAA

ANSATA IBN HALIMA DEENAA

NABORR BINT KHOLAMEH

EXELSJOR EDESSA

BAY EL BEY STAR OF OFIR

RAFFON LETA ROSE

AZRAFF BINT BASS HISAN

AL-MARAH RADAMES ZAKIEH

BASK JALANA

EUKALIPTUS DW BASKALA

BAY EL BEY STAR OF OFIR

MON-NEET RASWIA

BAY EL BEY STAR OF OFIR

GAVADRAFF

BALALAJKA

GWALIOR

JK SPARTAN ch 1986

MISTRAL BEY b 1985

RSD DARK VICTORY blk/br 1985

BALAQUINA blk 1977

Arabian Stallions (3) of the World XX

OFW MISHAAHL b 2002 ARABIAN

2010 bay stallion

MARWAN AL SHAQAB

b 15.3H 2000

OFW BALARINA

blk 1998

MISHAAH b 16.0H 1993

BASK b 1956

KAMASI SABAHA

WITRAZ

KHEMOSABI



the 2017 Platinum World Champion Male, the great Gazal Al Shaqab. Gazal's influence on today's Arabian horse breeding is immeasurable. He made a mark on the breed through his exceptional sons and daughters. It is impossible to list all the trophies that Gazal's get have won over the years but the mere fact that he sired three Platinum World Champion Mares: Pianissima (out of Pianosa / Eukaliptus), Pinga (out of Pilar / Fawor) and Emandoria (out of Emanda / Ecaho) is an amazing achievement on its own. What is more, his most influential male hair Marwan Al Shaqab produced another five Platinum World Champions; four stallions: Baanderos (out of HB Bessolea / Besson Carol), Marquis CAHR (out of Rohara Magnifica / Echo Magnifficoo), Kahil



Marwan Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame)

Al Shaqab and Hariry Al Shaqab as well as the 2021 Platinum World Champion Mare Baviera HVP, a full sister to Baanderos. If the 2021 Platinum World Champion Stallion Equator (out of Ekliptyka / Ekstern) sired by Marwan's son QR Marc (out of Swete Dreams / Magic Dream CAHR) is taken into consideration, it is beyond doubt that the highest number of the most prestigious title in the Arabian horse world has been awarded to Gazal's direct descendants. Now that is an astonishing achievement, however not the only one when it comes to Wadee's noble family. His sire, the aforementioned Marwan Al Shaqab, is not only an excellent producer of phenomenal progeny, he is also a show legend in his own right. Marwan himself stood proudly on the Parisian podium three times as the 2001 and 2002 World Champion Junior Colt and 2008 World Champion Senior Stallion.

As if it was not enough, Wadee's twoyear-older full brother Kahil Al Shaqab was World Champion both as a junior colt and as a senior stallion as well as the



Mishaah (JK Spartan x Mistral Bey)

2018 Platinum World Champion Male.

Tail female, Wadee Al Shaqab traces back to the 1971 Canadian National Champion Mare, 1972 Scottsdale Reserve Champion Mare and 1972 US National Champion English Pleasure, Basquina (Bask – Habina / Hallany Mistanny), a bold and beautiful daughter of the immortal Bask (Witraż – Bałałajka / Amurath Sahib) that excelled both in halter and performance. Wadee's dam, the outstanding bay OFW Mishaahl (Mishaah – OFW Balarina / RSD Dark Victory), heavily linebred to Bask on both sides of her pedigree, was purchased by Al Shaqab Stud in 2006 as a four-year-old unproven mare from her breeders, Orrion Farms of the USA. The great eye and intuition of the new owners, who included OFW Mishaahl into their high-quality broodmare band based solely on her breeding potential, never regretted their decision. Although not as exotic as some other Al Shaqab broodmares, this tall, athletic mare with a swan-like neck became one of their dams of distinction as she produced

## **RESULTS**

- **GOLD CHAMPION SENIOR STALLION** Mediterranean and Arab Countries AHC - Menton 2017
- GOLD CHAMPION SENIOR STALLION World Arabian Horse Championship - Paris 2017
- GOLD CHAMPION JUNIOR COLT
  World Arabian Horse Championship Paris 2012

three World Champions by Marwan Al Shaqab, the aforementioned stallions Kahil and Wadee as well as the stunning bay Sultanat Al Shaqab, the 2015 World Silver Champion Yearling Filly.

Based on the aristocratic origin of Wadee, the expectations of his breeders towards him were extremely high since the day he was born. He definitely did not disappoint even though the beginning of his show career was challenging to say the least. Born at the end of August, Wadee usually competed against much older and more developed colts and yet it did not stop him from crushing his competition. As a very young colt, Wadee debuted in the demanding show arenas of the Middle East where he won his first medals at such important events as Qatar Nationals and Al Khalediah International Arabian Horse Show. The 2011 Qatar National Show was an especially memorable moment. Despite the fact that he competed against older colts in the championships, he swept the judges off their feet and took the top of the podium. At roughly the same time that Kahil triumphed in Paris as the 2011 World Gold Champion Junior Colt, Wadee proved that he also was ready to shine bright in the most significant show rings in the world. At the end of the day, he was the newly crowned National Gold Champion Junior Colt

of Qatar. His homeland triumph parallel to his older brother's big win in Paris turned out to be somewhat prophetic. When Wadee turned two, he himself took the European show rings by storm. Not only did he become gold medallist, highest-scoring male and Male Best in Show at the prestigious Mediterranean and Arab Countries Championship in Menton, he also managed to mimic his brother's spectacular success in another French arena at the most significant show in the world. Only a year after Kahil was crowned with gold medal in Paris, Wadee followed in his full brother's footsteps, becoming another World Gold Champion Junior Colt that originated from the aristocratic bloodlines of Al Shaqab. What an astonishing achievement it was for the three-year-old Wadee, his regal dynasty and for the incomparable breeding programme of the famous Qatari Stud Farm.

As a two-year-old World Champion, Wadee had nothing else to prove in the show arena as a junior colt and thus he returned to Qatar to enjoy life and grow into a stallion. The Arabian horse enthusiasts around the world were wondering how this classy young colt would mature however Wadee did not return to the show ring for five long years after his wonderful victory in Paris. His

Arabian Stallions (2) of the World XX



Wadee Al Shaqab - Gold Champion Senior Stallion, Mediterranean & Arab Countries AHC - Menton 2017





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Arabian Stallions (2) of the World XX.

Wadee Al Shaqab - Gold Champion Senior Stallion, World Arabian Horse Championship - Paris 2017





much-anticipated comeback into the world of show competition took place on the beautiful beaches of French Riviera where the world elite of the Arabian breed compete each year for the highest honours. It was well worth the wait! Exceptionally masculine and charismatic to the core, Wadee became the talk of the town at the 2017 Mediterranean and Arab Countries Championship in Menton. Unsurprisingly, he placed first in the class of seven-year-old and older stallions with the highest score among males, the incredible 93.63 points, including a full set of twenties for type and another three for head and neck. After five years of developing and maturing into this incredible life statue of an Arabian, Wadee did finally repeat his astounding accomplishment from the 2012 Menton show. Enchanting everyone who laid their eyes on him, the elite group of judges being no exception,

Wadee took home the trophies for Unanimous Gold Champion Senior Stallion and Male Best in Show of the 2017 Mediterranean and Arab Countries Arabian Horse Championship. As the show in Menton is often considered the prelude to the World Championships in Paris, Wadee was expected to enter this most significant of all shows and to win it with ease. Again, he did not fail to amaze the audience in the Parisian show ring. Bewitchingly beautiful and more captivating than ever, Wadee hypnotised the judges and finished his class in the first place with the highest score of the show - 93.83 points, including twelve twenties (five for type, four for head and neck and three for movement). After a fierce fight in the finals, Wadee took the top of the podium next to his two distant cousins, Equator and Equiborn KA (out of Espadrilla / Monogramm), both sired by his paternal half-brother QR Marc.





Arabian Stallions (2) of the World XX —

The 2017 World Championships was truly special for Wadee and his breeders as the Gold Champion title was not his only triumph. As significant as the show career might seem to a stallion, his achievements in the breeding barn are equally if not more important.

When Wadee was crowned World Gold Champion Senior Stallion, two of his precious progeny shared the stage with their sire. His beautiful bay two-yearold daughter Belladonna AT (out of Om El Bellatrix / Om El Shahmaan) was the 2017 World Bronze Champion Junior Filly and his stunning grey son Figaro (out of Shirin by Aisha / WH Justice) became 2017 World Gold Champion Yearling Colt.

The fact that the 2017 Platinum World Champion Male title was awarded to the amazing Gazal Al Shaqab, Wadee's paternal grandsire and the progenitor of the highly-accomplished dynasty of champions, was the icing on the cake to the exceptional success of Wadee, his phenomenal family and Al Shaqab Stud at the 2017 World Championships in Paris.



As befits the heir to the Al Shaqab dynasty, Wadee blessed the breeders around the world with some outstanding offspring. After so many years of his service as a sire, it is impossible to list all his precious progeny, however the fact that he sired two World Champions who won three medals in Paris (Belladonna AT was Bronze Champion Senior Mare in 2021) is the proof of his great genetic prepotency and powerful influence as a breeding stallion. Gifted with the commanding charisma of his sire and grandsire as well as exceptionally correct conformation of his predominantly Polish dam line, Wadee turned out to

be a worthy successor of his highlyinfluential sire line and an extremely valuable asset to the Arabian breed. As has been shown by the breeding potential of his full brother Kahil Al Shaqab, who has also sired three World Champion winners up to date, Wadee's genetic powers are definitely not a coincidence. Without a doubt, Wadee is more than capable of siring show champions and valuable breeding horses with a wide variety of mares and he is sure to bring any breeding programme to the next level when it comes to Arabian type, charisma and correctness of conformation.

When one is born in the prominent stables of Al Shaqab Stud as a descendant of the legendary championproducing dynasty, it is only natural that the expectations towards them are unbelievably high from the very first moment of their existence. Wadee Al Shaqab was expected to pursue greatness in every aspect of his life and the fact that his two-year-older full brother Kahil set the bar incredibly high did not make this mission any easier. Yet, Wadee reached great heights of success both as an accomplished show champion and as a superb breeding sire and it seems that there are no limits as to what he can achieve in the future. And yes, it is a great honour to be double World Champion and the sire of winners but it is even greater privilege to become heir to one of the greatest Arabian horse families of all time. With all his astonishing accomplishments, Wadee proudly joined the pantheon of the Al Shaqab World Champion Stallions as its youngest member and one of its brightest stars. And just like that, the wonderful Wadee Al Shaqab has become one of the Seven Wonders of the Arabian Horse World for all of us to adore and admire. O

