The Pride of Białka
Esparto offspring in Poland

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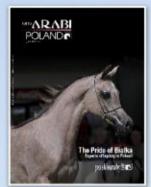
Growing bigger - getting better!





We welcome Mathieu Clicq one more talented designer on our board





Egema (Esparto - Egira/Emigrant) Bred by Białka State Stud (Poland) Proudly owned by Idris Hassan (Sudan) photo by: Sylwia Henda



Araby nie tylko w blasku fleszy

najnowszym numerze "Tutto Arabi Poland" moglibyśmy opowiadać o sukcesach pokazowych polskich koni czystej krwi. Albo o rekordach cenowych janowskiej aukcji. Lub o legendarnych koniach, które zapisały się w historii rasy. Skupiamy się jednak tym razem na codzienności. Jak wygląda dzisiejsza hodowła w Polsce, niekoniecznie w blasku fleszy? Jakie są jej perspektywy? Niełatwe losy państwowej stadniny w Białce pokazują, że o efekty trzeba walczyć każdego dnia, wbrew wszelkim przeciwnościom. Sukces okupiony ciężką pracą smakuje jednak lepiej, zaś nowe białeckie gwiazdy są dumą polskiej hodowli. A codzienność zagląda także do słynnego Michałowa i może być tak sympatyczna jak ostatni przetarg w tej stadninie.

Młodym polskim hodowczyniom sukcesy również nie przychodzą same. To pasja, upór i wiedza plus odrobina szczęścia dają to, o co chodzi nam wszystkim: wielką satysfakcję i nadzieje na przyszłość. Przyszłość, którą wyznaczają niebanalne pomysły i dalekosiężne wizje, czasem ryzykowne, a czasem odkrywcze. Co przyniosło polskiej hodowli prywatnej użycie WH Justice'a? Co może jej przynieść odkrycie nowego fenomenu, jakim okazał się Shanghai E.A.? Niepewność oczekiwania nierozerwalnie złączona jest z radością tworzenia.

Podczas gdy polscy hodowcy zastanawiają się nad wyborem stanówek na zbliżający się sezon i marzą o swoim własnym golden cross, polskie konie robią furorę w dalekim Iranie. Taki również jest sens hodowli – nie robimy tego tylko dla siebie.

Czy mamy więc dobry czas dla polskich arabów? Wiele zależy od nas samych. Oby był jak najlepszy. Trzymamy kciuki.

Monika Luft wydawca portalu polskiearaby.com

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Arabians not just in the spotlight

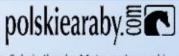
In the newest issue of "Tutto Arabi Poland" we could talk about the show successes of Polish Arabian horses. Or about the record prices at the Janów Sale. Or about legendary horses, forever etched in the history of breeding. But this time we will focus on everyday life. How does Polish breeding look like today, not in the spotlights? What are its outlooks for the future? The difficult lots of the State Stud of Bialka show that you need to fight for results every single day, against all adversities. Success earned by hard work tastes much better and the new stars of Bialka are the pride of Polish breeding. Another everyday story comes from the famous Michalów and shows that regular days can be as pleasant as the recent tender in that stud.

Young Polish female breeders also do not have successes simply delivered to their doorstep. It is passion, persistence and knowledge, plus a bit of luck that result in what we all strive for: great satisfaction and hopes for the future. The future, which is outlined by original ideas and far-reaching visions – sometimes risky, sometimes epochal. What did Polish private breeding benefit from using WH Justice? What can it profit from the discovery of the new phenomenon which is Shanghai E.A.? The uncertainty of anticipation is inseparably connected with the joy of creation.

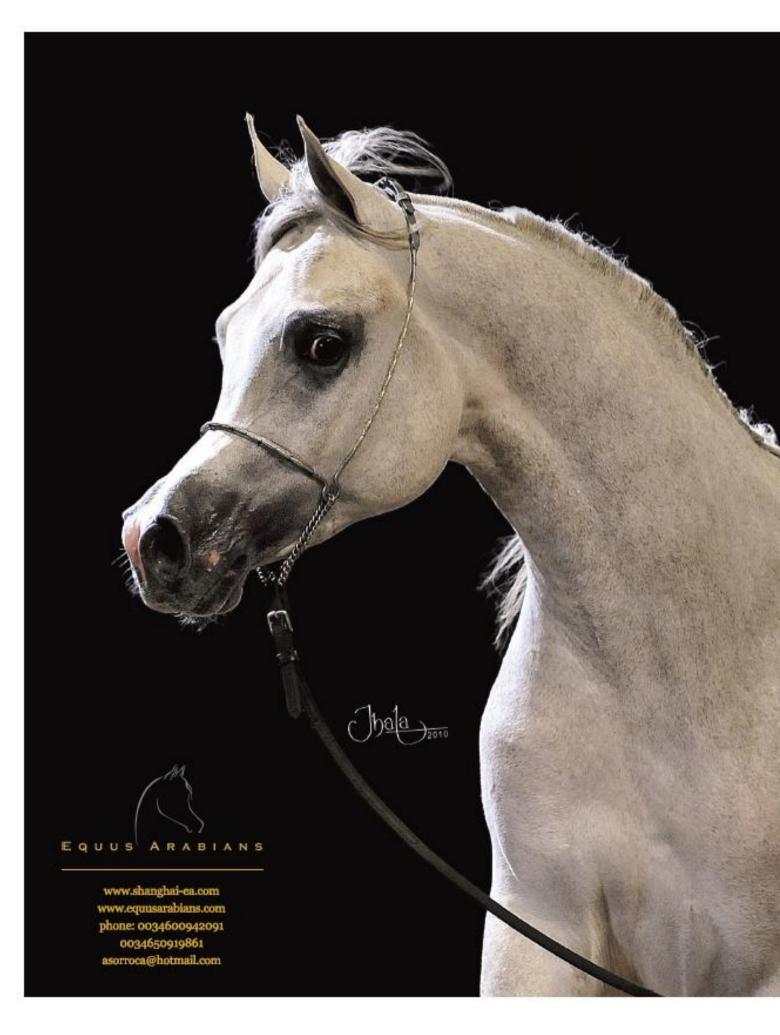
When Polish breeders are pondering what breedings to choose for the upcoming season and dream of their own "Gold Cross", Polish horses are making a sensation in distant Iran. That is also the sense of breeding – we don't do it just for ourselves.

Is this a good period for Polish Arabians? A lot depends on us. May it be the best it can. For that we keep our fingers crossed.

Monika Luft editor of the polskiearaby.com website & e-magazine







The Future of Arabian Horse Breeding

Shanghai E.A. by Khidar WH Justice - Salymah E.A. by Khidar

European Gold Champion Colt

European Championships Verona 2011

All Nations Cup Gold Champion Colt

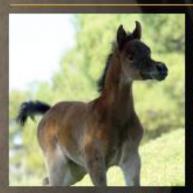
Aachen 2011

Prague InterCup Gold Champion Colt

Prague 2011

among other titles

Chapter One: A Brilliant Beginning Foals 2011



Malaisia E.A. out of Magnolia E.A. by Maaximus



L'Emperatrice E.A. out of Lamira by Laman HVP



Excalibur E.A. out of Essence Of Marwan E.A. by Marwan Al Shaqab

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A CLOSER LOOK AT BIAŁKA after 30 years

Being the youngest kid in the family has never been an easy task. Of course, the elders tolerated it excesses, but, on the other hand, living under a pressure of elder siblings, in a never-ending drive for catching up with them, had to be very distressing. The more, that the role of unattainable, elder siblings was played by two leading Arabian horse stud farms – Janów Podlaski and Michalów. The first one gained its breeding experiences for 200 years, whereas the other one collected the highest awards in breeding and showing for more than half a century. How could Bialka distinguish itself in such a competition? It was hardly able to struggle for catching up with those giants.

In 2012 we'd celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of foundation of the fourth Arabian horse stud in Poland. In 1982 the Minister of Agriculture decided to locate purebred mares in a former stallion depot, where since 1930 maintained were service stallions of different breeds. After fifty two years of existence the beautiful buildings constructed from yellow-tinted limestone have lived to see new residents. For Bialka it was a breakthrough. From that moment on it functions as a Stud and Stallion Depot. Time has shown that it was a difficult marriage.

The foundation herd descended from Janów Podlaski, Michalow and Kurozwęki. It was obvious, that none of those studs handed over their best broodmares to a newly established one. 7 mares came from Kurozwęki, 12 from Michalow and 10 from Janów. They represented 11 damlines from 16 existing in Poland. Those 11 damlines are active at Bialka until now, including a unique one, founded by Bent-El Arab DB. That damline is threatened with extinction and

occurs only at Bialka, prolonged by two mares - Celina and Cymra.

So in its very beginning the management of Bialka faced a perspective of a hard breeding work, but, after all, nobody promised them an easy start! Neither the broodmares' band was consolidated, nor was it supplied by the most valuable producers, who were reserved for the studs gaining more breeding successes. So made were attempts to equalize the horse population, as well as to improve its quality, in order to catch up with leading studs. The changes were occurring slowly, because the horse-breeding required a lot of time, but after several years noticeable became the first signs of a progress.

In the nineties the Arabians from Białka began to win their first show awards, but above all they distinguished themselves as excellent performance horses. The stallion Pesal, out of Perforacja, made his mark in the show arenas and thanks to him his mother stud became recognizable in the world, to its fame contributed mainly racing and endurance successes of Bialka horses. Trainers willingly picked them up to their stables, especially after spectacular wins of Dziewierz, Ostragon, Al Adha, Albertina, Aryjka, El Amor or Medytator. In endurance for many years unbeaten was the pair of Jerzy Urbański and the grey Alahar. Bialka succeeded also in some transactions, as the sale of Maesta in 1998, who, purchased by British customers, set a record price, reaching 130 000 USD. It indicated a clearer future for Bialka, the more, that after privatization of Kurozwęki State Stud to Białka assigned were 20 good mares.





A CLOSER LOOK AT BIAŁKA after 30 years



Poland's joining of the European Union forced the owner of the state farms - the Agricultural Property Agency - to change their legal status. The process of transforming state companies into commercial law companies - under the owner supervision of the Agency - in which 100% of the shares remained the property of the state, actually already began at the beginning of the 90s of the 20th century. The era of state subsidies came to an end. The situation proved extremely difficult for companies with a strictly breeding profile. Places which had no back-up in the shape of a strongly developed agriculture production began having financial problems. Bialka found itself at the crossroads. What turned out to be difficult was the reconciling of a missionary role, providing equine reproduction services for farmers, being conducive to sports development and maintaining the historically monumental infrastructure with brutal economic reality.

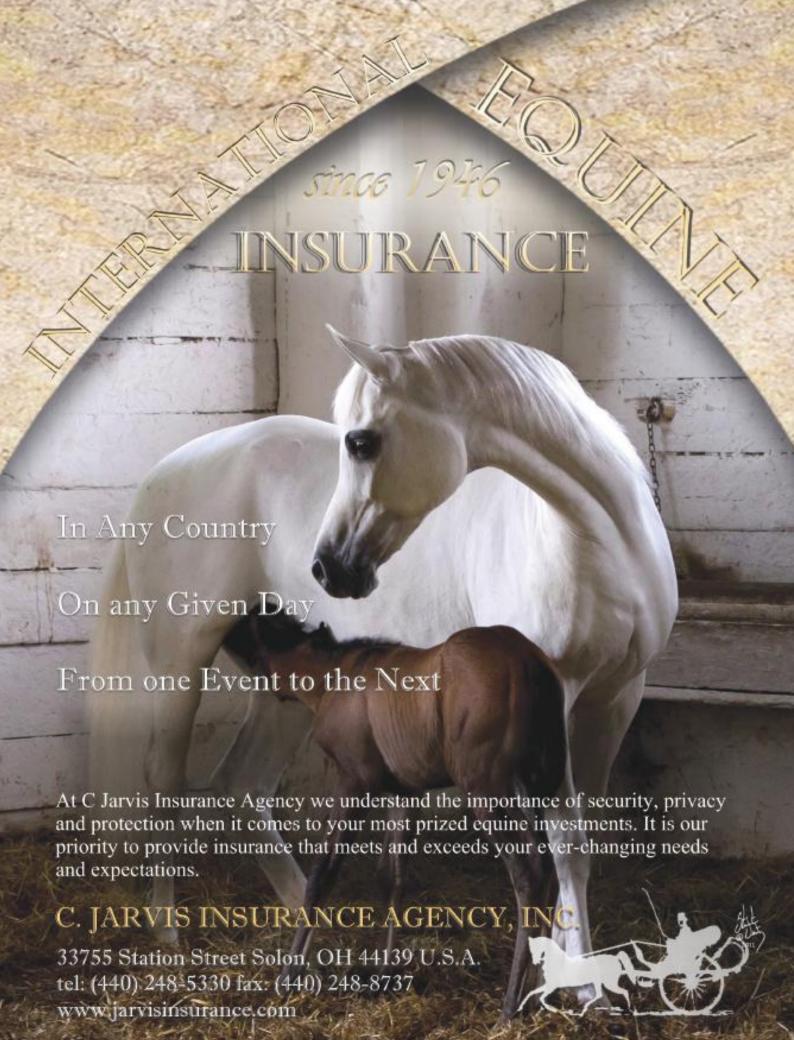
would rather resemble a second-rate actress of a cheap thriller, when woken up in an early morning and deprived of a proper make-up! Thus no wonder, that Białka faced a hard time – its horses were unplaced in shows, withdrawn from sales rings without any interest of the customers... One had also to convince Białka staff, that their work had perspectives.

In 2010 Białka saw a change of the management board. The Stud Director's post, instead of Jerzy Urbański, was entrusted to Marian Pacewski – the specialist from outside the horse business. With small steps, laboriously, as though climbing up a steep and slippery hill, Białka was beginning to be drawn out of the shadows. The first step in the right direction was using in Arabian horse breeding a grey son of Ekstern – the stallion Esparto (out of Ekspozycja), bred at Michałów. He was put to stud at Białka for the seasons 2009-2010, after a

A lack of money puts every person in a position of an unimportant supplicant. Many doors become closed and the expectations must be adjusted to one's capabilities. A lack of funds for investments results in painful savings which take their toll on quality. It worked like an avalanche - horses Bialka from began disappear from show arenas. Not because their quality greatly worsened all of a sudden but because the possibilities of their proper training, promotion presentation were limited. The results could be foreseeable after all, even a top model







A CLOSER LOOK AT BIAŁKA after 30 years

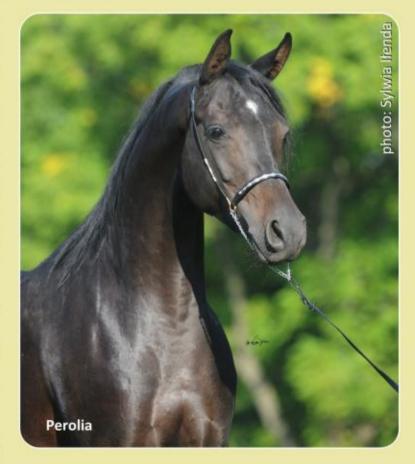


two-years-long lease to Arab Emirates (Ajman Stud). This breeding decision proved exceptionally accurate – both foal crops sired by Esparto were enchanting! The brightest stars of

that lot were revealed in the show season 2011. The beautiful Egema (Esparto Egira/Emigrant) is placed in the top of all shows she participates. For the half of a year she already represents her new owner from Sudan, but she will never lose her Polish origin. The outstanding Peron (Esparto Perolia/Gazal Al Shaqab) has a chance to replace the unforgettable Pesal in the future. Appeared also some perfect mares, especially Gazal daughters: Perfirka out of Perforacja by Ernal, Perolia out of Pereira by Eldon and this year's Pride of Poland star - Fabryszka (out of Fula by Partner), sold to Saudi Arabia for 150 000 Euro. Up the sleeve kept are fantastic Ekstern daughters and a new generation of strong, elegant fillies by Piaff. Surely the staff from Białka has something to work with.

In last years we got used to treat Bialka, its staff and horses, as permanent "lame ducks" losers in shows and sales. Nevertheless, only some small changes were enough to prove that as well the people, as the horses, were the same, even if not completely alike. In 2011 Bialka seemed to become a newly discovered continent.

Now it seems that Bialka, above all, needs time. It needs time to put itself together in the frantic "rat race" of our days, to struggle the unwanted "demons of the past" and create solid foundations for the future. It also needs plenty of good will and good luck...





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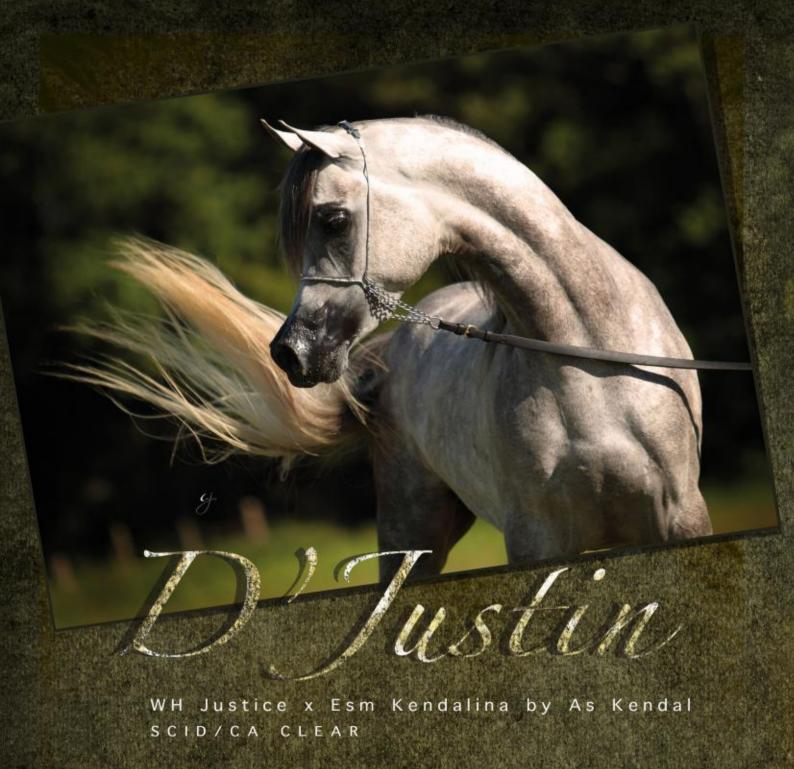


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ESM Arabians Belgium wants to thank Nicolas Frere for his excellent care and presentations during the 2011 showseason. Further on we want to thank Sixtus Arabians, Danisa Arabians, the whole team of Schoukens training center and Hilke De Bruycker for standing behind us, every step of the way.



WILL NEW DIAMONDS SHINE? POLISH OFFSPRING OF WH JUSTICE

Text by: Rafał Czarnecki Photos by: Marta Baranowska, Mateusz Jaworski

arena in Aachen. The stallion marked with the "Mahomet touch" trotted with a high flagged tail and beautifully arched neck, causing a burst of euphoria. The

total score of 93 points, which included as many as thirteen "20s", brought the public to their feet. Several hours later the stallion claimed the title of Senior Champion Stallion. That's how the slogan of "The Return of a King" became true. WH Justice, after a several year break, strongly marked his repeated presence on the show arena.

But let's go back in time to May 16th, 1999. In the surroundings of the Rocky Mountains, in one of the most beautiful valleys in the US, the mare Vona Sher-Renea gives birth to a grey colt, who will soon top the list of the most popular sires of all time. Sired by a "living legend", the stallion Magnum Psyche, through his parents WH Justice inherits the blood of giants, such as the invaluable Padron or El Shaklan.

When he was growing up in Salt Lake Valley, two young breeders from Europe, Thierry and Catherine Kerjean, were looking for a handsome, young stallion. When they received a video from the States, they were literally speechless at the sight of the young colt full of charisma and type. Not long after the horse arrived in Italy.

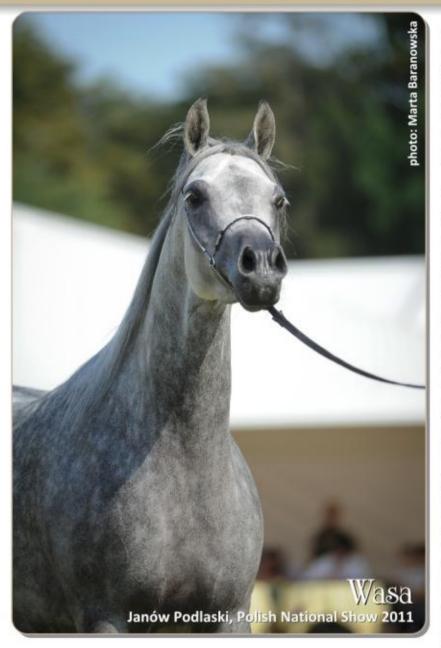
In the first year of his stud career WH Justice covered only 14 mares, but the foals produced this way immediately exhibited his potential. Among them were such notable names as Panarea by Palawan — the later European Junior Champion Mare, World Reserve Champion and Champion from the prestigious show in Dubai, as well as Ajman Moniscione, who went on to gain the titles of European Reserve Champion and All Nations Cup Reserve Champion, as well as Junior Champion Stallion in Menton.

The offspring of WH Justice began to take on the show arenas by storm. Bess Fa'izah reached for the highest trophy in 2006, claiming the title of World Champion. At her side stood the Reserve Champion, the already mentioned Panarea by Palawan. There was no doubt that mare owners from all continents would now make endeavors toward being able to breed their best mares to WH Justice.









The first in Poland

The first to introduce the blood of WH Justice into their breeding program in Poland was the stud of Falborek Arabians. The Goździalski family recalls the process of how the decision of using the stallion grew on them: "During 2003-2005, after the successes of our Szanta on European arenas, we noticed a trend for horses which differed in type from Arabian horses of Polish breeding. We analyzed their results on show arenas, paying attention mainly to foreign stallions, especially those which already had offspring on the ground. There were several such stallions: Gazal Al Shaqab, his son Marwan, Sanadik El Shaklan and lastly WH Justice. In 2004 during the All Nations Cup the latter definitely stood out. That's when the decision was made to use him at our

stud. The World Championships in Paris, which took place in that same year, additionally confirmed the rightness of our decision. Of course we were also a bit anxious, as we were at the time one of the first breeders in Europe and the first in Poland who decided to use him. However we had high expectations and hopes."

In the next year WH Justice covered four mares especially selected to suit him. This would enable the comparison of future offspring on a larger scale. In 2006 four foals were born - two colts and two fillies. The best at the time turned out to be the light chestnut Satis (out of KP Sadika/Simeon Sadik), who as a yearling won the B series of the yearling colts' class during the 17th Junior Spring Show in Białka. The owners were fully satisfied: "Whatever the further development of our horses we knew that we could not have made a better decision regarding them. Both we and the late Wojciech Kowalik believed in their success."

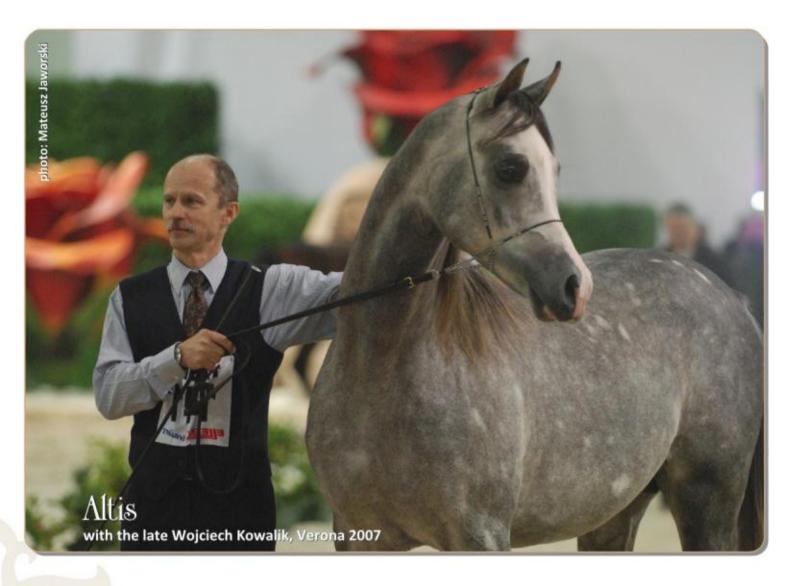
It was in the hands of Wojciech Kowalik that the yearling Wasa (out of Waresa/Empres) gained the title of 2007 Junior Reserve Champion Mare in Bialka. She won the A series of the yearling fillies' class with a score of 92,33 points (two "20s" for head and neck), which turned out to be the second highest out of the entire show group of 126 horses! The lovely mare of a steel-grey coat color twice qualified for the

finals during the Polish Nationals in Janów Podlaski. She also placed twice in the top fives of her classes during international shows in Wels and Moorsele. This season she won a bronze medal at the 1st Arabia Polska Horse Festival.

Even greater successes can be boasted by Altis (out of Albia/Pers). The grey stallion is gifted with splendid movement, so he draws the attention of viewers and judges alike everywhere he goes. In 2007 he claimed the title of Polish National Reserve Junior Champion, winning his class with a high score of 91,67 points (including a "20" for head and neck and two "20s" for movement). In the finals he had to yield to Białka's Celsjusz, but a month later he overtook his rival during the All Nations Cup in Aachen, where he won the title of Reserve Junior Champion Stallion.







That same year in Verona Altis took home the title of Top Five Junior Stallion. During the World Championships he was recognized as one of the Junior Top Ten. In January of 2008 he won his class at the Al Khalediah Show in Saudi Arabia, becoming one of the highest decorated privately bred Polish horses that had been led to victory by his breeder. After long negotiations a decision to sell him was made. Was it right? "I think that it was. After those successes the stallion wrote himself down in the history of Polish Arabian horse breeding. Until today he is the best ambassador of our stud. Calling him Falborek's pride or even Poland's pride, is absolutely justified", says Krzysztof Gożdzialski. These words are confirmed by the 2011 All Nations Cup, during which Altis won the class of 4-6 years old stallions with a score of 92,20 points, including three "20s" for an impressive trot.

In 2007 Falborek witnessed the birth of subsequent foals by WH Justice – Bint Matis (out of KP Bint Malikah el Nil/U.P. Sheitan) and Satenia (out of Slonka/Wojsław), in 2008 Pertisa (out of Pernacja/Ekstern) and Wadis (out of Waresa/Empres) and in 2009 Albad – Altis' full brother.

The grey Pertisa, presented last year during the National Show by Tomasz Jakubowski, exhibited phenomenal movement. She ultimately secured third place in class with a final score of 90,67 (two "20s" for movement). Several months later, during the European Championships, in the B series of the two year old fillies' class, she placed fourth with 90,1, right behind the Polish National Junior Champion, the chestnut Wieża Róż. Her further career was shelved due to a serious injury at the Warsaw race track. The Gożdzialski family took up a fight to save the mare and seven months later, thanks to their determination, she began to walk again.





"Faith works miracles, and that's what happened in this case. We're happy that our persistence allowed mare to be with us today", they add.

The most titled one

However the most titled daughter of WH Justice born on Polish soil is undoubtedly phenomenal El Piatzolla (out of Enva/Ekstern). She was foaled, just like her legendary father, in May, precisely on the 26th. This day is well remembered by her breeders, Beata and Marek Błaszkiewicz from Podlesie Arabians: "Her birth was an important event for us. The strong and lively foal stood on her legs already after 15 minutes and not long demanded milk. The next day she went with her dam for her first walk. A nimble, alert and curious filly, a exquisite miniature of beauty with a flagged tail, bouncing off the ground like a ball. We were happy, touched and proud, observing our princess."

Already as a yearling El Piatzolla gained her first

title - a silver medal in Blommeröd. In the finals the mares were presented in pouring rain, but the unfavorable weather did not interfere with the filly's debut. She didn't have to wait long for her next medal. Already two months' later she won the bronze during the 4th Autumn Show at Janów Podlaski, where she enraptured the judges with a sweeping trot and long suspension phase. The list of accomplishments of this young, just 3 years old mare, is impressive. Only this year she gained another three medals, starting with the gold in Deurne at the Tulip Cup B-show in Holland, through a bronze from the 21st Junior Spring Show in Bialka, ending with the silver at the 1st Arabia Polska horse festival. "We love to watch her, we are delighted with her beauty, a movement full of elegance and grace, and trusting eyes. We

Satis

photo: Marta Baranowska ZUBR Junior Spring Show, Białka 2007 have an extraordinary horse. Dreams do come true", say the

ZUBR

proud breeders. In these circumstances a repeated mating of her dam to WH Justice is no surprise. This time the result was a colt - El Fado.

Take care of your mares...

A second beautiful mare was born at Słowianin stud. The chestnut Ekspiracja (out of Eklezja/Monogramm) as a yearling in 2009 in Białka placed 10th. However two months later, during the National Show in Janów Podlaski and owned by Krzysztof Falba at the time, she "jumped up" by 5 notches. Next year at the same event she came in 4th with a score of 89,67 points. This season she repeated the result,





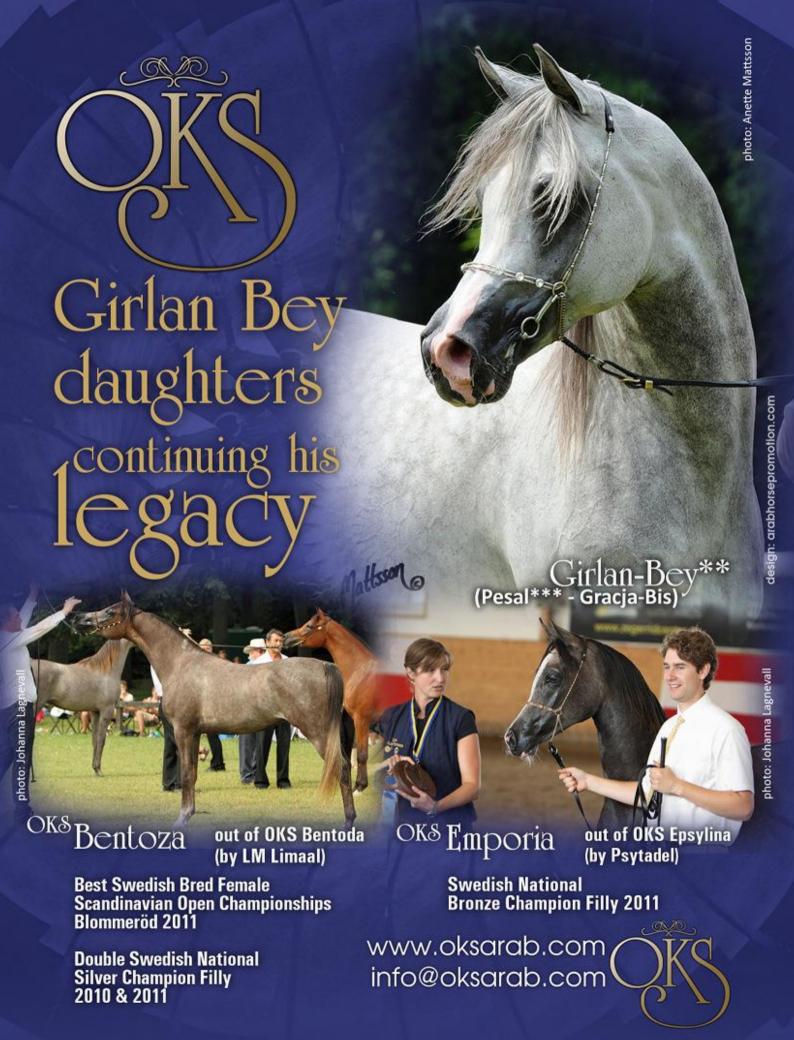
but with a higher final score: 91,5 points (including two "19,5s" for head and neck).

The mare's breeder. Lech Błaszczyk, when asked whether he regrets his decision to sell her, shrugs: "I'm a passionate and a bit of a madcap, whereas Polish breeding is full of many ardent and jealous people. I don't regret the decision because Ekspiracja's dam is again in foal to WH Justice and will give birth to a full sibling in the spring." Furthermore a mating that resulted in a good moving, dainty colt - Elgast out of Elfera/Psytadel repeated.

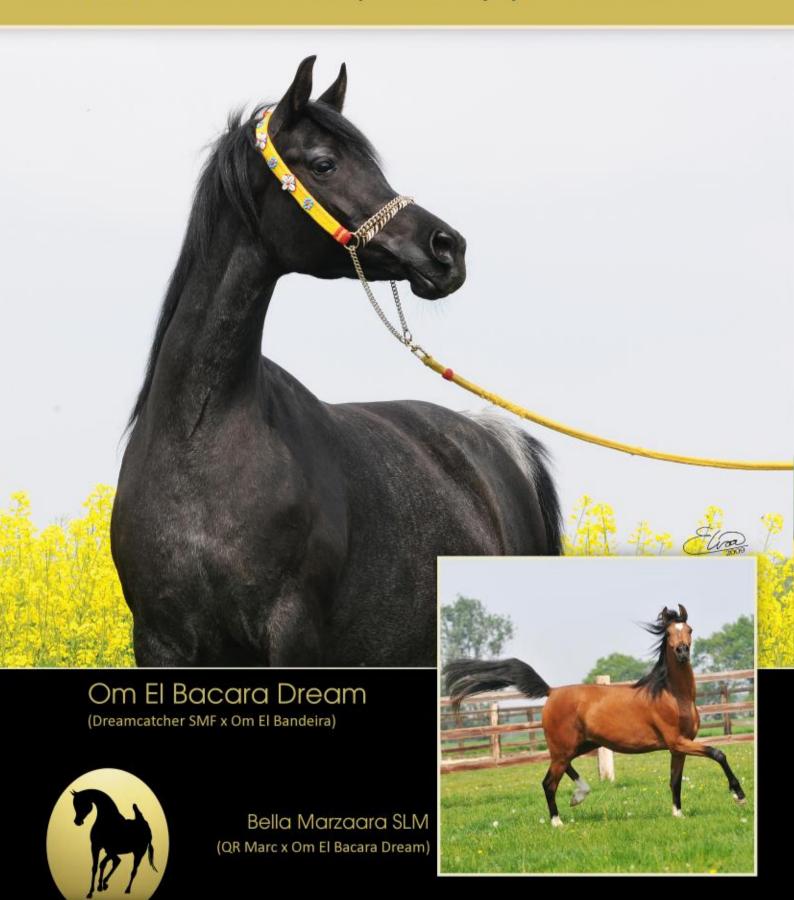
So far in Poland 21 offspring of the 12 year old WH Justice were foaled, including this year's crop: the grey colt Gotico (out of Ginga/Werbum) bred by Piotr Podgórny and a filly (out of Echidna/Ararat), bred Stanisław Sławiński. The number seems rather small, especially since more than 750 have already been born worldwide. So the fact that when bred to Polish mares such stars appeared, in a relatively small group at that, is even more pleasing. In a few months new foals will be stamping about next to their dams. "Take care of your mares - their backs are your protection and their bellies are your treasury", the Prophet was to say. May they be true diamonds, who after an appropriate cut will shine brightly and bring fame to Polish breeding.







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text by: Urszula Łęczycka | photos by: Lilianna Dembska, Joanna Jonientz, Bartosz Modelski, Marek Kacperski, Robert Witkowski, Marta Woltosz

rabian horse breeding in Poland is not only a men's thing. Women breeders made their tributes for the breeding as much as men although this task is usually more difficult for them to handle. How to combine every day's duties with managing several horses stud farm, taking care of foals, planning successful crosses? Is it at all possible? Polish women breeders do handle it, but each of them differently as each of them is different – from their experience, education, geographical origin. But all of them share the same passion. We introduce beautiful and talented young Polish women breeders.



Arabians from the palace

ALICJA POSZEPCZYŃSKA together with her parents, Ewa and Krzysztof, is the establisher of Warsaw area located Chrcynno-Palace stud. Its successes made it one of the most recognizable private Polish farms abroad. The charming manor is located around 19th century palace designed by Henryk Marconi, the same who designed the famous Janów Podlaski State Stud barns. Alicja dedicates her whole life to horses and she is well prepared to this task being Animal Science faculty graduated.

"I don't treat horses as a hobby since very long time", she says.
"It is my profession that I dedicate 365 days a year to. So there are no holidays. Horses wouldn't understand it, for them every

agree on that definitely — of course you need luck but you cannot explain all your faults with a lack of luck! First of all you need to correctly choose a stallion for the mare predicting the effect, then carefully raise the foal with not only proper care and feeding but also exercises, training and taking care of its psychical health. All these conditions affect the eventual success or its lack—good luck is just one of them."

Thanks to such plan Chrcynno-Palace stud is successful internationally. As Alicja confirms, her biggest success is breeding year by year as follows: Psyche Victoria (A-shows champion, Polish National Bronze Champion, twice World Top Ten), Chaos Persefona (A-shows champion), Psyche Kreuza (Best in Show at Junior Spring Show, Silver at Polish Nationals, European Top Five, twice World Top Ten), and then in 2010



day is the same — I can't explain them that there are holidays! It happened sometimes to cancel a theater or party attending in the last moment because of colic. Sometimes it may be even few hours when I'm away that a horse breaks a fence, hit a door, jump out the maneige or escape with a line during lounging. As we say in Poland: eye of an owner feeds a horse."

But not only is the owner's presence important. It is also intuition thanks to which, in Alicja's opinion, women are good breeders: "If the knowledge on horses, their conformation and pedigrees is supported by intuition, ability to predict the effects of mating — the results of breeding should be good", she declares. "I very often face the opinion that for a successful breeding the most important thing — besides money — is luck. Funny is that this thesis is always being told by men. I don't

Echo Aurora (bronze medal winner of "ARABIA-Polska" Arabian Horse Festival, Polish National Silver Champion). This year, in November, during the European Championships in Verona, Chaos Persefona and Psyche Kreuza both won their classes and then the Top Five titles! In the meantime Alicja had such horses as: Pallas-Atena, Galahad, Ganga, Gaja Selene, Echo Apollo, Echo Adonis, Psyche Ares, Psyche Kybele – all of them champion entitled or class winners.

What more the talented and entitled breeder, a professional in both education and practice can dream of? As many other breeders she dreams of the highest trophies in the world. "This is why for me the most important is to keep the highest level of my breeding", she concludes. "For sure it will be very difficult but until it's possible I will try to make it."



Poland

From photography to the Monogramms

One of Polish youngest stud farms is Zalia Arabians located near Łódź in central Poland. Her establisher KATARZYNA DOLIŃSKA-WITKOWSKA is and was a passionate — first as equestrian rider, then equine photographer and finally as a breeder of Arabian horses. And what horses! Although the stud was established just few years ago it has some of most carefully selected and full of bloodlines variety collection of horses. "Until this year we owned the biggest number of privately owned Monogramm daughters in Poland. Our horses find new

animals", Katarzyna says. "I like to watch their proud movements with swan necks, seeming not to touch the ground with their foot. Arabian horse photography I learned from my friend Liliana Dembska, long time equine photographer. As time was passing my photos were improving and other breeders started to ask me for photo shootings. It was and still is a big satisfaction to catch Arabian horse beauty in a moment. Whenever I have time and weather is good enough I meet my horses with camera and the results you can often see on my stud's website."



Marriage day - Katarzyna Dolińska-Witkowska, Robert Witkowski and the mare Poruta

homes very quickly in many different countries as Czech Republic, France, Slovakia, Iran or Norway", Katarzyna recalls talking about her biggest successes until now. "One of our best home bred horses, colt **Primero Marc** (QR Marc – Poruta/Monogramm) as the first Polish bred and owned stallion went for lease to Brazil where he is going to compete at shows and be used in breeding as chief sire in Haras Engenho."

Looking at the dynamic development of this young and relatively small (only several broodmares) stud it's hard to believe that it all began from photography. "First of all, my biggest satisfaction is being with these wonderful The passion for photography is certainly useful in the own horses promotion. But horses had also a big influence on Katarzyna's private life – thanks to them she met her just married husband Robert and now they not only run the breeding together, but also share their dreams: "We share our passion and love for Arabian horses", Kasia says. "Robert is also a show trainer and handler of our horses. And the dreams? I would like to have a bigger farm to develop my breeding. Surely the dream of every breeder is to breed good quality and achieve high trophies on shows or races. I think you need persistence and humility and the success will come."



means Beauty

She looks good with black

Hidden amongst the pine forests of central Poland is another Arabian horse farm. It's focused on black breeding. The idea maker and idea producer of this unique project is ALICJA MARTA NAPIÓRA – graduated and professional pharmacist who continues her long time family tradition in this business. Privately she is the mother of few years old son Konrad and establisher of Silvatica Black Arabians. Almost all horses here, besides their beauty and performance abilities, are of this rare beautiful color. It is one of the reasons why Silvatica Black Arabians is one of the most often visited studs in Poland, that often also ends up with horse purchases or new friendships.

to just one color. However her home bred colt Rascal (BS Black Fable – Ravenwood Nejma) was entitled as Reserve Champion at St Petersburg Open. To her personal successes Marta also includes the discovery and purchase of a Marwan Al Shaqab daughter Marjjana VA who was very successful in 2009, being Best in Show in Exloo (Netherlands) and Silver Medal winner in Vilhelmsborg (Denmark). That great show season ended up with All Nations Cup 2nd place in class with the same score as the class winner.

How Marta is able to combine duties of a young boy mother, a pharmacy owner involved in big family



"Happiness and joy from my breeding comes with the people visiting my farm who like my horses", Marta underlines. "And when, after buying one horse, they come for another one, satisfied with the look, great movements, beautiful black color and good character. I would lie saying I don't enjoy the success of showing my horses, it builds you up and motivates for further breeding and makes you sure that the breeding program you have chosen is right".

What is Marta's biggest success? As she confirms – the trophies taken at shows by her black horses, as we know it is especially difficult to judge the black color sometimes. It is not so easy to breed good quality horses being limited

investments and also being a breeder? The key to success is, in her opinion, a good team of co-workers: "I think that if you work with people who share your passion and love for Arabian horses, who help and support your decisions, you are able to combine everything. Of course life is twisted sometimes but following the plan – either in breeding or in private life – you can reach the success. I think every breeder dreams of breeding World Champion and of course this is also my dream... and as we all know, dreams are for having fun of reaching it."



Poland

A surgeon in the stable

In the opinion of another talented young Polish woman breeder the key to fulfill breeders' dreams — either men or women is a good cooperation with other people. KATARZYNA OSTROWSKA, living in north Poland, is one of the busiest women breeders in Poland. Surgeon graduated and from her profession; from the passion — recognized artist and the owner of one of the most beautiful, 19th century barns locating St Roch Arabians stud, specialized in sport Arabian horses breeding. Asked if the sex of a breeder matters she answers: "Since many years at Polish State Studs breeding decisions

many more to win the highest trophies; Roman Pankiewicz – breeder of Bask who «changed the US breeding» making new standards of the breed there, but also we can't forget Lady Wentworth who used and promoted the legendary Skowronek; Anna Bąkowska who bred the wonderful Bałałajka without which we wouldn't have Bandola, «the Queen of Janów» or Bask; Teresa Raciborska, the breeder of Amurath Sahib; Marieta Salas, Lenita Perroy, Patricia Lindsay, Sheila Varian and Shirley Watts. I think the sex doesn't matter but vision, ability of observing, intuition, luck, dreams and faith in your assumptions."



Katarzyna Ostrowska and Niniwa at the pasture

are the result of men and women cooperation. In Michałów the director is Jerzy Białobok but the breeder Mrs. Białobok. In Janów Podlaski we have Dr. Marek Trela as director and Mrs. Anna Stefaniuk as main breeder, the same in former state stud Kurozwęki where the director was Władysław Guziuk with the main breeder Mrs. Teresa Dobrowolska. So maybe I answer in twisted way saying that men and women complement one another in breeding. Looking back at the history of horse breeding there are a lot of both men and women names – to mention the great visionary Ignacy Jaworowski who introduced Monogramm in Polish breeding; the legendary Andrzej Krzyształowicz – breeder of Pilarka, Etruria and

All our women breeders interviewed confirmed that besides luck, knowledge and intuition either in horse breeding or any other activity the love for your job matters. Katarzyna Ostrowska underlines also that fulfilling your plans, also breeding ones, needs a discipline and ability to separate your different life fields from each other: "I think all of us lack the time. Implementation of our plans and intentions requires discipline and consequence. I have a simple rule – I never bring the hospital to my barns and the barns to the hospital or my art studio. In a moment I focus on only one task and try to do my best. Dividing the life between home, farm, hospital and art studio is not easy, it needs determination and efforts."



means Beauty

So does the effort orientated into few such different activities leaves some space for satisfaction? For Katarzyna Ostrowska the satisfaction is the rare in Poland focus of her breeding program – sport one. "There are no simple solutions in breeding", she explains. "It makes the search for interesting mating and not popular, risky breeding decisions so fascinating."

Horses that made her St Roch Arabians farm recognizable not only in Poland but also internationally are: Niniwa, Zarina, Corina-Corina and Chagall. The most famous and most entitled is Niniwa (Etogram – Niwa by Eukaliptus), twice as a yearling was 4th in class at Polish Nationals 2001. At that time it was the best result of Polish private bred horse at Polish Nationals. Chagall was 2nd in class of 3 year old colts at 2010 Polish National Show, Plans for the future? Maintaining such a stable and such a team, who, despite amounts close to 40 horses, determine a system in which each horse is treated individually with due attention, which allows to explore and develop its talents. The success already reached is running the breeding for 14 years, following own thoughts no matter what fashion is and not falling into a fast success hunger.







Katarzyna Ostrowska and Corina-Corina

European Champion in Arabian showjumping, who opened the doors for Arabian horse performance in Poland. She was appreciated by the breeders from Poland and abroad. Director Marek Trela includes her into 3 unique Arabian horses in Poland next to Pianissima and Sambor; trainer Roy Rich describes her as one of the best jumping Arabian horses in the world. Zarina (Ostragon – Zgadula by Fawor) won all her races in first season and in the next one she took part in most important stakes. Corina-Corina (Dębowiec – Cuma by Eukaliptus) and her son Chagall (by Poganin) prove that Katarzyna's breeding program includes not only performance abilities but also beauty of an Arabian horse. Corina-Corina



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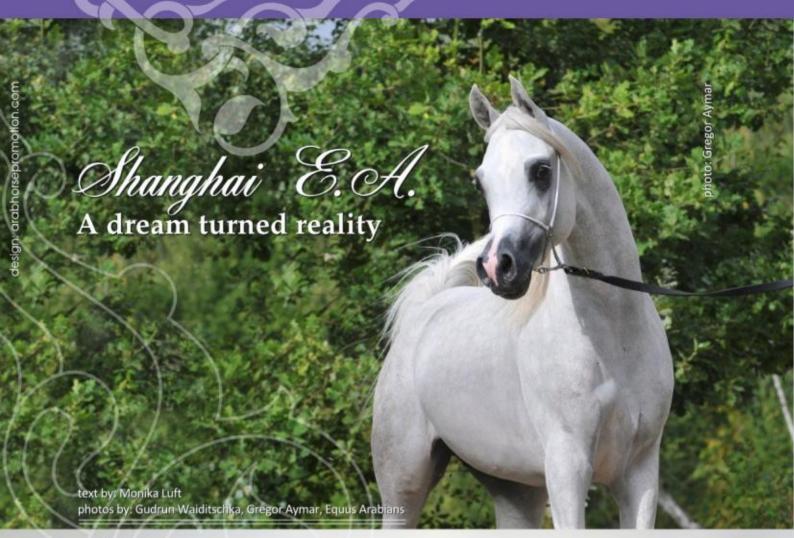
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The legacy of US National Champion Stallion
- Ames Charisma crossed with Polish E-damline
continues across Europe



n Open Day at Equus Arabians stud near Barcelona in 2008. When guests depart after the presentations, only a handful of closest friends remain. During a close circle supper the stud's owner, the Barcelona lawver ALBERT SORROCA, announces a surprise - next morning he will show a new stallion, which has not yet been publicly exhibited. There is no end to the speculations: is it an import from across the pond? What dam line does he represent? Why is his arrival a secret? In the morning the friends of the house grow more and more impatient. They want to already see this mysterious stallion. In the meantime a mare appears before their eyes - the beautiful, milky-white, exotic Salymah E.A. by Khidar. The guests become aware of the importance of this moment only when an unbelievingly beautiful two month old foal emerges from behind the mare - Shanghai E.A. The colt embodies the dreams of every breeder: correctly built, full of type, with an extremely exotic head and a black, large eye. He circles with interest round his dam, bouncing off the ground like a ball on his long legs and a flagged tail.

It was already then that the first breeders lined up to secure breedings to him. And already then the news spread that a new star was born at Equus Arabians.

"I received the first offers when Shanghai E.A. was just a couple months old", says Albert Sorroca. "With time they became

higher and more tempting. However to me Shanghai E.A. is my life project. We all want our ideas and passions to become reality and we devote a lot of energy to make that happen. I carried an image of an ideal Arabian horse in my head. Anyone who shares this passion, strives to breed horses as close to his dream ideal as possible. It is rarely accomplished, but when it does happen, then the satisfaction cannot be compared to anything else. Shanghai E.A. is a dream turned reality."

The breeder knew that a true pearl was born from the very beginning.

"When I saw the foal out of Salymah E.A., I had no doubt that it marked the beginning of a new era. At my stud I have his dam, who is of my breeding, his grandam Libanon Azadika by Om El Azadik and I also had his great-grandam, Warandes Shaklana by El Shaklan and his great-great-grandam. When you have the opportunity to observe four generations you know how the foals from this line develop. And a thorough knowledge of the evolution of dam lines allows you to know that something remarkable was born in your stud in just one moment. To me it was evident that this very light-colored, very much resembling Bambi foal will not worsen."

How does one breed such a marvel? "Of course, luck had something to do with it, but I wouldn't call Shanghai's birth a chance occurrence. A vision, determination, work and





commitment are decisive", says Sorroca who, although a lawyer in his professional life, was interested in genetics almost from childhood. This passion resulted in twenty of his years being devoted to bird breeding. He experimented, trying various matings. He traveled the world, observing the achievements of other breeders. He claimed the title of World Champion with his specimens three times. And then he decided that he had achieved all that there was to achieve in this area and that the time had come to try something different. "I have inherited as interest in nature, especially horses, from my father and grandfather. Three generations of my family served in the army, in the Numancia 9 cavalry regiment. My father was a champion rider in show jumping. When I decided to open my own stud I first traveled a lot in order to find inspiration. The foundations of Equus Arabians became Polish mares or mares with Polish pedigrees. I think that their best qualities are a correct conformation and athletic abilities."

"I searched for a suitable stallion for mares with Polish blood", explains the breeder. "To me **Khidar** (Ansata Sinan – Elizja/Esta-Ghalil) seemed like such a stallion, as in his

pedigree we find numerous Polish accents. The result of these matings turned out fabulous. I obtained seven daughters of Khidar descending from Polish damlines, which became the basis of the Equus Arabians breeding program. Then a chance appeared to take over Khidar's maternal stud, thanks to which I expanded the breeding program with his daughters from other lines, as well as sisters and further "cousins". I really wanted a dosage of El Shaklan blood and Khidar gave me such a possibility through El Shaklan's dam Estopa, who appears in Khidar's pedigree twice. In turn WH Justice's dam is the granddaugher of El Shaklan, so Shanghai E.A. has even more of that blood."

"I decided to try mating the charismatic WH Justice with the most correct mares in my herd", he continues. "Salymah E.A. seemed like a perfect candidate – tall, with a perfect body and topline and excellent legs – having inherited her superb conformation from Khidar."

Albert Sorroca planned the show career of Shanghai as thoroughly as his pedigree. In the first year the foal was trained and shown by the Equus Arabians manager, Bertrand Valette. The horse debuted as a yearling at the Cranked show in Albi (France), at once gaining the junior stallion championship. Already then it was evident that he's a true show horse who feels at home on the show arena, loves to draw attention and that performing is his passion! The next trophies were collected still that very same year in Bordeaux during the Arabian Masters show. In Menton (Aranked) he placed second in class (behind the stallion LA Karat), but was honored with the prestigious public's award of "VIP Coup de Coeur". The next stop on his way

to stardom was Hasselt (Belgium) and the title of Elran Cup (A-ranked) Junior Champion Stallion. Later Aachen (second in class, behind Kahil Al Shaqab), Verona (four "20s" for type and head & neck) and a Junior Stallions Silver Medal in the European Championships and Paris – where Shanghai ended the show season with the titles of "Espoir" (Hope) and Best Head of the Show.

He received the trophy for Best Head in the next season also, which he began with a performance at the Al Khalediah Festival in Saudi Arabia. However 2010 for the young star was not a year of shows, but a first exam at the role of chief sire. He was bred to a large number of mares as for a two year old. This year more than 30 foals were born by Shanghai, out of which two third are fillies. Next year some 60 foals are expected by him. He triumphantly returned to the show arena in 2011.

"The cards in the three year old colts' class were dealt out in the very beginning, because no horse could threaten the Spanish (from Equus Arabians) Shanghai E.A., who at full speed burst onto the arena to the beats of «Macarena»", we wrote on polskiearaby.com in our September coverage of the





show in Prague. "Very well-known from numerous shows over the past years, he received as many as four «20s» for type and head and neck, which gave him a final score of 92,67. Nobody was surprised that he also received the Gold in the finals, as well as the Gold Cup in the Prague European Cup classification. Beyond all doubt his star will shine very brightly in this season also". This prognosis came true very fast, because as soon as during the recent All Nations Cup in Aachen, where Shanghai's sire WH Justice also enjoyed great successes.

"However before we got to see the star of this year's All Nations Cup, a sensation was created by one of his sons", Rafal Czarnecki reported on our website. "The three year old Shangai E.A. won his class with a high score of 93,3 points, besting by 0,4 points one of the main favorites of the show, the bay Kahil Al Shaqab (Marwan Al Shaqab — OFW Mishaahl/Mishaah). The milky-white Shangai E.A. was the only one out of all the assessed juniors to gain a full set of «20s» for head and neck.

(...) In the hands of Frank Spönle he displayed a movement full of expression complete with a raised tail, which undoubtedly resulted in higher notes for type (two «20s» and three «19,5s»). In the championships only Gianmarco Aragno didn't write him down as the gold medalist (...). And so with that the Champion title went to the Spanish stud of Equus Arabians, which bred, promoted and led this colt to the very top all on their own! An exceptional achievement and quite a rarity in Arabian horse breeding. In the majority of cases European breeders sell their promising graduates to Middle Eastern owners, who later go on to win medals at the most prestigious shows".

Shanghai's victory during the European Championships in Verona was no less spectacular. He first won his class with a score of 466.5 points (including five "20s" for head & neck), which gave him an average of 93.3. In the finals he bested the Belgian son of Michalów's Emocja by Monogramm – the stallion Espressivo by OR Marc (bred by Knocke Arabians).

The climax of the show season will of course be the World Championships in Paris. It doesn't seem probable that any young stallion should threaten Shanghai E.A., though of course nothing is yet determined. But Shanghai's chance for the Triple Crown is huge.

And how did the extremely young Shanghai E.A. do in his so far one season breeding career?

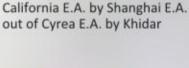
"I can already say with much certainty that Shanghai E.A. marks his get very strongly with his traits", Sorroca tells polskiearaby.com. "He passes on a correct conformation, type, an exotic, short head with a wide forehead and a large, black eye. He definitely improves «white» eyes — among thirty of his offspring from the first crop there is not a single foal with whites in his eye. His offspring are tall, sport a very long neck, short body and great movement. In all cases Shanghai E.A. provided breeding progress. None of the foals are worse than their dam and some even present the highest world-class quality. Additionally the stallion passes on his extremely pleasant character. Shanghai E.A., who on the show arena is dynamic and full of energy, acts calm and trusting upon returning to his stable."

How does he cross with mares bearing Polish pedigrees?
"Superbly. Some examples of this are California E.A. out of
Cyrea by Khidar, Encore RV out of Epifania by Emigrant or
TM Zahina out of Zarina E.A. by Khidar."

"Of course it is too early to ascertain such a thing for sure", sums up Sorroca, "but it seems that Shanghai E.A. may contribute to making the next step on the road to improving the Arabian breed."



Malaisia E.A. by Shanghai E.A. out of Magnolia E.A. by Maaximus





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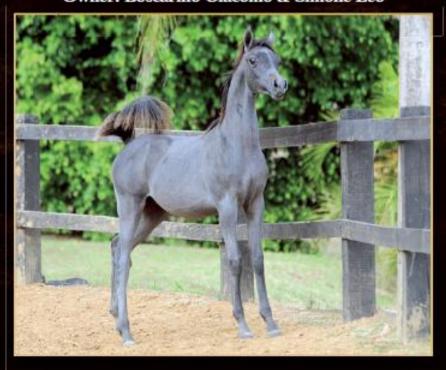


AMAZING





Gladiator
Amir Ashiraf x Afrodite K
Owner: Boscarino Giacomo & Simone Leo





Alicja Ashiraf Amir Ashiraf x CO Pashmira Owner: Boscarino Giacomo

Lord Pin SL Amir Ashiraf x Mag Shall Londrina Owner: Boscarino Giacomo & Simone Leo

A slightly raised curtain Polish horses in T

Text by: Monika Luft Photos: Tutto Arabi archives, private archives

lran





he "Shah of Shahs" by Ryszard Kapuściński. A fashionable, though niche Iranian cinematography... The knowledge of the average Pole about modern Iran is usually limited to the above. However also interesting for Arabian horse enthusiasts may be the fact that for several years now Iran has been the recipient of Arabian transports, including those from Poland. Unfortunately this eldorado will soon close its gates. "The lobby to ban the imports of foreign horses to Iran is strong", explains TOMASZ TARCZYNSKI, who frequently visits this country, among other things as a judge at shows. "A relevant law was to take effect already in September, but for now the matter is still progressing at a snail's pace. However we should expect to see the closing of borders for imports. It's a similar situation to the closing of races for foreign horses in Poland - it's meant to protect the domestic market. Imported horses are usually not only better, but also cheaper than the local."

In the meantime foreign stallions, also Polish, have been working on improving Iranian breeding for years. "When the first horses from Poland went to Iran I thought that it would end at five, six imports and then the market would clog up, similarly to what happened in other countries", says Tarczyński. "But no. The export of horses to Iran is going at full steam. This is especially true for stallions. Only last year the Iranians imported

20 chief sires." One of those which made their way to Iran was, among others, **Troubadour PA**, the 2 year old bronze medalist from Las Vegas, by Magnum Chall. Such horses as **El Amin**, **Emotion** by Eternity Ibn Navarrone, **Alishaar El Bri**, **Dubai Pasha** (a black Enzo son), **Ferrer** (from the El Capitan Ranch), **Pershahn El Jamaal** or the purchased in Poland **FS Bengali**, **Lord Bey Shah** and **Newman** – all of them are fulfilling their duties as chief sires at Iranian studs.

"In Iran the average quality of Arabian horses is still low. As the breeders do not have the possibility of importing frozen or fresh semen, they have to buy stallions", explains Tarczyński. Interest in the new purchases is huge. The arrival of a horse to a stud is a true social event. There is an immediate gathering of a large group of people wanting to see him.

For years there were really only two stallions present in that country's breeding: the Egyptian Legend 1995 by Shaikh al Kuran (Shaikh al Badi – AK Raiyeh/The Egyptian Prince) out of Nijadah (Nijamin – AK Zaayadah/The Egyptian Prince), bred by Nikki Haworth from the UK, who found his way to Iran by the doings of the head of the Iranian stud book Sharzad Amir Aslani and Mobarak 1989 (Salaa el Dine – Myrna/The Egyptian Prince), imported from Hans Nagel by Mary Gharazoglu. Mobarak can boast about 600 offspring! The





majority of domestic Arabian mares descend from these two sires. It is evident that new stallions have a large opportunity just lying at their feet.

And they do not disappoint. Foals by the newly imported stallions win all "futurity" competitions. "Of course, the average quality is still lower than for instance at Białka Junior Spring Show in Poland, but it's beginning to greatly improve", says Tarczyński. "For example victorious at the recent National Championships was a foal by Marajj." The imports stand out not only in breeding, but also at shows – the title of Senior Champion Mare and Best in Show of the Iranian National Show was the US-bred, imported to Poland and later re-sold to Iran Daisy FF. Second was a Magnum daughter purchased in the United Arab Emirates and third – a Monogramm mare from the US. Imported horses are successful also at the racetrack, among them Gratisa (Aslan – Gratka/Arbil) from Mała Wieś Arabians and Morska Toń (Fiołek – Morska/Ar-Rahman) from Bełżyce Stud.

How did the Iranian boom for Arabian horses begin? As Tarczyński emphasizes, the Iranians always had horses. "Horses in Iran are greatly popularized", he stresses. "They are often used as a means of transport in the mountains, especially domestic Kurd horses. But most often they are used for recreation. When traveling across the country you see many

riders training for example for endurance. There is a town near Tehran of a leisure nature - Kordan - which looks almost identical to the American Scottsdale: everyone has horse there. In comparison to Iran, no one rides horse in Poland." The Arabian horse is strongly associated with Persian culture. Some Iranians claim that the breed descends from those regions, from Turkmenistan, which was once under the rule of the Persian Empire. "Everything indicates that a type of Arabian horse has been created from the refined and highly valued cultural horse strains of the Iranian plateau, existing in Asia since long ago", we read in the classic textbook "Hodowla koni" ["Horse breeding"] (1947-1950) by Professor Roman Prawocheński. In Kermanshah, in a former summer residence of the shah, surrounded by streams flowing down from the mountains, we find frescos from 2 thousand years back depicting horses which can be said to be Arabian, with characteristically small heads and arched necks.

The Iranian breeders have plenty of opportunities to show their horses. During the year as much as eight shows take place – among them those at Yazd, Kerman, Ahvaz, Tabriz, Tehran, Shiraz. Invited to judge are international A list judges. The last national show was judged among others by Dr Nasr Marei (Egypt) and Deidre Hyde (UAE). Others also include Nils Ismer, Manfred Neubacher, Konrad Detailleur, Francesco Santoro, Ann Norden, Marianne Tengstedt. Seminars for







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breeders are regularly held by Peter Upton and Dr Marek Trela. The shows enjoy great popularity with the public. Entire families, for whom the show is an entertainment pastime, cheer on the competitors. All the stands are filled, also those for women.

The popularity does not yet go hand in hand with professionalization of the market of services. "There are no training facilities in European or American style", says Tarczyński. "Horses are shown by stable staff. Iranian handlers watch films on the internet and also learn from publications dedicated to Arabian horses. However I must say that horses imported from the US present themselves in a way that we are used to. Several years of training gives fruit. But the common opinion is that a good horse will show himself."

Not only the training, but also the rearing of horses in different in Iran. First of all there are no pastures, as Iran is a dry, grassless country. The horses are given a feed with alfalfa and are stabled in stalls or on small paddocks. Horse keep is more expensive than in Poland, because the feeds cost. But neglected horses are nowhere to be seen. When someone cannot afford a horse, they simply sell it. The market is very receptive, every horse finds a buyer.

Who are Iranian breeders? "In that circle I know doctors, veterinarians, plastic surgeons", tells Tarczyński. "Among the largest breeders I can mention the owner of a stud not far from Ahvaz, near the border of Iraq, who breeds mainly racing horses. We must also mention Alireza Sharif, who purchased Lord Bey Shah, Newman and FS Bengali and who is the owner of a large pistachio and saffron plantation near Kerman. His herd amounts to a hundred horses. There is also Aram

Azarmibeiand who purchased the stallion Ghajariv and the mare Soraya by Amir Ashiraf and who also has a good imported group of 20 equines. Another breeder, Tevmour Razavifarahmand, regularly purchases horses from Schoukens Training Center. He is a frequent guest at the show in Aachen. He also has a large collection of paintings and rugs - about a thousand exhibits. Whereas the owners of Ferrer and JJ Estrella by Magnum Psyche are a tribe of Turkish origin, which live as they did centuries ago, without light or water. But they have wonderful horses, some of a value of even several hundred thousand euro. In that culture it is the horses that are a symbol of status. In Iran, when someone has land, then he is very rich. Land is especially valuable. You just need to sell a little bit of it to have enough to live for the next five years."

You definitely shouldn't judge this extremely interesting, exotic country by the first impression after arrival at the airport. "International airplanes usually land between one and three in the morning", explains Tarczyński. "There is only one check gate for foreigners. You have to go there and prepare yourself for an hours' wait." But during the day and in the evening you can go off to tour the full of life and color capital. "The cities and illuminated and busy, but also loud and chaotic. Peddlers wind between the cars. It is difficult to get around Tehran, there are traffic jams and smog", warns Tarczyński. No wonder, Tehran is the largest city of the Middle East, with a population of more than 9 million, while the agglomeration has a population of more than 13 million (data from 2006). The local inhabitants claim however, that together with the people coming each day to work the population amounts to about 18 million. "Although the city has an Asian character, the Iranians feel a bond with Europe", emphasizes Tarczyński. "They are educated, speak English, are interested in the world and have a

large knowledge of it, mainly from television, such as BBC."

When the Iranian market closes for foreign Arabian horses, will the country again become a terra incognita Arabian enthusiasts? Even if so, the curtain has already been slightly raised. In a while new breeders will discover in Iran the offspring of many of today's world fashionable stallions, also those with Polish blood.







WŁAŚCICIEL: ALLEVAMENTO IL PARADISO, ITALY

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Nota Bene 2007 (Bengali d'Albret x Navigacia)

Vertushka 2009 (Nonius [Russian Derby winner] x Verthuska [damline of Vesna])

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Tender in Michałów a collectors' opportunity



The audience at the horses' presentation



Józef Pietrzak, Wojciech Parczewski and Tadeusz Wojtal



Szymon Głowacki (Mała Wieś stud) and Robert Witkowski (Zalia Arabians)



Albert Sorroca (Equus Arabians) and Monika Luft (polskiearaby.com)

text by: Monika Luft | photos by: Katarzyna Dolińska

uring when breeders all over the world ponder how to sell their horses, there is a place in Poland to where buyers come readily and eagerly.

Michałów's monthly tender, organized during the last weekend of October, enjoyed great interest. Among those that turned up were breeders from Poland, as well as guests from abroad: Spain, Italy, Germany and Slovakia. They were drawn by an interesting and diverse offer, though some claimed that the purpose of their arrival was to taste Michałów's renowned culinary specialty - a stewed dish made of sauerkraut and fresh cabbage, meat and mushrooms known in Polish as "bigos".

Although the tender became an opportunity for a very pleasant social gathering, still everyone impatiently awaited the grand finale, especially the revealing of the reserve prices for the offered horses. It is no secret that tenders are great places for bargain hunting. Who knows, perhaps there will be a possibility to secure a good horse for an exceptionally good price?

As it turned out, the prices remained at the expected levels. The participants of the Autumn Sale at Janów Podlaski surely remember that the reserve price for the offered at the Saturday tender mare El Arba (Al Maaram Emanda/Ecaho) was at the time 20 thousand euro (the mare did not find a buyer). This time she was sold - for 80 thousand Polish Zlotys (PLN), a similar amount for the one



Tender in Michałów (1998) a collectors' opportunity

asked before. The second highest price of the tender was achieved by the mare Eryka (Eukaliptus – Emilda/Pamir) – 50 thousand PLN. Apart from these renowned broodmares also two young mares changed owners – Zlota Gra (Gaspar – Zlota Gaza/Gazal Al Shaqab) for 5,500 PLN and Pantera (Ekstern – Pampa/Gazal Al Shaqab) for 18 thousand PLN. The offered stallions did not find buyers or did not achieve their reserve price. The prices for geldings oscillated between 2 and 10.5 thousand PLN. The total number of horses sold – 27.

As Director Bialobok said, it was a successful tender: "Mares always sell slowly, usually over the course of the year", he explains. "The fastest sellers are saddle horses, mainly for the German and Italian market." It is worth emphasizing that the tenders are open for everyone, which isn't obvious to all, especially foreign clients. "Foreign guests have the same right to participate as domestic buyers", confirms the director. "We have sold horses during tenders to Scandinavian countries and England. Once a

tender purchase was made by Shirley Watts." What kind of horses are offered at tenders? Usually those which are very suitable for breeding, but have some flaws, for example are blind in one eye. "The August auction at Janów Podlaski abides by its own, different rules", explains Jerzy Bialobok. "It's a prestigious event during which horses are bought under the flashes of cameras. So the offer must be close to perfect. Meanwhile we also have renowned horses, which can still successfully be active in breeding, but which for example due to their age struggle with certain problems. I think that this is a chance for those collectors who want to purchase a high quality horse, but don't necessarily have a bag full of money at their disposal. It is better to sell a horse with a flaw — which of course is publicly announced — directly from the stud than during the Janów sale."

It should be added that the Michalów tender was a sort of crowning event of an "Arabian week", which consisted of breeding inspections at three State Studs: Michalów, Białka and Janów Podlaski.





Polish breeders: Wojciech Parczewski, Henryk Ćwiertniak, Alicja Najmowicz, Małgorzata Pietrzak, Lech Błaszczyk and Krzysztof Dużyński



Michałów is also known as a breeder of beautiful Jersey cows





OM EL BENDIGO

grey 1997 (SANADIK EL SHAKLAN x OM EL BENEERA)











bay 2005 (FS BENGALI x BEY SANTEYNA)

colt 2010
(AJA SANTANA x AIDHA STAR)
CHAMPION FUTURITY MALE
ITALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
CITTA' DI CASTELLO 2010









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PURE BRED STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN ARABIAN HORSES







HORSES...

text by: Monika Luft

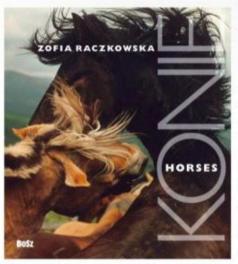
rabian horse enthusiasts do not need to be introduced to Zofia Raczkowska. We all know her portraits of Pilarka and Palas. Everyone has held more than one auction catalogue with her photographs in their hands. Zofia Raczkowska is an equine photography classic, next to Marian Gadzalski and Tadeusz Budziński. She has developed her own unique style, resembling that of a painter, often called "impressionistic". She liked to photograph horses mainly among natural scenery, out on pastures, where free and unhindered they most fully reveal their beauty.

Today large selection Raczkowska's photographs, including those most known, is brought to readers in a new album titled "Konie" ["Horses"], which has been published by BOSZ Publishing House. The album has been provided with a foreword by the Honorary President of the Polish Arabian Horse Breeders' Society, Izabella Pawelec-Zawadzka afterword by Jerzy Iwaszkiewicz. The photographs are accompanied by the artist's statements from family archives. I was born neither a poet nor a painter. Fate put a camera into my hands. I looked through the objective and saw that the

world was full of horses, so Raczkowska describes her calling. Because her life with horses is not only a passion and a job, but first and foremost a mission – a mission to immortalize beauty, which although short-lived, is reborn in subsequent generations.

Raczkowska began to love horses as early as during her childhood. - When I was little my dreams were about horses - she told polskiearaby.com in an interview. - I spent part of my childhood in the countryside and I remember I couldn't pass a horse without stroking it. My seven years older sister was riding a horse bareback and I was terribly jealous about it, and I was playing truant only to spend time in a pasture. I was trying to hide there but my sister could always spot me from her horse... In later years she took on the passion of photography from her husband Mirosław Raczkowski and combined it with her love for horses. Most of all - for Arabian horses. - It was in Janów Podlaski. I saw mares of all colours standing with their colts. It was a really breathtaking view. They spotted me and raised their heads vigilantly. When I took the camera I realized that my hands were shaking - it was a truly emotional experience.

In the album we read: Horses have always stirred my imagination and conjured up an indescribable excitement. I'd feel a painful lump in my throat at the sight of a galloping herd or a charging cavalry in a film, or even in when I heard the sound of cantering. The author's emotional relationship towards her photographed objects is more than evident. Raczkowska's horses are far from those perfectly posed, almost artificial models, with every hair in their coats groomed, owing a great part of their beauty to photoshop. They are living beings close to their natural environment, almost wild, with a stronger bond with nature than with man. They symbolize not only beauty, but also freedom, spirit and strength. Whether they are a group of peacefully grazing horses or a galloping herd, we have no doubts that they have been captured in the best possible moment.



The importance of the album is of great weight - not only as a documentation of Raczkowska's life full of passion, but also literally. It is a book of a significant size, thanks to which the qualities of the author's works could've been presented in their entirety. The reader can notice detail. appreciate composition of the frame, look into the eyes of the photographed objects. It's only a pity that there is a lack of basic information for the Arabian horse aficionado about who exactly is portrayed.... For the consummate "Arabianist" it is not the sole horse that is relevant, but also his pedigree,

which makes for a story carried in his genes and the associated with it hope for the future. Of course the most renowned stars are easily recognized – but that is not enough, we would also like to know the identity of other portrayed horses, or at least to know where they come from – Janów Podlaski, Michałów or perhaps Kurozwęki, as even there Zofia Raczkowska found her way with a camera. Although the album is not devoted solely to Arabians – the reader will find photographs of various breeds, also Scandinavian equines with which Raczkowska is greatly fascinated by, such as Fjords or the Norwegian Doles – it's still a shame that there is no index, which would serve as a guide at least to the "Arabian" identities for the more inquisitive readers.

The album's good point is definitely its bilingualism – beside the Polish version there is also its English counterpart, provided by Teresa Bałuk-Ulewiczowa.

Zofia Raczkowska: "Konie" ("Horses"), BOSZ 2011







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