

Simeon Stud

by David Gillett ■ photos by Stuart Vesty, Gregor Aymar



***A**s 2012 gives way to 2013, Australia is experiencing record temperatures with long hot summer days turn to even longer hot summer nights. A visit to Simeon at this time finds oneself surrounded by beautiful Arabian horses who are in their element. Ethereal, dry and athletic, they spend the days relaxing in the shade of the huge jacaranda trees while each morning and evening, they can be seen galloping in herds around their paddocks.*

Over the past several years many major changes have taken place at the farm, beginning with the death of head sires Asfour (Malik x Hanan) and Imperial Madaar (Imperial Madheen x Ansata Nile Mist) and several of the best mares including Simeon Sukari (Asfour x 27 Ibn Galal V), Simeon Setavi (Simeon Sadik x Nameeza) and during 2012, the impressive bay Simeon Safran (Anaza Bay Shabb x Simeon Sukari), one of Marion's favourite mares.



Simeon Shalal (Asfour x Simeon Simona)

Of the original three sires, Anaza Bay Shabb of course still remains and at 26 years young, he is living out his days in his pasture. Anaza Bay Shabb has left an amazing legacy for the Simeon breeding program. Marion Richmond reflects "For those who may not know, in 1975 I saw a mare named Deena from the EAO, whose movement and large, dark eyes gave me goosebumps. I vowed to have her blood in my breeding program." Sired by Shaikh Al Badi, who is famous in his own right for siring numerous amazing sons and daughters and from the elegant Bint Deena, Anaza Bay Shabb is still to this day the most expensive purchase for Simeon. "It took me four years to pay him off!"

Anaza Bay Shabb himself has amazing, silk-like skin with prominent, black eyes with wrinkles above them and in the summertime, he has absolutely no facial hair. His feet are still perfect, a feature that he produces as well as a wonderfully deep, strong body and excellent length of hip. We have several daughters retained including two black mares from Simeon Simona (Asfour x 27 Ibn Galal V) and many grand daughters. We have retained a yearling son from Si-

meon Saadia (Imperial Madaar x Simeon Saada) as well as two grandsons being Simeon Shifran (Asfour x Simeon Shavit) who is producing amazing foals, and the yearling Simeon Shanun (Imperial Madaar x Simeon Safran) who will play a significant role in the future of the breeding program.

We have also used a fine young stallion Simeon Samech (Anaza Bay Shabb x Simeon Saada) with excellent results.

"I just love Anaza Bay Shabb" says Marion. "One of our latest visitors was Bart Von Bruggenhart who wrote in our visitors book that it had been an honour to see such an amazing stallion." It is a sentiment often shared with those who meet him.

In recent times new lines have been incorporated into the stud, most notably being the MB Talmaar daughter Simeon Seda (from Raffaala by Dalul), whose family continues to grow and produce exciting individuals including the current show filly Simeon Seis, by Imperial Madaar from Simeon Se, an Asfour/Simeon Seda daughter.



Anaza Bay Shahh (Shaikh Al Badi x Bint Deena)
(pictured at 26 years old)



CM Moussameh
(Mulayh Ibn Maareesa x Moussah Bint Moussameh)



Immesmerize (Imtaarif x Bint Mareekh Amir)



Simeon Saadik (Simeon Sadik x MB Sahamenna)

A second MB Talmaar daughter has also been added to the herd. Her name is Simeon Shoshana and she is the daughter of MB Masaleena (Imperial Madheen x MB Masail by Dalul), and she will deliver her first foal in late 2013 by Immesmerize.

Perhaps the most significant change within the stud in recent years has been the incorporation of four new horses from Germany into the breeding program. The stallion Mulayh Ibn Maareesa (Ansata Amir Zaman x Maareesa) and his daughter CM Moussameh (x Moussab Bint Moussameh) joined two older mares, El Dahma II (Montasar x Bint Iman) and Mussallah (Montasar x Mohebbia Bint Maymoonah) on their journey to Australia. They have proven to be an excellent cross on the Simeon stock. They look to be passing on their beautiful black eyes, keeping stretch and elegance, while adding more leg on some lines of the original breeding stock.

In their first year at Simeon each of the three mares that arrived from Germany produced a daughter. Both El Dahma

II and Mussallah produced daughters by Simeon Shifran in 2011, and CM Moussameh produced a filly sired by Massalam (Montasar x Massilah), imported in utero.

So exciting was the arrival of these German horses, only two of the Simeon stallions were used widely at stud last year. Aside of one by Immesmerize (Imtaarif x Bint Mareekh Amir), all of the foals born this season are sired by either the homebred Simeon Shifran (Asfour x Simeon Shavit) or the German Mulayh Ibn Maareesa.

Simeon undertook an extensive embryo transfer program in 2011, and we are now seeing the results of our efforts. This program meant that older mares such as El Dahma II, Mussallah and Simeon Shuala could be bred to either or perhaps both stallions, ensuring their continued contribution to the breeding program while also identifying quickly how these German lines worked on different lines within the program. After much anticipation, late 2012 saw the arrival of the first of these foals.



Simeon Shanhav (Simeon Shifran x Simeon Seda)



Simeon Shanun (Imperial Madaar x Simeon Safran)



Simeon Samira (Simeon Shifran x Mussallah)



Simeon Sumaq (MB Mayal x Simeon Sibolet)

The first Australian born progeny of Mulayh Ibn Maareesa are very promising, and at the time of writing include an extreme bay colt and a pretty grey filly from Simeon Salit (Asfour x Simeon Shavit), who is perhaps the most exotic of all the Asfour daughters. She is also a full sister to our stallion Simeon Shifran.

Her mother, the supreme broodmare Simeon Shavit (Anaza Bay Shabb x Simeon Safanad) had her first Mulayh baby on January 3rd, our first for 2013. She is a very pretty filly, and as expected is bay. She has since delivered a second bay filly by Mulayh Ibn Mareesa who is just as lovely.

The much-loved Simeon Saada (Asfour x Simeon Safanad) gave us a bay filly by Mulayh Ibn Mareesa, so exceptional she looks like a baby fawn and a very lovely grey colt. Simeon Sanaa (Imperial Madaar x Simeon Sukari) also gave us an amazing filly, this time in grey. Her maternal half-sister Simeon Sayver (Anaza Bay Shabb x Simeon Sukari) produced a beautiful chestnut colt by Mulayh Ibn Maareesa.

Simeon Simone (Asfour x Simeon Simona) produced a very tall bay filly in late 2012, while Simeon Se (Asfour x Simeon Seda) continues her run of producing superb offspring with her filly by Mulayh Ibn Maareesa, an extremely pretty grey. At such a young age, Simeon Se has proven herself as a show horse and now with her progeny, both exceptional fillies.

Mulayh's German born daughter CM Moussameh had four foals by Simeon Shifran this year, a precious grey filly and three super colts, one of which will be retained as a future herd sire. Each of these foals showcase the qualities of both families that we aspire to breed, and to have several of them is so precious.

Simeon Sanaa (Imperial Madaar x Simeon Sukari) has had two foals by Simeon Shifran, both a colt and a filly. The filly is gorgeous, and the colt superb.

Immesmerize and Simeon Samra (Asfour x Simeon Shavit) gave us a bay, big-eyed colt who is very beautiful. He has the



Simeon Shoshana

(MB Talmaar x MB Masaleena)

potential to be a very good stallion. More foals are due in the coming weeks.

Everyone at Simeon were saddened to hear of the passing of the great Simeon Sadik (Asfour x Simeon Safanad) at Halsdon Arabians in the UK. He was an ethereal, elegant horse such as is rarely seen. At home we are lucky to have amongst our herd his excellent three-year-old son, Simeon Saadik from the tall and stretchy MB Sahamenna as well his grand get, the stallion Simeon Sabron and the exquisite young mare Simeon Shekhara who are full siblings, being by Imperial Madaar from Simeon Setavi (Simeon Sadik x Nameeza).

Simeon Saadik is but one of several colts that have been retained by Simeon over the last several breeding seasons. Each year seems to bring another special, must-have colt to the fore.



Filly (Mulayh Ibn Maareesa x Simeon Salit)

After the death of his parents Imperial Madaar and Simeon Safran, we have decided to keep the tall and elegant grey Simeon Shanun as another replacement for his sire. He joins the proven Simeon Sahron (x Simeon Setavi) who is producing amazing eyes, neck and hindquarter and the yearling Simeon Shulchan (Anaza Bay Shabb x Simeon Saadia).

Now is the perfect time to visit Australia, and should you make it 'down under' we invite you to spend a morning at Simeon Stud walking amongst our mares and foals, enjoying the sunshine. We feel truly blessed by the horses we are breeding, and love nothing more than to share them with like-minded others. □



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