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Wishing to all Tutto Arabi readers The Great 2011 Season!



Emandoria photo by Irina Filsinger

"Polskie araby" znaczy "Polish Arabians" Od 5 lat w sieci!

Tak wiele dzieje się w świecie koni arabskich, że omal nie zapomnieliśmy o naszych piątych urodzinach... Ale gdy już sobie o nich przypomnieliśmy, postanowiliśmy uczcić je czymś szczególnym. Uznaliśmy, że dla polskicharabów.com, które na co dzień istnieją w sieci, czymś wyjątkowym byłoby pojawienie się na papierze. I tak, po raz pierwszy w swej historii, e-magazyn stał się magazynem – bez poprzedzającej go literki "e"!

Bardzo spodobał nam się kiedyś pomysł naszych włoskich kolegów z "Tutto Arabi", by międzynarodowy magazyn zachował swą włoską nazwę. My także postanowiliśmy działać na arenie międzynarodowej pod nazwą pochodzącą z naszego języka. Mamy nadzieję, że miłośnicy koni czystej krwi wiedzą już, po 5 latach naszej obecności w sieci, że "polskie araby" znaczy Polish Arabians.

Pragnęliśmy zaznaczyć tę rocznicę nie tylko pojawiając się w formie drukowanej, ale także oferując hodowcom z Polski oraz tym z zagranicy, którzy cenią konie czystej krwi wywodzące się z polskich linii, dodatkową formę promocji. Taką możliwość stworzyła nam współpraca z magazynem "Tutto Arabi". Być może w przyszłości dołączą do nas hodowcy z innych krajów Europy Środkowej, których działaniom lubimy się przyglądać, a co znajduje odbicie w artykułach publikowanych w naszym portalu.

Wyjątkowe, jubileuszowe wydanie polskicharabów.com to dla nas również okazja, by podziękować użytkownikom z całego świata, którzy od pięciu lat tłumnie odwiedzają nasz portal. Ich liczba stale rośnie – a to także zmobilizowało nas, by wyjść poza wirtualną rzeczywistość. Oto więc polskiearaby.com w innej, dotykalnej formie. Ale czy w sieci, czy na papierze, jesteśmy z Wami i dla Was.

Redakcja portalu polskiearaby.com

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"Polskie araby" means "Polish Arabians" For 5 years on line!

There are so many events taking place in the Arabian horse world, that we nearly forgot about our 5th birthday... Now, when we already recalled that special anniversary, we decided to celebrate it with something unusual. Provided that we are every day present on the Web, such an unusual event would be appearing in print. So, for the first time in our history, we turned from "e-magazine" into an ordinary magazine.

We appreciated the idea of our Italian friends, who succeeded to retain their international magazine "Tutto Arabi" under its original Italian title. That's why we decided to be active in the international arena under our native name. We hope that Arabian horse lovers all around the world, after 5 years of our presence on the Web, learned that "polskie araby" meant "Polish Arabians".

We'd like to emphasize this anniversary not only by appearing in print, but also by offering to those Polish and foreign breeders who highly value Polish bloodlines of purebred Arabian horses, an additional form of promotion. Our co-operation with "Tutto Arabi" magazine opened such an opportunity for us. We hope that in the future also the breeders from other Central European countries will join us. We gladly observe their activities, what was always reflected in the articles published at our website.

This special, jubilee issue of polskiearaby.com encourages us to thank the users from all around the world, who so frequently visited our portal for 5 years. Their number grows, what encouraged us to get beyond the virtual reality. So we deliver you "polskiearaby.com" in a more palpable form. Anyway, whether on line or on the paper, we are always with you and for you.

The staff of the polskiearaby.com website and e-magazine



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Belzyce Horse Stud, Agnieszka & Andrzej Wójtowicz ul. Przemysłowa 50, 24-200 Bełżyce, Poland andrzej@belzycearabians.com, www.belzycearabians.com

is for Aachen is for Poland

text by: Krzysztof Dużyński photos by: Sylwia Iłenda (unless stated)

This year's Aachen turned out to be not just good, but simply sensational for the Polish team! Both important awards – the All Nations Cup Trophy, named the Lady Harmsworth Blunt Trophy and the Breeders Trophy, which bears the name of the Major Hedley Memorial Trophy – were won by Poland. The largest credit for this goes to Michałów State Stud, which gathered the most points and who returns home with a Gold Medal in the Senior Mares' Championship for Emandoria (Gazal Al Shaqab – Emanda/Ecaho). This mare also received an award sponsored by Athbah Stud for the highest scored horse of the show. "There is great joy at Michałów", told polskiearaby.com Urszula Białobok, the Michałów's main

breeder, moments after the results were announced. "To have four out of eight contestants in the finals is truly a great achievement. We are extremely happy."

Polish horses in the class competition

Already the first day of the All Nations Cup in Aachen brought a lot of satisfaction for the Polish team. Emandoria (in the hands of Mariusz Liśkiewicz) awarded five times "20" for type! She dazzled the judges, who gave her a fantastic final score of 94,70 points. It turned out to be the highest result of the show. Another sensation was undeniably the result of Bełżyce Stud's Kashira (Magnum Psyche – Kahila/Ibn Bint Inas), who received 5x20 for movement and placed fourth in the same class as Emandoria (series B of 4-6

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Emandoria with members of the Polish team: (from the right) handler and trainer Mariusz Liśkiewicz, director of Michałów State Stud Jerzy Białobok, director of Janów Podlaski State Stud Marek Trela, Krzysztof Poszepczyński from Chrcynno-Palace Stud, Krzysztof Goździalski from Falborek Stud. On the left Sylvie Eberhardt photo by Materisz Jawais



Emmona

(Monogramm -Emilda / Pamir)

Chaos Persefona

(Poganin - Ceres / Ganges)

year old mares) with a score of 92,30, besting Janów's **Pinga** (Gazal Al Shaqab — Pilar/Fawor) also with 92,30, including 2x20 for type. The Polish supporters were also overjoyed with the superb result of Michałów's **Pistoria** (Gazal Al Shaqab — Palmira/Monogramm) — 93,30 — which gave her second place in this incredible class. It should be mentioned that she was presented by Frank Spoenle.

In earlier classes Polish horses competed with changeable luck. In the A series of the yearling fillies only Janów's **Primera** (Eden C – Preria/Ararat) was able to enter the Top Five at second place with a score of 90,8. **Palatina** (QR Marc – Palmeta/Ecaho), who did so well on the domestic arenas (a Champion from Bialka), placed only 8th with a score of 88,7.

Among of the B series of the yearling fillies the most successful was Michałów's Zigi Zana (QR Marc – Zagrobla/Monogramm), the Polish National Junior Champion Filly, who won her class with a score of 92,1. With that Zigi Zana began a lucky streak for Michałów at this year's All Nations Cup. Her stablemate Piacenza (QR Marc – Primawera/Emigrant) placed third (91,4).

Competing in the A series of yearling colts were Janów's Pogrom (QR Marc – Petla/Visbaden) and Michalów's Empire (Enzo – Emira/Laheeb). This time Empire proved the better of the two, placing third in class with a score of 91. Unfortunately Pogrom did not make the Top Five, placing only sixth (90,3). The B series of the yearling colts had only one Polish representative – Emarc (QR Marc –

Eksterna/Ekstern) from Falborek Stud. He placed fifth, with a score of 90,4.

The two year old fillies were a class with a strong team from Poland — as much as five competitors. The most successful of these was Psyche Kreuza (Ekstern — Pallas-Atena/Ecaho) from Chrcynno-Palace Stud, who placed third with a score of 92,5, including 3x20 for movement. Right behind her was Michałów's Wieża Róż (Ekstern — Wieża Babel/Laheeb) with a score of 92,3. The remaining competitors remained outside of the Top Five: Parmana (Al Maraam — Palmira/Monogramm, 91,3), Mesalina (Ekstern — Mata Hari/Werbum, 90,4) and El Piatzolla (WH Justice — Enya/Ekstern, 90,1).

The three year old fillies class turned out to be of a killer quality. Only one filly among 11 competitors received a score below 90 points. The best among the Polish representatives was Chaos Persefona (Poganin – Ceres/Ganges) from Chrcynno-Palace at third place with a score of 92,2. Also having secured a place in the Top Five was the Athbah Studleased El Saghira (Galba – Emira/Laheeb), from Michalów, with 92,1. Bajaderka's 90,4 (Złocień – Bagatela/Pesal) – bred by Agricola Farm, owned by Monika Luft – did not secure her a place in the final five. However it was nice to hear – and it came as a genuine surprise – the show's announcer Klaus Georg Beste recommending our polskiearaby.com website as a great source of Arabian related information.

The three year old colts closed off the junior classes and the

A is for Aachen, P is for Poland

Zigi Zana

(QR Marc - Zagrobla / Monogramm)





Girlan-Bey (Pesal – Gracja Bis / Monogramm)

arena was entered by mares aged 4-6 years. In the A series the best Polish horse turned out to be Janów's **Sefora** (Ekstern – Sawantka/Pepton), placing fourth with a score of 91,3. The last class, as we wrote at the very beginning, was a huge triumph of Polish breeding.

We had also several chances during the second day of the All Nations Cup to be proud of Polish breeding, not just when the more than satisfactory championship results were announced. Each time when a horse of Polish origin received "20s" across the board for movement, we could rest assured about the future of our breeding. And that took place as many as four times: in the case of the Athbah Stud-owned and Michalów-bred Ellissara and her former stablemates — Emmona (who was additionally awarded with 4x20 and one "19,5" for type), Palmira and Zagrobla (who also gathered four other "20s"). An almost perfect result for this trait was scored by the Athbah-leased Girlan-Bey (bred by Michal Bogajewicz, owned by the Kristoffersen family): 4x20 and one "19,5".

The first to show up on the arena, to a splendidly chosen musical background by Suzi Poth (from film to club music, from classical to evergreens — we are counting this might be inspirational for our Polish show "DJs"), were mares aged 7-10 years and among them four of Polish breeding: Primadonna (Padrons Psyche — Pelargonia/Alegro), bred by Stanisław Redestowicz and owned by Tomasz Tarczyński, Michałów's Palanga (Ekstern — Panika/Eukaliptus), Janów's Palmeta (Ecaho — Pilica/Fawor) and the already mentioned

Ellissara (Laheeb – Ekscella/Monogramm). The highest score out of this foursome was garnered by Ellissara, who beside the maximum marks for movement could also boast an additional two "20s" for type, which gave her a final result of 93,3. This fantastic score, however, allowed her to secure just third place in class. Securing a spot in the Top Five of this class was also Palanga (92,6, including two "20s"). Regardless of the classification of each mare the quality of this class was extremely leveled and the highest possible, evidence to which are the marks received by all the competitors.

The 11 years old and above mares' class saw as many as five representatives of Polish breeding. Only one competitor on the arena — the British-owned Bylinka by Piligrim — represented Russian breeding (Tersk). A high final score of 91,3 however still put her in final place. The Polish rivals left her no chance: Michałów's Emmona (Monogramm — Emilda/Pamir, 94,4), Zagrobla (Monogramm — Zguba/Enrilo, 94,3) — shown by guest handler Frank Spoenle — Palmira (Monogramm — Palestra/Penitent, 93,4), the Athbah Studowned Etenta (Monogramm — Emigracja/Palas, 91,7) and Euskara (Ararat — Euglena/Banat, 91,4), bred at Kurozwęki Stud and owned by Liesl Els from RSA, a regular Belgian resident.

When the mares finished their competition the arena was entered by stallions aged 4-6 years. Our representatives – Kabsztad (Poganin – Kwestura/Monogramm) and Alert (Piaff – Andaluzja/Sanadik El Shaklan) – had to face such



Zagrobla (Monogramm – Zguba / Enrilo)



Pistoria (Gazal Al Shaqab – Palmira / Monogramm)



Palmira (Monogramm – Palestra / Penitent)



Palanga (Ekstern – Panika / Eukaliptus)

stars as the sons of Marwan Al Shaqab: Baanderos and QR Marc. The latter two dictated the rules of the game in this class. Still our contestants made it into the Top Five. Kabsztad was fourth (91,4) and Alert fifth (91,3).

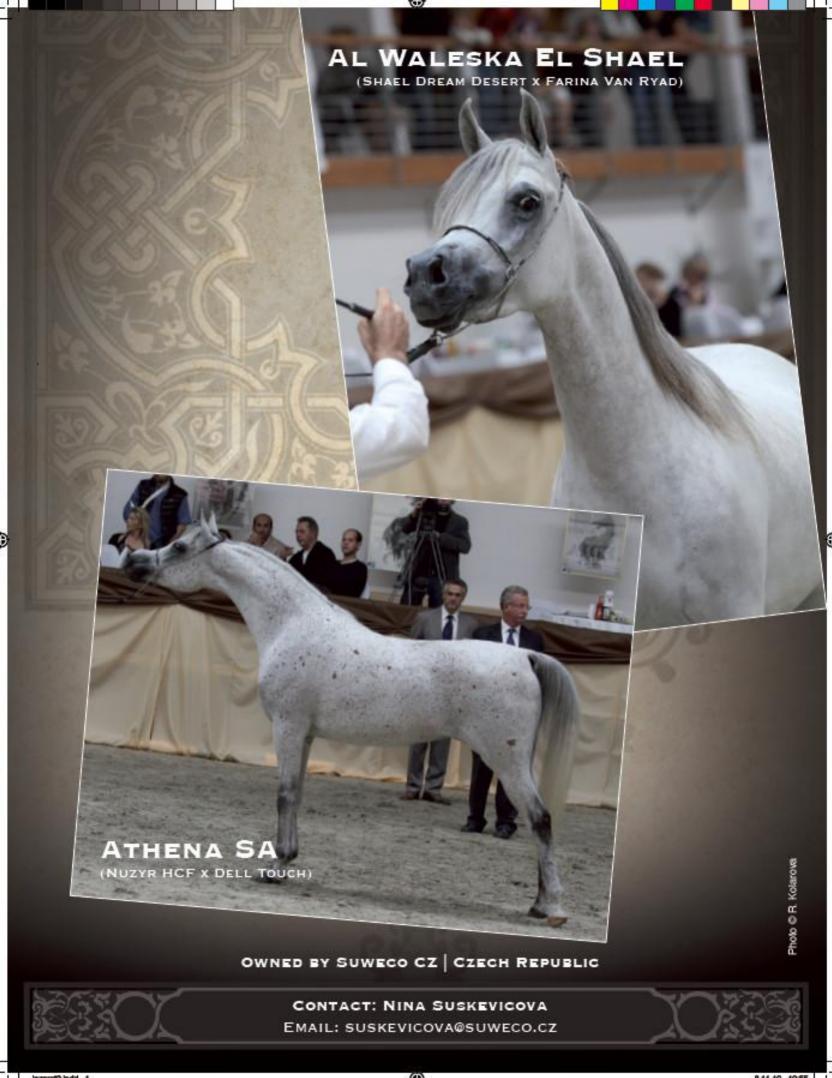
Standing out very clearly among the 7-10 year old stallions during the initial presentation was **Girlan-Bey** (Pesal – Gracja Bis/Monogramm) and it was him who received the trophy for first place (93,7). Two contestants from Poland, **Equifor** (Gazal Al Shaqab – Equiria/Pers, 91,9) and **Salar** (Ecaho – Saba/Etat, 91,1), placed sixth and seventh, respectively.

The finals: Emandoria's victory

It was not until the presentation of the stallions that the results of the Senior Mare Championships were announced. As we know, we couldn't have been more happy with the outcome. After all, **Emandoria** had very serious rivals in the form of **Jamilla Al Zobair** (silver) and **Ladi Veronika** (bronze). The victory of Michałów's graduate was not at all

foregone and sealed, though the show's highest score could've pointed to an advantage of Gazal Al Shaqab's daughter. Still we know situations where the highest scored horse (which happened in the past to Emmona, for instance) did not receive any of the top three medals. During Emandoria's decoration the victory of Poland in the All Nations Cup Trophy was also announced, which was a good move in terms of the show's dramatic effect. In previous years when the result was announced at the very end the decoration of the victorious country often took place in front of empty tribunes. The joy of the Polish team was perhaps exhibited in a slightly calm manner – when compared to the spontaneous reaction of the Belgians last year. Perhaps it was the domination of one giant – Michalów State Stud – which was so overawing.

And so another All Nations Cup has become history, writing down one more happy episode for Polish breeding. It brings a huge dose of optimism and large hopes for the future. One thing's for sure – Arabians from Poland are still in the game!



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MONIKA LUFT – publisher and editor-in-chief of the polskiearaby.com (Polish Arabians) website, dedicated to Polish Arabian horses. A journalist, writer, author of radio plays. She collaborated with Spanish television TVE and later with Polish public television TVP, where she hosted live programs, produced documentaries and conducted interviews with world-class show business stars. Has published two novels. The owner of several Arabian horses.

E.B.: Your first visit to Janów was with a TV crew to obtain a statement from one of Poland's First Ladies, who was a guest at the auction. Did you also manage to see any horses at that time?

M.L.: No, none. I carried out my task and returned to Warsaw. But later I visited Janów numerous times. I didn't get to see any more First Ladies, but I got to see many horses.

E.B.: How do you recall your first auction and what can you say about the last one, which took place this year?

M.L.: Oh, that's a very interesting comparison. When I came to the Janów auction for the first time I barely knew anyone, I had no knowledge about specific relations between the breeders, I paid no attention to the nuances, I simply took in the atmosphere of the great festivities of the Arabian horse. And I was completely stress-free, because none of my horses competed in the National Show or were offered at the auction. I was a delighted spectator – the most comfortable position. Later it wasn't so rosy anymore. But I will definitely remember the last auction forever. After a fierce bidding the mare Ermina, whom I was the owner of, was sold for the highest price ever for a private-owned horse at the Janów sale. The emotions connected with this were enormous, as well as the joy and pride.



Monika Luft with Ermina in Blommeröd, 2009





Monika Luft with Bajaderka in Białka, 2010

E.B.: From which of your media experiences do you draw on today?

M.L.: Eight years of work in Polish television definitely paid off. During interviews I learned to listen to what my guests have to say, and these included for instance the future Noble Prize winner, writer Mario Vargas Llosa, actors Michel Piccoli and John Malkovich, musicians Jean-Michel Jarre and Leonard Cohen. I also happened to be the editor-in-chief of a monthly magazine in the people segment, which in turn taught me how to create a larger puzzle from completely various components. I learned a lot about text editing – but this was mainly during working on my novels.

E.B.: You interview many significant figures of Polish breeding for your website. Which of these meetings were the most important?

M.L.: Each of them has taught me something. I ask questions about things that really interest me. They are not just courteous conversations, but ones that broaden my knowledge. I hope that others also learn something new from them. I try not to lose the personality of my guest during the interview. When editing, I retain to a large extent his way of speaking, his characteristic phrases and expressions. I eliminate repetitions or linguistic errors, which are inevitable in spoken form, however it is my ambition that these conversations be read nearly as though we would be listening to them. This comes as a surprise for people used to excessive "smoothing out" of language in written form. But I don't like "polished" interviews. I don't "beautify" my guests' statements by sticking in adjectives such as "wonderful", "beautiful" or "marvelous" if they weren't actually said. In the past I have often given interviews myself

and was the object of such manipulations. So I am exceptionally sensitive to an unnecessary, in my opinion, embellishing of reality.

E.B.: Women in the world of Arabian horses – that must be a subject close to your heart?

M.L.: Among the many interviews which have appeared on polskiearaby.com the one with Urszula Białobok from Michałów enjoyed the largest success - it was literally snapped up, published in English, French and German. This shows that our readers are interested not only in the "headline" people, but also in those perhaps lesser known, but very influential. Oftentimes these people are women. Polish Arabian horse breeding has been very fortunate that so many strong-natured women have become involved in it, starting with Polish Arabian Horse Breeders Society president Izabella Pawelec-Zawadzka, through Anna Stojanowska, to the organizer of the Janów sale Barbara Mazur. Urszula Białobok is one of them. Traditionally Polish breeding has been associated with a male face - there was Director Ignacy Jaworowski and Director Andrzej Krzyształowicz, today we have Directors Marek Trela and Jerzy Białobok. But the women also have a lot to say.

E.B.: Don't you miss real paper? Can your journalistic ambitions be fulfilled on the internet?

M.L.: Arabian-themed publications serve a double role: they inform and promote, with the advantage of the latter. Of course advertisements are also a form of information, we learn a lot from them about what is currently going on in the Arabian world, but it is an information filtered through the needs of the advertiser. Publications on Arabians are in a certain way an equivalent of celebrity periodicals. I have a journalistic temperament and though I appreciate the role of creating and the importance of promotion, pure information is definitely something much closer to me. We often publish live coverage photographs without any retouching, we write about shortcomings and not just about successes. Fortunately the website is a medium which we are able to maintain even when there are less advertisers, so we are not dependent on them. Besides, the internet gives the opportunity to react quickly.

E.B.: Aren't you a bit envious that there are equine-themed channels in the world? Wouldn't you like to have your own television on the internet?

M.L.: Maybe I would. But the Polish market is too small. Sponsorship has its limits... I would be very much into this idea if an interested investor should come forth. We don't lack skill, concepts and subjects. I'm the author of documentaries and coverages, perhaps I could return to these things?

E.B.: From which countries do the users of your website come from?

M.L.: We have visitors from tens of countries. Besides Poland we have a record number of hits from the United States. In Europe the most active are Arabian "superpowers" such as Belgium, Italy and Germany. During the last couple of months we gained many new users from Russia. And the last several weeks noted a rapid increase of supporters from Sweden. Rather regular and numerous are hits from Japan. We also have some fascinating events – for instance we are visited by Arabian enthusiasts from Tuvalu Islands located in the Pacific Ocean.



Monika Luft and Greg Gallun, with the award for the Best Handler sponsored by polskiearaby.com. Polish Nationals, Janów Podlaski 2008

E.B.: However your every day is not just the website, but also working for a PR company promoting movies, often worldwide blockbusters such as "Pirates of the Caribbean" or "Alice in Wonderland". The world of film, television and the "Arabian" world – what are the similarities between the two?

M.L.: Huge! Both have that "show" factor. In both fields it is important to step out of anonymity, each has the celebrity cult in the case of Arabians it is the horses which are the stars, but they require the same kind of promotion and manager care. The dictates of fashion are present everywhere, when some are making a name for themselves, others are being forgotten. An unceasing search for new faces (or should I say in the "Arabian" world - for new "muzzles") is yet another similarity. Both show worlds also sell dreams. A girl dreams of becoming a star, a small breeder dreams of breeding a champion. Someone else promises to help make those dreams come true. And - last but not least - each of these worlds is ruled by money. Of course just as there are niche movies with a low budget, there are small studs which function around slightly different rules - but these are incidental. The large movie industry is in Hollywood and the large "Arabian" industry is where the huge money is. But just as the movie industry would not exist without masses of regular viewers who buy cinema tickets, so breeding would not exist without thousands of Arabian horse enthusiasts, who are ready to make great sacrifices in order to purchase an Arabian in the future or to simply travel to Paris for the World Championships.

E.B.: You have done and are still doing so many various things – why did you decide to stay with Arabians?

M.L.: Probably if I didn't have my own horses, my persistence to keep up with this subject would be smaller. However as an owner and sometimes breeder I'm aware of the problems associated with this, in and out. It is not just a theoretical passion, observing things from behind a fence. I know what it means to have horses, buy horses, sell horses. This is not easy at all. Together with my husband we feel like managers of stars—we wonder what more could be done so that our horses would achieve the most, we plan their career within their and our capabilities. Sometimes this is achieved to a higher, sometimes to a lesser degree, but it is definitely a fascinating discipline. It includes a gambling factor, the arranging of intricate plans which get accomplished better or worse. There are successes and defeats. Defeats are painful, but successes motivate us to take further actions. It is a very absorbing game.

E.B.: What role in this passion does your husband, Krzysztof Dużyński, play?

More than just polskiearaby.com

M.L.: An essential one! We are partners though we often argue, especially on matters regarding the website. But I am impressed with his ability of combining knowledge from various fields — and he has extremely broad interests, from Arabian horses to the art market. This results in surprising, creative ideas, though sometimes extremely risky. But, as we know, where there is no risk there is also no pleasure. He once had this dream to be able to turn on the computer at breakfast and read about Arabians. And that's how it started — and lasts for 5 years.

E.B.: You don't have your own stud - how do you cope as both owner and breeder?

M.L.: My horses are currently located at three different stables: two training centers – show and endurance – and a breeding facility. I admit that it gets problematic, I can't visit them as often as I would like. But it also has its advantages. First of all it forces you to maintain discipline. We can't have too many horses, because it would be beyond our organizational capabilities. So we try to have just a few, but of the highest quality. And to draw as much joy as we can from having contact with them.

E.B.: About which of your horses can you tell us today?

M.L.: We are currently promoting three horses from our small herd. The 4-year-old, of pure-Polish pedigree stallion Panicz. (by Gaspar) is with us from the very beginnings of his life, so we feel a special sentimental attachment to him. He gave us a lot of joy gaining laurels at international championships. He is a triple Junior Champion Colt - in Poland, Hungary and Austria, as well as a Bronze Medalist from the National Show. Now we decided to test his stamina in endurance races. He won a bronze medal in the Polish National Championships for Young Horses. But what's most important is that he is doing great under saddle and when setting off on the trail he has joy in his eyes. The 3-year-old Bajaderka (by a Laheeb son -Złocień) also has some significant show achievements, including two reserve championships in Poland and Germany. Two years in a row she has won her class at the hardest European championship for junior horses - at Białka. Not many horses achieve such a feat. We are also counting on a new member of our herd, a daughter of Gazal Al Shaqab, Zana, born at Michałów. Zana's dam is Zuzanna by Wojsław, so it is a very promising pedigree. We see an opportunity for very interesting breeding crosses.



Monika Luft with Panicz as a suckling, 2006



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The Zilveren Spoor hall at Moorsele (Belgium) that every two years hosts the European Championships, proved friendly again for Polish horses. The Polish team — as many as 30 contestants — came home with one medal in each color: one gold, one silver and one bronze, as well as with 6 Top Five Titles. Besides, one bronze medal was granted to a horse bred in Poland, but sold abroad. In general, 13 Polish-bred horses qualified to the finals.

Polish competitors on Saturday

In the "B" series of the yearling fillies' class Zigi Zana (QR Marc – Zagrobla/Monogramm), bred and owned by Michalów Stud, performed very well, with a total score of 92,90 points. Another QR Marc daughter from Michalów, Piacenza (out of Primawera by Emigrant), was placed second, just behind her stablemate. They both qualified to the Championships, but nobody knows why so few of progeny by QR Marc – the stallion owned by Paul Gheysens – are shown in the very homeland of their sire...

Equally good was the performance of **Primera** (Eden C – Preria/Ararat), bred and owned by Janów Podlaski, in the "A" series – she was placed second, following a new chestnut discovery of Buzzi family, **Armonia Moniscione** (Ajman Moniscione – Armonia/Aksztn, 90,70). **Paema** (Ekstern – Pasyma/Piaff), bred and owned by Lech Blaszczyk, **Alshira** (Arzgir – Altara/Gazal Al Shaqab), bred and owned by Janusz Ryżkowski, and **Warma** (QR Marc – Waresa/Empres) from Falborek Stud, didn't enter the top fives and were placed sixth, seventh and eighth, respectively, in their classes.

The yearling colts' class was also successful for Michalów. Mariusz Liśkiewicz from the very beginning made a very good team with the grey son of Enzo – Empire (out of Emira/Laheeb). His skills together with a class of the horse contributed to the result (91,60 points and winning the class). Second placed was a charmful son of Vervaldee, a grandson to Ekstern, Makisa Adaggio from Raingills Farm in England. He is much likely to be heard about. In the same class the colt Emarc (QR Marc – Eksterna/Ekstern) from Falborek Stud, was placed ninth.

In the "A" class for yearling fillies undoubtedly the best was Al Princess Aliha (WH Justice – Al Aliha/DWD Tabasco). Parmana (Al Maraam – Palmira/Monogramm), Michałów-bred and leased by the Athbah Stud, was placed second. The greatest sensation, however, proved the performance of the dark bay filly Gadnes (Psytadel – Gracea/Monogramm), now owned by Joseph Geenen. Handled by Scott Allman, she was placed fifth, so she didn't disgrace her breeder, Szymon Głowacki from Mała Wieś, who looked at her from the grandstand.

The "B" class was won by the favorite, one of the greatest stars of the ending show season – Alma Al Tiglio (Ajman Moniscione – Amanda Al Tiglio/Shamilah Masai Mara), who got 92,30 points. Psyche Kreuza (Ekstern – Pallas-Atena/Ecaho) from Chrcynno-Palace Stud, placed just behind her, getting a point score lower only by 0,6 point. Third placed was Michalów-bred Wieża Róż (Ekstern – Wieża Babel/Laheeb), whereas Pertisa (WH Justice – Pernacja/Ekstern) from Falborek and her stablemate Emlahaba (Al Lahab – Emanta/Pamir), were placed fourth and seventh, respectively.

The class of 3-year-old fillies was won by **FM Gloriaa** (WH Justice – Psity of Angels/Psytadel), who was a favorite in that agegroup. She defeated two well-known from show arenas, chestnut

European Championships

Moorsele

Medals in All Colors for Michałów





Zigi Zana

(QR Marc – Zagrobla / Monogramm)
Silver Medal Junior Mares

Empire

(Enzo – Emira / Laheeb) Bronze Medal Junior Stallions

daughters of Ajman Moniscione – **Baila de Djoon OS** and **Djoonam OS**. They were placed ahead of **Chaos Persefona** (Poganin – Ceres/Ganges) from Chrcynno-Palace Stud and **El Saghira** (Galba – Emira/Laheeb), bred at Michalów, leased by Athbah Stud.

The Classes on Sunday

On Sunday the older mares competed in four classes of a very high quality. In the age-group of 4-5-year-olds Abha Opalina (by WH Justice) defeated Janów-bred Cenoza (Ekstern - Celna/Alegro) and Sefora (Ekstern - Sawantka/Pepton). To the top five of the class got also Wasa (WH Justice - Waresa/Empres) from Falborek Stud. The greatest expectations, however, were bound with the class of 6-7-year-old mares, where the winner was Emandoria (Gazal Al Shaqab - Emanda/Ecaho), although she behaved a bit moody this day. Behind her was placed Bess Fa'izah (WH Justice - Sharon el Kendal/Ass Kendal), with a score lower by 0,9 point than the winner's (94,60). Third and fourth placed were Michałówbred Pistoria (Gazal Al Shaqab - Palmira/Monogramm) and Janów-bred Etnologia (Gazal Al Shaqab – Etalanta/Europejczyk), respectively. Etnologia's stablemate Pinga (Gazal Al Shagab -Pilar/Fawor) was placed sixth, whereas the seventh position was gained by Michałów-bred, but owned by Lutetia Arabians, Faustyna (Emigrant - Felicjana/Ekstern).

In the subsequent class, of 7-10-year-old mares, such high notes weren't granted. Nevertheless, the spectators could be satisfied by the performance of Michałów-bred Ellissara (Laheeb – Ekscella/Monogramm), owned by Athbah Stud, who defeated Col Cora (Wagner – Catika/Mentik), as well as of Egzyna (Eldon – Elganda/Monogramm), owned by Janusz Ryżkowski, handled by Gerald Kurtz and placed third. It's a pity that this mare is shown only once for two years...

In the class for 11-year-old and older mares, despite the popular opinion about the longevity of Arabian horses, competed only two participants — Michałów-bred daughters of Monogramm, Emmona (out of Emilda by Pamir) and Zagrobla (out of Zguba by Enrilo). One could wonder why any other horses from Europe didn't compete in this age-group. It seems to be a serious problem recently.

The class of 4-5-year-old stallions was won by Al Fakhir by Mahadin, out of Al Estrella/Essteem, but quite unexpectedly, to the first five got Echo Ofira, by Gaspar out of Egzyna, who inherited after his dam a fantastic movement. Quite a short time ago he was still in a racing training, whereas now he got three twenties for his motion. In the subsequent class, for 6-7-year-old stallions, the winner was a double National Champion of Spain, sired by Marwan Al Shagab - Abha Midas (out of CM Faylla Shaklan/El Shaklan). Third and fourth placed were, respectively, Janów's Equifor (Gazal Al Shaqab - Eqviria/Pers) and Michalów's Drabant (Gazal Al Shaqab - Demona/Monogramm). Etnodrons Psyche (Padrons Psyche - Etnografia/Aloes), bred and owned by Stanisław Redestowicz, was placed sixth, whereas Janów-bred El Azem (Gazal Al Shaqab - El Fatha/Entyk) - eighth. Milton (Ecaho - Mina/Monogramm), bred by Minnesota Arabians and sold to Austria, was granted the ninth position.

In a more interesting way were dispersed the notes in the class of 8-10-year-old stallions. Girlan-Bey (Pesal – Gracja-Bis/Monogramm), bred by Michał Bogajewicz, owned by the Kristoffersen family and leased to Athbah Stud, was placed just after MA Shadow El Sher (El Sher Mann – Calyenna El Jamaal/Ali Jamaal). The third place was granted to Poganin (Laheeb – Pohulanka/Pepton), whereas Salar (Ecaho – Saba/Etat) was placed fifth. The two stablemates from Janów were separated by Valerio Ibn Eternity VI (Eternity Ibn Navarrone D –









Hafati Vogue/RSD Dark Victory), who has recently come to Poland, just after the European Championships, leased by Zalia Arabians. Edin (Laheeb – Edina/Egon), bred at Michałów and sold to France, was placed sixth.

The last class for 11-year-old and older stallions, was won by Eternity Ibn Navarrone-D, closely followed by Pesal (Partner – Perforacja/Ernal), bred at Białka, owned by Klarenbeek Arabians. His good condition reflected well on the care of his owners. Just behind him was placed Michalów-bred and owned Grafik (Eukaliptus – Gaskonia/Probat).

The Championships

The finals seemed to be held in a slow motion. That's why they were easy to remember and if it was possible — we'd willingly watched them once more, by rewinding the tape. Especially memorable moment was capturing the title of Junior Reserve Champion Filly by Zigi Zana, who defeated Alma Al Tiglio, awarded with the bronze. As it was expected, the Junior Champion Filly was claimed FM Gloriaa, whereas Michałów-bred Piacenza and Psyche Kreuza from Chrcynno-Palace entered the Top Five.

In Junior Stallions the winner was **Aja Justified**, ahead of **Shanghai E.A.**, followed by Michalów-bred **Empire**, who pleased all Arabian horse lovers in Poland, capturing the bronze. To the Top Five got also **Ali Moniscione** and **Makisa Adaggio**.

The Polish team, however, would be fully satisfied by getting the gold. And Emandoria got it, thanks to her exceptional form. Bess Fa'izah and Abha Opalina brought home the silver and bronze. To the good result of Poland contributed also the Top Five titles for

Cenoza and Emmona, whereas Emandoria and her trainer would surely run for the Triple Crown. Now their goal is Paris!

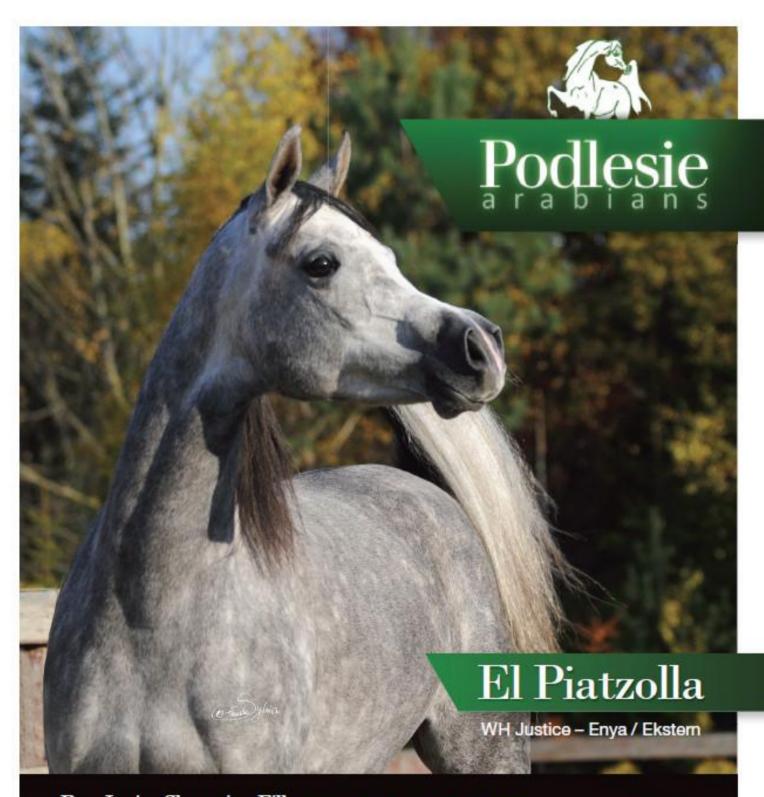
The finals of the European Championships were crowned by the performance of MA Shadow El Sher, owned by Dubai Stud, who left Moorsele with the title of Champion Stallion. He defeated Eternity Ibn Navarrone-D, as well as Girlan-Bey (Bronze Medal), whereas Pesal and Equifor shared the titles of Top Five.



photo: Nicoletta Abelli

On the backstage of the European Championships the first official lease presentation of Hassan Ashiraf (Amir Ashira – CO Pashmira by Padrons Ghibli) took place. This young grandson of WH Justice is the first foreign bred descendant of this popular sire to arrive on Polish soil. In 2011 season he will be offered by Nana Arabians, a farm located nearby the historic city of Cracow. The farm owner Mrs. Alicja Najmowicz

is looking forward to have some good results of Hassan's modern exotic bloodlines in combination with the best Polish female families. The short appearance at Moorsele showgrounds, attended mostly by curious Polish breeders, was just the announcement of a second presentation that will take place on 18th December at Nana Arabians, where a large group of Polish – as well as some foreign guests – already made their appointments for participation.



Res. Junior Champion Filly, Scandivian Open, Blommeröd (Sweden) 2009
Bronze Medal Junior Fillies, Autumn Show, Janów Podlaski (Poland) 2009
3rd pl. Yearling Fillies Class, All Nations Cup, Aachen (Germany) 2009
2nd pl. 2yo Fillies Class, Polish National Championships, Janów Podlaski (Poland) 2010
2nd pl. 2yo Fillies Class, Prague Intercup, Prague (Czech Republic) 2010

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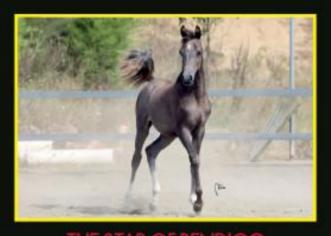


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MA VIE STAR filly 2009 (OM EL BENDIGO x MAGIC VALENTINA)



filly 2009 (OM EL BENDIGO x HYLARA EL BEY)





filly 2009 (OM EL BENDIGO x TEMPTRESS MSC)



ESTONE MANUEL STORE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

text by: Ewa Bagłaj

"It is not worthwhile imitating me", hear students, applicants for the post of show presenter, of MARIUSZ LIŚKIEWICZ, the manager of Michałów Stud's training stable, trainer and handler of Arabian horses, who returned with the title of "Best" from domestic and foreign championships many times. He received the prestigious Presenters Trophy awarded during the All Nations Cup in Aachen (Germany) in 2002, he won the World Championships with Kwestura in 2007 and the All Nations Cup Gold Medal (Senior Mares) with Emandoria this year.

Liked by all, he endears with modesty and warmth, willingly sharing his knowledge and experience.

"I say to the young people: listen, do you like what I do? Does it make sense? Then take that from me. But don't copy my every move. Because training horses is a combination of sign language and body language."

Anna Stojanowska, an international judge, says: "Mariusz has this saying, which is disarming: I don't do anything, I just hold the end of the rope!"

Other handlers speak about Mariusz Liśkiewicz with admiration: "I would like to be in a position to be able to enter the arena as many times as Mr. Mariusz Liśkiewicz", says Marek Demczuk. "He is a true authority for me. He impresses me with his work, the engagement in what he does. He is also great as a friend, not keeping his phenomenal knowledge to himself, but sharing advice when needed".

"Positioning a horse is done by the language of my body, my hand, leg, chest, the raising of the whip, lowering the whip, raising the whip, lowering it down", explains Mariusz Liskiewicz. "Signals by which I communicate with the horse. And not all of my signals must mean the same thing with a different trainer. Consistency is the only important factor — that every signal is identical every time and means only one command. People have many problems with that. For example they pull the horse forward, wanting him to



from stone to dynamite



Mariusz Liśkiewicz with Emandoria On the left: the director of the Michałów State Stud Jerzy Białobok All Nations Cup, Aachen 2010

Mariusz Liśkiewicz, The Best Handler Polish Nationals, Janów Podlaski 2010

oto: Sylwia llenda



follow them. They back up, facing the animal. But afterwards they make this mistake. They stop him and pull him forward again, so that he would stand wider in the front. And he doesn't want to do that. It's because the same signal means two things: "follow me" and "wider in the front". It is not understandable for the horse. I do it this way: I pull forward, meaning "follow me". But when I want him to move the front, I pull him both forward and to the left or right - he then knows that the hind stays where it is and only the front moves. Because that is a bit of a different signal. Or "give me some neck". This can't be just pulling the horse by the rope again, because it will confuse the animal. It has to be combined with the raising of the whip, my approach, to have the horse go up. And again you have to be consistent: if you raise both hands, then always do it that way. If you don't want to do it that way, then let that command be associated with the raising of one hand. The horse will do whatever he is taught. Most importantly do not give him two commands with the same signal".

From Ekstern to El Dorada

Mariusz Liśkiewicz had no idea about training nuances when he scored his first success on the arena in the mid 90s. **Ekstern**, dark grey at the time, an undersized yearling, unexpectedly won the Polish Junior Championships.

"We were showing more than a dozen colts", he reminisces. "The competition was strong, the best Monogramm get: Ganges, Emanor. Edeon was also considered a sure winner. The inconspicuous Ekstern, considered first to get the axe, was given to me at random. I

did not train him for the shows and prior to Bialka I had him perhaps five times in my hand. We ran onto the arena. He stopped somehow. How I accomplished that, I don't remember. He moved remarkably, I tried not to interfere and all the judges gave him 20s for movement. That's when something hit me: maybe I will be doing this!".

Later a long road led Mariusz Liśkiewicz from that first win to the world successes of his favorite **El Dorada**, which he calls "the horse of his life". Just as long was the earlier road of a boy from Krasnystaw until the day he took a liking to this discipline thanks to Ekstern.

As he admits, the love for horses is in his genes, inherited from his mother. She was an Animal Husbandry graduate and worked as a teacher at the local agricultural technical college. As part of the animal breeding program she went with each class to the nearby Bialka, so that the students could see for themselves how a depot looks like and functions. Those were the first contacts with real breeding, not accessible at that time to regular people.

"I liked it so much that I began going to Białka as a volunteer. At that time there was no riding school, you didn't pay for riding. But if someone wanted to learn, then from seven to nine in the morning were riding lessons, which you "paid for" later cleaning the stallions. That way I managed to get myself in".

The trend at the time was show jumping. In 1984 Liśkiewicz competed in regional events and got into the Polish National Student Team. The representation went to





Lundt in Sweden for the unofficial student championships. Individually he placed second. It was his first sport achievement.

"And when Arabian horses appeared in Białka, we started doing endurance", he recounts. "We did pretty well in the beginning, because we even had some titles of Polish Champion pop in. I was always just close. For example at the first official Polish Championships in Endurance Racing in 1990 I rode atop the stallion Boryslaw. Two days at 100 km each. After the first day I had an advantage of about 20 minutes. All I had to do was to ride past the finish line the next day with the other horses (not later than that contestant who finished that part at second place) to win. And the horse went lame 30 km before the finish line. I was disqualified. The stallion returned to the stable and... he was not lame anymore. We competed a lot at that time, with Jerzy Urbański, Wojciech Kowalik among others. We went to the World Endurance Championships in Spain, Championships in England, Switzerland".

He met with the training of horses for shows for the first time in Janów Podlaski, where he worked for two years at the beginning of the 90s. He accepted the job offer of Michałów State Stud in 1994. He still rode endurance horses. Even after the unexpected success of Ekstern the situation did not change radically for another couple of years. He trains Arabian horses for shows professionally since 2000. That's when the "Monogramms" trained and shown by him surfaced at the international arenas. He stopped doing endurance.

"I stumbled across a group of really good horses", he admits. "They began competing already five years earlier, but then the Polish Championships were the limit. Young horses seldom journeyed abroad. They started being noticeable in the world only just from 1999".

From that moment Michałów's brand became enriched with a new, recognizable asset – a trainer, who today is a brand all by himself.

Training in the USA

The breakthrough year of 2000 came right after the first of the three trips to the States for training purposes. At the Feature Farm in Washington Jerzy "George" Zbyszewski taught him the basics of American training.

"The entire conditioning and training was done by Jerzy Zbyszewski with his assistants", reminisces Liskiewicz. "After the end of my chores I observed from the side what they do and why. Then I asked why this way and not differently, because I was used to the European style".

The second meeting with training in American style came a couple of years later at Greg Gallun's farm in Santa Ynez. A different climate, different conditions, a swimming pool for horses, training strictly for showing in hand (halter classes).

"The style of training was different, stronger. Greg is a professional of the highest league and I very much liked what he did, how the horses positioned for him. We could speak a long time about his methods, but regardless to what

from stone to dynamite



many think they are not so drastic. It is a hard school, more German than American. But he will never hit a horse, no matter what."

The third visit to the US, second at Greg's, was of a completely different nature.

"The previous one had some feeling of reserve around it, because I was a stranger in the barn and in the house. But when he won the US Championships with Kwestura, he became more open about cooperating with Michałów. We grew fond of each other, as I lived at his place, which is also something that creates favorable conditions to get to know one another better. From my previous stay I also knew his horses, barns, work cycle, the employed Mexicans. This time all ice was broken, so to speak. And it was that fantastic year: El Dorada, Pianissima... My visits in the States made me realize among others the difference about how a horse works on the lunge - where he can't relax his neck, move his head, because I'm constantly holding him and he must bend to the inside. There the horse runs freely inside the pen, without a lunge. Though also non-stop bent to the inside - but he has freedom of the head, he can go up or down with it, he can bend to the right when running left. He has more freedom than on a traditional lunge. These are nuances, which correctly applied give effects later on.

What he doesn't like in the American system is the lack of separate points for movement. Horses trained in such a way, if they give their 100% in the pose, they lose about 30% of their moving abilities. In other words a horse "done" in American style, which normally would move for a 20 point

mark, in this case would receive a 19. Because incomparably more time is spent there on perfecting that ideal "pose" and also because of the respect which the Americans implement in the horses, more so than you would see in Europe.

"Here lies the entire secret of cooperating with the horse. Does that horse fear me, does he respect me, or perhaps he pays me too little attention", gives away Liśkiewicz. "Acquiring this is just a matter of experience. In Michałów each year I start working from scratch with about 25 yearlings! If I am able to develop that golden mean with the horse, then he will pose correctly and after that moment of maximum concentration and tension, which is required to keep that statue pose, at the applause of the audience he will be able to blast like a dynamite with the first beat."

Jerzy Białobok, director of Michałów Stud, sums it all up: "Mariusz's success is the result of the fortunate meeting of a skillful, hard-working and responsible man and superb Michałów horses. At the show he literally blends in with the horse, like a good rider with his steed. For this work you need to have a gift from God and be stronger mentally than the horse — to impose on him your will with the force of your actions, which has nothing to do with the strength of the whip. Mariusz has that talent and keeps on honing it. At the stud we dealt with tens of people who wanted this job, but few have such inner willpower as him."







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Res. Champion Filly Arabian Impressions – Sickendorf (DE) **Class Winner** (Fillies 3yo) Junior Spring Show – Białka (PL) **Res. Champion Filly** Autumn Show – Janów Podlaski (PL) **Class Winner** (Fillies 2yo) Junior Spring Show – Białka (PL) **Class Top Five** (Fillies 2yo) All Nations Cup – Aachen (DE)





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Clergy stables

text & photos by: Ewa Bagłaj (unless stated)

mong the growing number of private Arabian horse breeders in Poland there is a distinct group of Catholic clergymen. Priests: Andrzej Majchrzak, Stanisław Sławiński and Jan Matwijiszyn bring together the duties of both parish rector with the running of a breeding stable.

From where do we know them?

The class and Silver Medal winner of Junior Colts at the Arabian Impressions show in Sickendorf (2010) and the Top Five Junior Colts title winner at Polish Nationals 2010 – the yearling colt Zimarc (QR Marc – Zeksterna/Ekstern), comes from the breeding of priest Stanisław Sławiński – Czeple Arabians in Ciepielów near Tarnobrzeg. This stable was also the birthplace of Faronn (Ekstern – Firosetta/Eldon) and Pasadia (Ekstern – Pasadena/Eukaliptus), whose successes at the Junior Spring Show in Białka in 2007 drew attention to the breeder's name. Faronn gained the title of Best Private Bred 2 Year Old Colt, Pasadia placed third in the yearling fillies class.

Pallottine priest Andrzej Majchrzak is known in the racing community as an experienced race horse breeder. Oaks winner Emanuela (Pamir — Emetyka/Europejczyk), awarded with a trophy for Best Race Filly in 2002, is one of the first successful matings of Rogale Stud, located near Łuków in the Lubelskie region. Emanuela's older daughter, Emelia (by Derby winner Espadero), is a winner of a race for 3 year olds over 2000 m at the Slużewiec Racetrack in 2007. Also successful on the turf is the Rogale bred Predator (Etogram — Penetracja/Pepton), owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wiśniewski.

From the 2007 Spring Show in Bialka we also remember the spirited grey two year old, who enjoyed moments of freedom after breaking loose from the handler. It was the colt **Tidal**



(Grafik – Turbina/Balaton), who placed 5th in class. With that he brought the first show ring success for his breeder – priest Jan Matwijiszyn from the Walichnowy parish near Wieluń, where next to the presbytery exists a small Arabian stud.

How did it begin?

The breeding beginnings in the case of each priest were bound to the taking up of office at the presbytery in the countryside. But it was a long road that led them to their own Arabian horses.

IN THE VICAR'S YARD - priest Stanisław Sławiński

Priest Stanisław Sławiński's first contact with horses was at the fair in Skaryszew, his home town. He looked at them with the eyes of a child raised in an urban family. When he came to Ciepielów, the parish like all the old ones had land: 7,5 hectares of 6th class soil. After three winter months of walking in constantly dirty shoes, among Cimmerian darkness from the early hours of the afternoon as the streets had no lamps, with a



severe lack of stores and the usual urban comforts, priest Stanisław thought to himself, looking at the village and his neglected farm: God, do I fit here?. Still a year passed, two, three. Priest Sławiński fixed up the presbytery and garden, made friends with the people. But he discovered the beauty of the countryside to full extent only after engaging himself in breeding Arabian horses. He began with Shetland ponies and a large steed for recreational riding, but when he saw the Arabians in Michałów – he was speechless. From that moment

Priest Stanisław Sławiński with Pasadena (Eukaliptus – Plisa / Probat)

he knew how he would use the farm buildings, the meadow behind the brick presbytery and the vast lawns with the orchard, which stretched upon the hill.

The first pure bred Arabian mare, which appeared in the stud named Czeple Arabians, was **Zorza Polarna** (Wojsław – Zemsta/Arbil), in foal to Ekstern. From that mating in 2003 **Zeksterna** was born.

BREEDING IS AN ADVENTURE - priest Andrzej Majchrzak

Priest Majchrzak, a priest performing ministerial priesthood, originating from Poznań, had a passion for horsemanship and riding horse breeding since childhood. These animals have been present in his family for a couple generations — both the priest's father and grandfather dealt with them professionally. Ever since he can remember his house was full of discussions about Arabians and Thoroughbreds. Before the war his grandfather bred restorations for the army. Some tens of years later priest Andrzej began coming to the Janów shows and auctions, only as a spectator for the time being.

"And because the passion was still there, then at the beginning it was sheer joy just to be able to see the horses and purchase a catalogue with the Arabians", recalls priest Majchrzak.

When the political situation gave private breeders a green light, he purchased in Janów the first Arabian mare, the yearling Emetyka (Europejczyk – Etanika/Aloes), crippled, with a broken fore cannon bone and because of that qualified for slaughter, and so possible for him to be acquired for a

symbolical price. And as it was the line of Etna... The second bargain purchase was also a Janów mare Penetracja (Pepton – Pestka/Probat) with a broken hip. From these two began the breeding. With time a third broodmare joined the herd, the only one bought at Michałów, the grey Ludmila (Pesal – Larissa/Eukaliptus). The rest are horses bred solely at the priest's stud, beside the Janów stallion Eutin (Etogram – Euzebia/Palas), who is the first own sire of Rogale Stud.

"My goal from the beginning was to breed a horse that director Krzyształowicz spoke about: bold and beautiful", claims priest Majchrzak. "That's what we put an emphasis on at Rogale until this day and that's why we try to present our horses at the shows, but they should also have racing results. We don't treat it as a business — to get a trophy and quickly sell the awarded horse most profitably. This is to be an adventure and the animal is to be a friend."

A modern complex of stable buildings, surrounded by greenery and spacious paddocks for the horses, arises the admiration of visiting experts from France and the United Arab Emirates. Priest Andrzej brought the construction works to an end at the expense of his own time and funds, but the functionality of the facility pays off for that endeavor. Summer riding camps for children from the poorest, often dysfunctional families have become a tradition.

"Working around horses fixes the character", he explains. For teaching to ride he uses calmer ponies and Hucul horses, but the campers participate in the life of the entire



stable. Many would like to return next year. "Why did I choose this place exactly?", the priest smiles, pointing to a thick cluster of grass with various wild herbs. "There are two rules of horse breeding. No foot, no horse is one. Pasture – the second. And here we have soil of the first and second class".



Clergy Stables

BORN IN CAUCASUS - priest Jan Matwijiszvn

The breeding of priest Matwijiszyn is associated with the foundress, the chestnut **Turbina** (Balaton – Tribuna/Nazeeh), born in Caucasus from Polish horses, who he sought out in the classifieds.



"I come from the country, there were working horses at home", he explains. "The mare Baska allowed only my father to handled her, she bit and kicked others. But what a horse it was! Once she got going with a load, it was hard to stop her. I had a great sentiment for her and when I saw Turbina's photograph, then in a way she reminded me of that mare from home. And when I read that she descends from horses taken by the Russians during the war... My parents came from Drohobych in the Ukraine (the name itself suggests an Ukrainian background, as Matwij translates to Matthew). A sentiment set in... I said to myself: In that case I have to buy her, as for a couple of years I have managed the rural parish Walichnowy and tried keeping horses, but not to breed them. We brought her with a breeder we're friends with on a winter evening before New Year's Eve and already in January of 2004 she foaled Toscania by Gafal. A year later - the colt Tidal."

There are a lot of emotions involved with the first presentation of priest Jan's graduate at the show:

"I went to Bialka with the organist who also breeds horses, but draught ones. We set off late. I went to see Tidal. So I'm looking at a group of horses and say to the organist: Paint me gold and call me Oscar, but I don't know which one is my horse… I stretch out to see, but people are blotting out my view. Where is the horse?! He broke loose, ran the other way."

"When he began presenting himself again", continues priest Jan, "the downpour started, so that the people who were meant to arouse the horses hid themselves. The jury panel was already gathering their paperwork, because everything was wet. So I went to the car, there was nothing to wait for. It rained cats and dogs, nothing could be seen through the pouring water."

"We're off. On our way home I had a phone call: Get ready to be decorated. What decoration, I ask. Tidal fifth place. And we're 200 km behind Lublin already... I was so mad, because I could have had the opportunity to congratulate the state stud directors and be congratulated myself and I let it slip. But then I was not dressed for the occasion — in a sweater and them — in suits, ties. I could not have gone out like that, when I was not at all prepared that I would win something..."

Where do the funds come from?

A priest breeder is a subject arousing interest. First of all, it's rather unusual, second – there is a stereotype that if a priest buys horses, it's from... church donations.

Priest Majchrzak laughs hearing such speculations.

"Celiny is a rural parish, not numerous, this year I had just a couple of children for the First Communion...", this is suffice an answer for the inquisitive. The priest doesn't make a secret out of the fact that he comes from a hard-working, rather wealthy family, where everyone helps one another. With such a background he has achieved everything with his own hard work, starting off with two eliminated from breeding mares. How does he manage this with the duties of priesthood, running a camp, preacher travels and responsibilities of a clergyman?

"Five hours of sleep. This amount has to do", he answers briefly.

"Each priest has his hobby, passion, just like any other person", admits priest Slawiński, who was able to persuade his brother in law to purchase an Arabian horse. You just have to start to have the horses earn their own keep after a while. Their beauty is worth all the effort, both work and money. "This is how I treat Arabian horses. I'm not fond of cars, entertainment, I don't travel much. I mostly like to go to the horses, sit with them, pat them, make friends. It doesn't come by itself, you have to put some effort into it".

A lot of joy, but also trouble connected with Arabians at the presbytery has priest Matwijiszyn with his parishioners. He



Clergy Stables



the most important in their life. That's why it is difficult for them to be present at the shows, races or Polish Arabian Horse Breeders Society meetings, which usually take place on the weekends, when there are the most duties in the parishes: marriages, mass, First Communions. Priest Sławiński would love to go the World Championship in Paris, but... the Christmas is

"I seldom leave this place", priest Sławiński says, stroking the grey Zeksterna. "When I meet other breeders I can never get enough of talking about horses and I always regret that as they are usually people of large businesses, they have so little time for their horses".

He would not like to enlarge the herd too much, however he dreams of enriching his breeding with the descendants of the Szamrajówka dam line, which he values much.

spent a part of his saved over the years salary on his breeding. The photos of horses draw attention at the humbly furnished presbytery.

"People showed a great kindness from the beginning, sometimes they even went too far", he recalls. "One day I was returning from mass and I see that my chestnuts are galloping up and down the fence. I went to see what made them run so. And inside, with a frail stick, a small girl is standing. Why are you prodding them, I asked, getting her out of there. Because they look so pretty when they run..., she said. Well, I like it too, but to have a child walk into the horses alone? It's a miracle that nothing happened. From that moment I keep watch that nobody comes inside."

Priest Matwijiszyn also takes care of his herd by himself every day. Raised in the country he likes this duty and could not imagine that the farm buildings should stand useless. He would like to finish the renovation of the stable, though not to enlarge it. So that there would be no temptation.

The most numerous herd of priest Majchrzak requires a hired person for the stablework. Even more so, as the Pallottine travels a lot across the country with his preachings and in the summer holds several camps. During the year the local teenagers come to help with the horses in exchange for the longed-for opportunity to ride.

"I ride myself all the time, I have a racing trainer license. I

have a passion for speed, wind. That's why I strive for such horses, bold and beautiful. Breeding and races teach humility,

What for the future?

Czeple

All three emphasize that despite all their love towards horses







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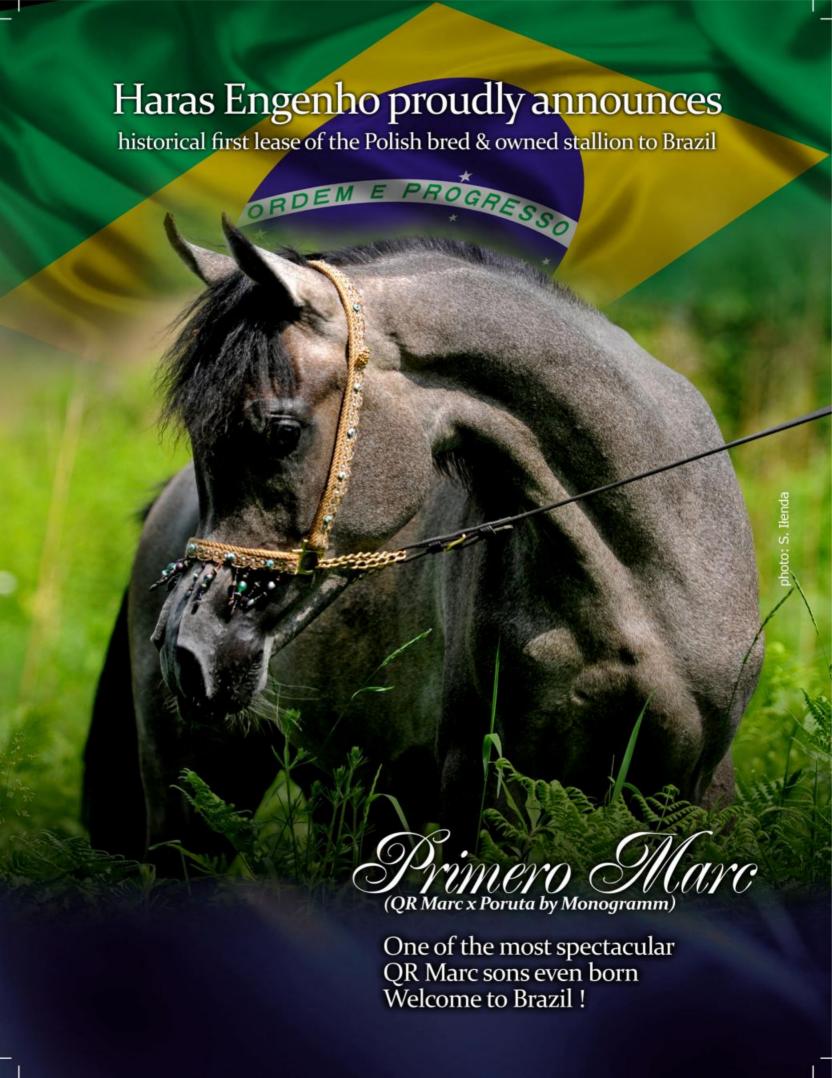
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Gazal, Marwan, QR Marc and ... the Rest of the World

text by: Anna Stojanowska photos by: Sylwia Iłenda (unless stated)

I remember how emotional was the report of Mrs. Izabella Pawelec-Zawadzka from the Vilhelmsborg (Denmark) show in 2001. She came back transfixed by the looks of a bay, yearling colt, presented by the Al Shaqab Stud from Qatar. She said she got weak at knees when looking at him – she has never seen such a beautiful animal! Similarly impressed was Ferdinand Huemer, an experienced breeder and international judge, the owner of La Movida Stud and the President of ECAHO for two terms. Such a successful performance was a beginning of the European show career of Marwan Al Shaqab – now one of the most popular sires in the world.

He gained more and more successes so no wonder that in December 2001 he won the title of Junior World Champion Colt. That result was even more satisfying, when at the same time his sire Gazal Al Shaqab was claimed Senior World Champion Stallion. Seven years later Marwan came back to Paris, to run for the title of Senior World Champion Stallion. And he achieved the goal, still looking as a breathtaking piece of art. Nowadays the semen of both Gazal and Marwan costs a fortune and the access to it is limited, as to a priceless medicine.

Years passed and another generation of grandget, or even a great-grandget of Gazal appeared in show arenas. Marwan was used for breeding very early, because Marieta Salas (Ses Planes) leased him to Mallorca as a 2-year-old. Between dozens of his sons and daughters from European and American countries some proved mediocre but, on the other hand, some won a world renown, as Marajj, Baanderos, Mardigras, Abha Palma and of course QR Marc.





Gazal, Marwan, QR Marc and... the Rest of the World

He was born in the US, in 2005, bred by Vicki and Luis Doyle. The beginning of his show career was reserved but successful enough to arouse the curiosity of the breeders. His pedigree was as intriguing as the horse himself. Its male side was rich in the most renowned sires of the 20th Century, as Nazeer, Morafic, Shaikh Al Badi, Ruminaja Ali, Anaza El Farid, Gazal Al Shaqab and of course Marwan. He was inbred to Ruminaja Ali, the grandsire of his dam - a small, but goodlooking chestnut mare Swete Dreams. Such a cross nearly guaranteed a show success! Christine Jamar-Demeersseman spotted him and contributed to his import to Europe in 2008, by the Belgian breeder Paul Gheysens. One can't guess for sure what was the main reason of the media fuss about him was it his refinement or his record-setting price? Nevertheless, as soon as QR Marc put his hoof on the Continent, he became renowned from the very moment. On the way to Europe he took part in the Al Khalediah Show in Saudi-Arabia and won its Championship.

For the rest of the year he devoted himself mainly to his breeding duties, but already in December 2008 he made a great entrance, gaining the title of World Reserve Champion Stallion, being defeated only by his exceptional sire. Such a fierce but equalized struggle between those strong horse personalities was unofficially commented for a long time. Apart from his quality, also his perfectly elaborated publicity campaign contributed a lot to his popularity. In the last two years as much portions of his semen were sold as would be needed to inseminate more than 500 mares. Despite the high stud fee he became one of the most widely used producers in the recent years. His owners did us a favor of making his semen available also in Poland.

Thanks God, the directors of our state studs have never been slaves to any trend, but knowing about his unique results made them decide to use QR Marc's semen already in 2008. In 2009 15 foals by him were born in the state studs - 11 at









Gazal, Marwan, QR Marc and... the Rest of the World

Michałów and 4 at Janów Podlaski. It was a low number, but of an extreme high quality. During the spring inspections their long and well-shaped necks, expressive eyes and stylishness were noticed. The filly Palatina (out of Palmeta by Ecaho) was enchanting, the colt Pogrom (out of Petla by Visbaden) — terrific, the filly Eferada (out of Efuzja by Emigrant) — very elegant. In fact, there occurred no inferior foals from those matings. Also at Michałów some nice colts were born, as the dry and refined Diaspor (out of Diaspora by Ganges) or well grown-up Cherubin (out of Chimera by Emigrant). Especially fillies were strikingly beautiful: the stylish Wieża Marc'a (out of Wieża Marzeń by Ekstern), well-developed and expressive Piacenza (out of Primawera by Emigrant) or — making a class in herself — Zigi Zana (out of Zagrobla by Monogramm).

Already at the Bialka Junior Spring Show the yearlings by QR Marc were unbeaten. They captured championships both in colts and fillies. Pogrom, from Janów, proved incomparable, whereas his stablemate Palatina got the highest point score of the show, remaining unthreatened from winning her class to gaining the Champion title. The grey Zigi Zana, gaining a Reserve Championship at Bialka, at Janów got the title of Polish National Junior Champion Filly. Successful in Aachen, for the time being reached the European Junior Reserve Champion Filly title at Moorsele, Belgium. Now let's wait for her start in Paris!

We must admit that in his first breeding season in Poland QR Marc got excellent partners, well-proven as broodmares. Nevertheless, he fulfilled his producer's tasks on a perfect level. Almost all his foals distinguish themselves with a plenty of refinement, good, long lines, an elegant movement and lack of markings. They showed no "human eyes", bright eyelashes or depigmentations. His progeny is marked with long, thin and well-set necks, shapely heads with broad foreheads and small ears.

Of course, we must thoroughly follow the development of junior champions and avoid an excessive haste in evaluating the breeding potential of QR Marc. On the other hand, aren't Palatinas, Pogroms and Zigi Zanas a sheer delight to look at? We shouldn't be too cautious, neither too optimistic.

At Michałow Stud foals born in 2010 are growing. Some matings were repeated, several new mares were given a chance to meet the breeders' expectations. Certain private breeders may also take pride in QR Marc progeny. Next year the results of the new crosses would be tested at Białka. Perhaps they would also try to catch up the world elite in the international shows. Or just the opposite – maybe the rest of the world would be forced to catch up with us? Who knows?



Primero Marc (out of Poruta by Monogramm) photo: Katarzyna Dolińska



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(QR Marc - Zeksterna by Ekstern)



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Vivi

2002 Vanadin x Valena 2 times Negresco
mother of: VA Amjra BintVivi (Ajman Moniscione x Vivi by Negresco) born 2007
Champion Filly Int. Show Travagliato - Italy - 2007
Reserve Champion Italian Championship Verona - Italy - 2007
Reserve Champion Filly Malpensa Italy - 2007
and mother of: VA Shiraf Ibn Vivi (Amir Ashiraf x Vivi by Negresco) born 2009
Unanimous Champion Colt Seriate - Italy - 2009



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The main breeder in Michałów State Stud in Poland, has been with the stud since 1969. Together with her husband, Stud Director Jerzy Białobok, she directs the breeding program of one of the largest and most prestigious farms in Europe.

40 years ago everything was different. I had to order a telephone call to Warsaw and wait three days to be connected. But the communism period didn't mean that our stud was supposed to be an ugly or dirty one. The flowers were planted, just like today, the uniforms were clean and the windows were washed.

We are trying to match horses by their type and not to match those that are completely different from each other. We are trying to find the most similar horses, while looking for parents.

JERZY BIAŁOBOK: Breeding likes no sentiments



Director of the Michałów State Stud, has been linked to Michałów since the beginning of his professional career. In 2007 he celebrated the 30th anniversary of his work. His name is synonymous with the remarkable success of Polish breeding.

To make mistakes is part of human nature and I suppose I don't diverge much from the standard norm. Breeding in

general is a history of mistakes and some successes. There is no path to success without errors.

A dream stallion? I still dream that I will be able to find a stallion with the positive traits of Monogramm and Gazal Al Shaqab. On top of that he would be grey. I am still searching.

WOJCIECH KOWALIK (1958-2010):

A horse like a good wine



.. with Espiria

Breeder, trainer and presenter. In 2007 chosen as Best Handler of the Polish National Show at Janów Podlaski. His last job was the manager and co-creator of the Saudi Arabian Athbah Stud, with whom he achieved great successes.

In Poland, we have a nice term for that: a bouquet. Horses that combine beauty, charm and a flowing, dynamic movement are candidates for show stars. I very much like thoroughbreds, which are the greatest racehorses. Anglo Arabians, which additionally are successful in show-jumping, can be lovely. But the Arabian has that something special, which bids you to spend the rest of your life with him.

I don't like the term "business" in breeding. One has nothing to do with the other. Business is concerned with quick money, while breeding is a long-term process. If someone treats it like a business, then I would advise to take up something else. In breeding success comes late; it may never come at all.

ROMAN PANKIEWICZ: There's no recipe for breeding



In the 50s a breeder at Albigowa Stud, where the epochal stallion Bask was born. Author of numerous articles on the history and breeding of Arabian horses, published in Poland and abroad.

I think that Polish breeding did a lot of good for the image of Poland abroad. Important people from America started travelling to our country, although they previously thought that polar bears walked our streets! And so our horses headed to all corners of the globe.

Breeding is an ordeal because when doing anything else, I can more or less predict the effect, and here I have no certainty. Balalajka gave nine progeny with Witraż and each was different. If I was to be born again, I would never take up horse breeding.

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I think that if we cross like with like, we will get something similar. If we cross two different things, there is a chance that we will get something interesting. Witraż is the best example: his sire – a 100% Kuhailan; his dam – a Saklavi, Makata by Fetysz. And the result was a horse that was not only beautiful, but also sired good progeny. So breeding is unpredictable. No one should think that they have a recipe for breeding. Nothing like that exists!

ANNA STOJANOWSKA: I get goose bumps everytime



An international judge. She has been working at the Agricultural Property Agency for 15 years.

A couple of years ago there were some very serious notions presented on the ECAHO forum

to omit the leg evaluations at the shows, as they are not really necessary. Poland was then the main opponent of that idea. What point is there in a car without wheels? In such case those that claim that the Arabian is merely a porcelain doll, a horse of no use: pretty and nothing else, would be right.

There would be no success of the Janów sale if the Polish Arabians would not be shown at the world arenas. That is the best promotion. As experience shows, only Pure Pulish can compete with the horses from the Middle East. Neither the American, Spanish nor Russian horses stand the competition.

MAREK TRELA: It's easiest to breed other people's horses



with Pianissima

Director of Janów Podlaski State Stud. He arrived in Janów 32 years ago as a vet and today he is an acknowledged authority in Arabian horse breeding. He is also an international judge, the ECAHO treasurer and the host of the annual prestigious auctions in Janów Podlaski.

The best way of discussing is to discuss about somebody else's horse – everybody knows which horse should be covered and

how, where the horse should be shown and where it shouldn't. This happens for every horse, but never their own one.

It wasn't the World Championships though, which gave me the biggest pleasure, but a show at Al Khalediah. Something incredible happened there: I realised that the Arabian orchestra had been playing the Polish National Anthem and it had been in Nejd — the place where Arabian horses come from! A horse from Poland wins a championship there; it was an incredible loop of history and it put the Polish breed in the history of the breed.

Breeding shouldn't be treated in business categories, because profits will come when someone likes what he does. If something is done only for money, then a failure will happen.

JERZY ZBYSZEWSKI: Nothing like an Arabian!



Better known as George Z, born and graduated in Poland, has been living in the US for 29 years. It is thanks to him that stars such as Emanor, Kwestura, Zagrobla, Fallada, El Dorada, Ganges or even Pianissima came to the US.

There are two myths about Polish Arabians in America. The positive one is that horses from

Poland are extremely athletic and easy in training. The negative — that they lack type. That's why the presence of the leading "halter" horses from Poland is so important in the US. Kwestura, Zagrobla, Pianissima, El Dorada, Emandoria and many others, which I have leased for my clients during the last decade, proved that a horse from Poland can compete with others and come out victorious.

We see more and more horses, who are only beautiful and working under saddle is to them like scrubbing floors by the leading Prada models. The second group of horses are those who put their heart into scrubbing that floor, developing their muscles, but when going out to the store put on double makeup, wrap themselves tightly in a scarf and run to the nearest plastic surgeon. The split in the Arabian breed is a process which – whether we want it or not – exists and is a fact.

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2001 – Emanda (Ecaho x Emanacja / Eukaliptus)



2004, 2008 - Pianissima (Gazal Al Shaqab x Pianosa / Eukaliptus)



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POLAND 2011



Les chevaux n'iront pas en enfer AN KRAUZE

Jan Krauze Horses Don't Go to Hell

text by: Monika Luft

Polish aficionados of the Arabian breed are familiar with the dramatic lots of the Janów horses, which were evacuated twice during World War II — once in 1939, fleeing from the Germans and a second time in 1944 when it was the Germans who were escaping from the Russians. This story almost begged to be novelized. A tale based on these events was published in France — "Les chevaux n'iront pas en enfer". Its author is the born and permanently domiciled in France Pole, Jan Krauze, a journalist who once did a coverage of the "Solidarity Festival" for "Le Monde" daily and who quit that job to take up breeding of Thoroughbreds at his estate in Normandy. However as you can see he did not give up writing. He wrote the book in French, for the French reader, unacquainted with the course of events of World War II in Poland.

As we remember, the first of the mentioned evacuations ended in the return of both horses and people in pitiful condition after a 12 day long journey. Several hours later the Soviet troops came. All horses were robbed; they were loaded onto wagons and transported to Caucasus - to Tersk. At a given signal also the Belarussian people from across the Bug River, a territory which at that time lay within the Polish borders, set off to plunder the Janów Stud... The second evacuation took place at the end of the war. Already in July of 1944 the Nazi authorities loaded all the horses from the rebuilt from ruin stud onto trains heading West. For half a year the stud was stationed at Sohland near Rotstein (Saxony), after which it set off on foot to Dresden. "The march was over roads filled with troops and fugitives", so describes that journey Prof. Witold Pruski in his book Two centuries of Polish Arabian horse breeding 1778-1978 and its successes abroad. "The weather was cold, rainy, with strong winds, the mares began to go into labor, the newlyborns had to be put on wagons, which there was a lack of." The column reached Dresden at a time of the carpetbombing by the Allies - on the night of the 13th and 14th of February, 1945. Many horses perished. Under this bombardment were also two of the most valuable Janów chief sires, the sons of Ofir, Wielki Szlem and Witraz. The frantic with fear stallions were held by the Janów groom Jan Ziniewicz. Thanks to him they survived. In March of 1945 the horses were sent to Nettelau in Schleswig-Holstein.

Jan Krauze's book describes this epic in extreme details. The main characters of the story are a young passionate of Arabian horses Halina Malecka and Roman Wandycz, a Pole who spent his youth in Ukraine and who travelled to Warsaw together with the Polish racehorses in 1919, fleeing from the Bolsheviks. He tackled the Odessa-Lvov route on horseback, atop a stallion named Lancelot. Him and her meet at Janów Podlaski. They will be connected, despite a large age difference, by an affection for horses and a mutual fascination. Thanks to this pair we follow the lots of the Janów Arabians, first in '39 and later in '44 and '45, when Halina and Roman accompany the stud during its evacuation to Germany. Appearing on the book's pages are well-known names: Amurath Sahib, Wielki Szlem, Witraz, Ofir. Though the heroes are fictional characters, some personas are recognizable - the precursor of the literary Antoni Kilanowski was without a doubt Andrzej Krzyształowicz, the director of Janów Podlaski State Sud for many years after the war. Krauze describes the full of hardships and dangers journey, the air raid of Dresden, the rescuing of the horses. He depicts the portraits of Poles, but also of Germans, who during the turmoil of war tried to save the creatures entrusted under their care. He also mentions other, fairly unknown to the French reader, facts - the Battle of Warsaw (1920) and the Warsaw Uprising (1944). The story's finale is a thought-provoking scene from 1981, when Halina witnesses the sale of the stallion El Paso for one million dollars.

Apart from people, the main characters of this book are of course the horses. As said by the author, by means of Roman Wandycz, horses allow us to have faith that we are not only toys thrown here and there by the capricious Events of History, but that we are a part of nature. Thanks to horses the world seems more ever-lasting, more real and more explainable. "Horses are of course physically touched by the war and everything that results from it", Jan Krauze told polskiearaby.com. "But at the same time they sort of seem to walk past this war and, as a part of nature, are in some way beyond the war, beyond human bestiality. To a certain degree they help people — some people — to survive the war with the least amount of moral filth."

Thanks to Jan Krauze's book foreign readers have a chance to familiarize themselves with unknown chapters of World War II. And to try — together with the author — to answer the question: how were people able to devote so much attention and energy to animals, when the world was tumbling down around them?

Jan Krauze: Les chevaux n'iront pas en enfer, Éditions du Rocher 2010, France for the best performance...

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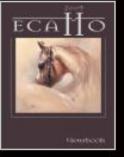
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