



Taking on the World

by Samantha Mattocks

*photos: Gregor Aymar,
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RFI Farid has already gone down in the history books. In 2016, at the Paris World Championships, he was named Leading Sire of the Show – the first stallion in recent memory not from the Marwan Al Shaqab (Gazal Al Shaqab x Little Liza Fame) bloodlines to do so. In addition, RFI Farid was the sire of a Gold, Silver and Bronze Champion at the show. The changing of the guard has taken place – and RFI Farid is very definitely the new leading sire on the block.

Foaled in 2007, RFI Farid is now ten years of age and towards the end of 2016, he came under the ownership of The RFI Farid Partnership. Managed by Privilege Arabians in Belgium, with trainer Raphael Curti taking personal

responsibility for him, RFI Farid is a huge success story, and one that is sure to continue for generations to come.

RFI Farid was bred in Brazil at RFI Arabians and while still a young foal, he won the first of many titles. At nine months of age, RFI Farid was sold to Aretusa Arabians in Italy, and later, to Al Hawajer Stud in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. For both farms, RFI Farid was a winner in the show-ring, and it was from these early wins – including the 2009 Italian National Colt Championship – that his reputation quickly grew.

RFI Farid was sired by RFI Arabians' lead sire, the late RFI Maktub sired by the RSD Dark Victory (Bey Shah x Kamasi Sabaha by Khemosabi) son,









2007 bay stallion

RFI MAKTUB*
dkb/br 1998
PART-BRED ARAB

ALTAM YSHMAYL*
blk/br 1995
PART-BRED ARAB

RFI CYNTHILLATION*
gr 1994
ARABIAN

SHIRAZ EL JAMAAL*
b 1996
ARABIAN

RFI FAYARA EL SHIRAZ
gr 2002
ARABIAN

FIRE GLORY
gr 1995
ARABIAN

RSD DARK VICTORY*
blk/br 1985
ARABIAN

YAMINA
b 1984

NINJAH EL JAMAAL*
gr 1991
ARABIAN

C CYNADRA
ARABIAN

ALI JAMAAL*
b 1982
ARABIAN

SATYNA
gr 1986
ARABIAN

NV SURE FIRE*
blk/br 1983
ARABIAN

KEY OF GLORY JP
gr 1991
ARABIAN

BEY SHAH*
b 1976

KAMASI SABAHA*
b 1976

KHIVAN
1979

MELILA
1979

ALI JAMAAL*
b 1982

NAHARRA
gr 1980

HFS PHOENIX

C CHERRY

RUMINAJA ALI*
gr 1976

HERITAGE MEMORY*
b 1971

ETAT*
gr 1981

SCHEPIERA
b 1980

ALADDINN*
b 15.0 1975

BINT MISS FIRE*
b 1976

NAADIR
gr 1985

AF BEULAH
1982

BAY EL BEY*
STAR OF OFIR*

KHEMOSABI*
GAVADRAFF*

KHAN SHADOW
NAREENA

BRUTUS
LAMALEF

RUMINAJA ALI*
HERITAGE MEMORY*

EL SHAKLAN*
NIHARRA*

ANSATA ABU TAI*
FAKHERS DEBORAH

DEWAJTIS*
CZAREVNA

SHAIKH AL BADI*
BINT MAGIDAA*

EL MAGATO*
HERITAGE LABELLE*

PEPI*
ETAZERKA*

PIERROT*
SCHEHERAZADE

NUREDDIN*
LALAGE*

GDANSK*
MISS FIRE*

AMAAL*
NAADA

ANSATA EL TAREEF*
AF REBECA

Altam Yshmayl, a stallion of rare, old bloodlines through his dam, Yamina. She is sired by Khivan (Khan Shadow x Nareena by Berenice), a stallion with classic Crabbet/Old English lines mixed with Polish. RFI Maktub's dam brings in the Egyptian, Polish and Russian lines, being RFI Cynthillation (Ninjah El Jamaal x C Cynadra

by HFS Phoenix), with Ali Jamaal (Ruminaja Ali x Heritage Memory by El Magato) and El Shaklan (Shaker El Masri x Estopa by Tabal) featuring in her pedigree.

Looking to RFI Farid's damline, we have RFI Fayara El Shiraz, a mare that reinforces that Ali Jamaal influence through her sire, Shiraz El Jamaal







(Ali Jamaal x Satyna by Etat), with his damline bringing in more Polish bloodlines, being pure Polish. RFI Fayara El Shiraz is out of Fire Glory (NV Sure Fire x Key of Glory JP by Naadir) who is, again, predominantly Polish but this time with a very strong

Egyptian influence through the granddam.

Looking at RFI Farid's pedigree, it is clear that he is of totally different bloodlines to many of the modern-day stallions – and that these are very proven bloodlines. For many, RFI Farid



Madinat Al Baydaa

is a breath of fresh air in the modern breeding world.

As a show horse, RFI Farid enjoyed great success. In addition to the titles already mentioned, he had a stellar three-year-old year, taking the Gold

Junior Male Championship at the International B Kauber Platte Show in Germany, and repeating this title, plus Best in Show, at the International B Show in Verona. At the All Nations' Cup in Germany, he placed Bronze



Junior Male Champion, and he finished the year as Bronze Junior Male World Champion in Paris. As a stallion, FRI Farid was named Austrian International Silver Champion in 2011, and he followed this with a Gold Senior Male Champion title at the Elran Cup.

In 2012, RFI Farid was crowned Silver Senior Male Champion at the Sharjah International Arabian Horse Festival. One of RFI Farid's early superstar sons was Antaris OS (ex Justina by WH Justice out of Virginia), a 2012 colt who took the show-ring by storm in



Sheikha Aljuman

his yearling year. As well as taking the Silver Yearling Colt Championship at the Mediterranean & Arab Countries Arabian Horse Championship in Menton. He then went on to take the Gold Yearling Male Championship at the All Nations' Cup in Aachen and

was then named Gold Yearling Male World Champion in Paris.

Another colt that has shone is the three-year-old colt Al Aryam Amgaad (RFI Farid x Al Aryam Aleena by WH Justice). In his two-year-old year, he took the titles of Gold Junior Male



Antaris OS





Esplendida



HDM Maria Apal

Championship at both the Ajman Arabian Horse Show and the UK International Arabian Horse Show, as well as Silver Junior Male Champion at the Arabian Horse Organization (AHO) World Cup in Chantilly and Bronze Champion at the Abu Dhabi National Show.

Looking at RFI Farid's daughters, we have the beautiful MM Esplendida (ex MM Eluise by WH Justice out of Esfera). Her many successes include Gold Yearling Female Champion at the AHO Breeders' Cup, Chantilly, and Gold Junior Female Champion at the International C Show at Stadl Paura. That same year, in 2013, she was named Bronze Yearling Female Champion at the All Nations' Cup in Aachen and Silver Yearling Female Champion at the European Championships in Verona. In 2014, MM Esplendida was named Best Mare in Show, Best Horse in Show, and Gold Junior Female Champion at the European Breeders' Cup in Chantilly.

It is clear to see from these few examples that RFI Farid is not only a great producer, but a producer of champions. At last year's Paris World Championships, when he was named Leading Sire, he sired the Gold, Silver and Bronze Yearling Female Champions, no small feat. These were Gold, D Ajayeb (ex Ladi Veronika by Versace out of Nisrs Natevka), Silver, HDM Maria Apal (ex Imania Apal by Psytadel out of SA Anna Linah), and Bronze, Madinat Al Baydaa (ex TS Madeleine by Ansata Sinan out of Thee Sharaq).

The future is bright for RFI Farid. Over 300 breedings were sold at the end of 2016, and with last year's foals ready to make their debut this season, we can be sure that the RFI Farid name will be one that lasts. I have a feeling that we have yet to see the very best of what

this impressive stallion can do – and he has already had some amazing results through his progeny, who are among some of the most beautiful horses in the world. The RFI Farid story is one that has only just begun. ○