

# Jadem Arabians

## *The finest selection of breeding stallions since 1978*

by Talitha Bakker ■ photos by Erwin Escher, Antonia Bautista,  
Cécile Marleix Thala Photographie, Ricard Cunill SIR Photography, Javan, Gregor Aymar, Sabrina Elderhorst

**“W**ith one acre, two arabian mares and a deep love for horses Jadem Arabian was born”. Jadem Arabians, founded many years ago by Guy and Christine Jamar, is the largest pure Polish Arabian stud in Belgium. The stud, run by Christine is the home of about 100 horses, 65 Horses of her own and about 30 Horses of clients. An average of 20 foals are born each spring. This year sees Jadem Arabians celebrating 37 years of breeding pure-bred Arabian horses, 25 years of which has been spent breeding pure Polish lines. Owned by Christine Jamar-Demeersseman, with the support of her husband Guy, this amazing stud with 22 ha, located in Balen, near Antwerp in Belgium, is a dream place for the horses that live there.

Christine bought her first Arabian in 1978. Originally, the Jadem breeding program was based on Russian bloodlines, but after a few visits to Poland, Christine was thrilled with the beautiful mares she had seen there. In 1991, the Jamars bought 10 pure Polish Arabian Horses and leased one stallion, Pyrrus, in the United States opening a new era in Jadem Arabians history.



The house of the fairytale

Christine Jamar is active in many facets of the breed. For 20 years she organized a popular annual National show at her farm. All the profits of this show go to an organization for the adult mentally handicapped people in her village. Every year, beginning of March, she organizes a stallion parade in her beautiful indoor arena. Over the 300 spectators can choose out of several stallions the best partner for their mares. 6 to 8 breedings of important stallions, kindly donated by the owners, are auctioned. The total amount goes to 'de Schakel', an institution for adult mentally handicapped people of our village. It's always a big success. It's always a very pleasant day with food and drinks.

Christine is also an international judge with the privilege of a critical eye

which contributes greatly to her breeding program as well as show ring successes.

Christine takes care of all the details at the farm. She is really full of experience, power and charisma.

She can do more than one thing at a time with competence.

She especially enjoys helping a mare give birth. She said: "to watch the wet foal shaking its head and looking amazed into



Christine and Guy



Indoor arena at Jadem Arabians



New barns built

*a new world for the first time, is a very special thrill. Then I also look at the foal, critically, to see if I did my job good or less good. the year before. To breed a good foal gives me the greatest satisfaction...much more so than winning in the show ring!" TuttoArabi always visits Christine Jamar a few times a year, never missing the annual open day organized after the All Nations Cup.*

*Christine really knows how to do a party and how to make people crazy about the beautiful foals she shows every year.*

*Visiting Christine is also an educational moment: her story, her experience and her advice are something to remember.*

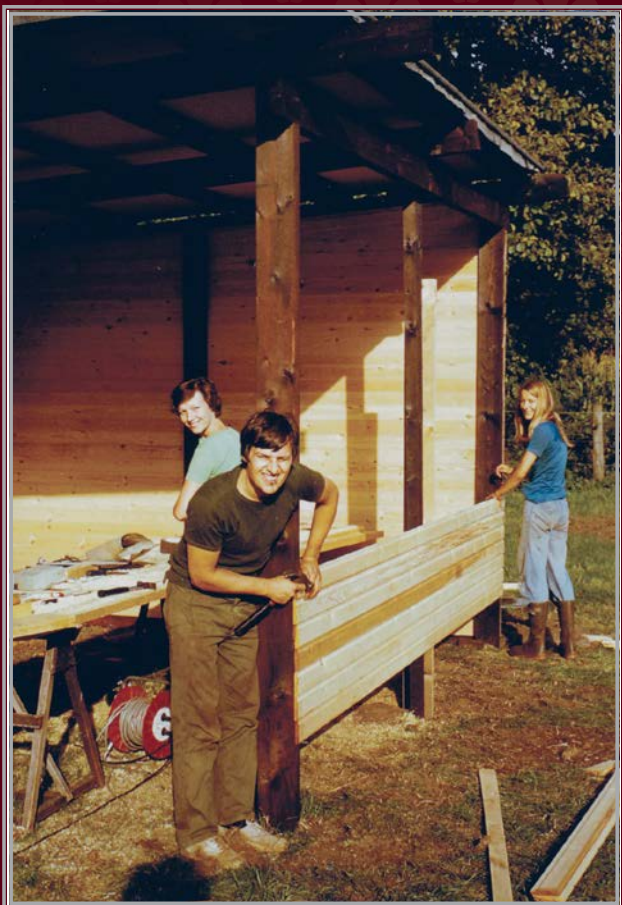
*For all these reasons Jadem Arabians is surely a place to visit in Europe. It is worth going to admire this peaceful farm, whose name is associated worldwide with quality, class and beauty. During our last visit to Christine we had the chance to have an interview with her.*

**Christine when did you become inflamed with the passion of Arabian Horses?**

*I was fascinated by horses since I was a young child. When I was 8 years old, I asked my father to learn horseback riding. My father was a Doctor and didn't like to see his only daughter with broken arm or leg. So he said when you are 12 years old,*

*you can learn horseback riding hoping that I would forget it. Of course I didn't and so I started to learn horseback riding. I was quiet good in it and I specialized myself in show jumping till my engagement with Guy. He didn't like to miss me every weekend when I was out of the house for the competitions, so I quitted the show jumping and was thinking of breeding. I have chosen for Arabian horses because I was admiring their beauty and loved their intelligence and nice character. So Guy and I bought 2 pregnant mares in 1978 about 4 months before our marriage. 2 years later we went with a yearling filly and a 3 month old colt to our first show. It was a popular International show, here in Belgium and the results were fantastic, 2 first places and one junior colt champion. The junior championships existed of foals, yearlings, 2 and 3 year old colts. So it was a strong competition. As the results were better than I hoped, I got really fascinated by the Arabian horse and I started to read a lot about them. I also followed all the seminars (specially in Holland) that were hold. I tried not to miss any show and was asking the judges for answers on my questions. They were always very helpful. Also the breeders of my horses were very patient to share their experience with me till early in the morning. I got very passionate.*





Christine, Guy's cousin Mich with his wife Marcella building the first 4 stables

*Everybody who comes to visit Jadem Arabians is impressed about the organization of the stud, the clinic and the quality of the horses. Can you explain our readers how has the stud been developed through the years?*

*As I told you, we started in 1978 with 2 mares. We built our stables in wood ourselves together with a cousin of my husband and his wife. They were located close to the house where we were living at that time. The more babies were born, the more stables we added every year till we had 12 horses. In 1982 we bought the house, where we are living now. I fell in love with the whole property at first sight. It was covered with 15 cm snow and looked like a fairytale. It was very peaceful. We built the first stable for 25 horses and a stable for 10 cheep. At those days we were breeding Russian and Russian cross with Crabbet/Polish horses. We were very successful at the shows. I worked very hard but I loved it. Maybe it's hard to believe for some people that I have taken care of my horses by my selves for many years and I was always happy. I was lucky that a school girl (12 years) offered her helping hands in every free time she had. She was also crazy about the horses, later on, she worked for me until she became mom and had twins. Meanwhile we continued breeding, showing, selling and building more stables. In 1990, a lot happened. I started my National Artificial*



Christine showing their horses in the first show

*Insemination center. I got the best teacher I could ever dream of, it was a professor of the University of Utrecht (Holland), who took the time to come time to time. In the same year, I started to look for pure Polish mares in the USA and at the auctions in Poland. At that time, there was a serious crisis in the horse business in the USA and I could buy very nice horses with super pedigrees. My choice went to Bandos, Eucaliptus and Bask blood.*



Guy Jamar building the first stables





## Emerald J & Gallardo J

Our 2 homebred stallions winning the Gold Champion Junior & Senior Medal at the Dubai International Arabian Horse Festival in March 2015, in excellent cooperation with Al Muawd Stud

*A lot of stallions came to add some different blood Pyrrus (Bandos x Pascha), Pegaz (Palas x Pliszka), Gwizd (Probat x Gwiazda), Ekstern (Monogramm x Ernestyna), QR Marc (Marwan Al Shaqab x Swete Dreams), Emerald J (QR Marc x Emandoria). All different layers. After 25 years of Pure Polish breeding and selection, I can say that I am happy with the result. Not 1 but 2 Champions in Dubai this year!! Emerald J Senior Gold Champion and his son Gallardo J, by Emerald J out of the Ekstern daughter Gomera J was named Junior Gold Champion colt. Now we are thinking about the next step in our breeding program.*

*9 Years ago we built the new barns, (Stallions and mares separated), Laboratories, conform the EU rules for an AI Center. Offices, Seminar room, room to receive guests and an apartment for groomers. An indoor arena that can be used when it's too cold or too hot outside. The whole new concept makes everything more easy and better organized. My broodmares are separated of the guest horses that come for breeding or for training. This helps a lot against diseases.*

*We grew so much that we have between 8 to 10 people working in the farm, me not included. Thanks God, I have very good staff that loves the horses and the job. Every member is very dedicated so I feel very comfortable when I travel. For a breeder and owner of very exceptional and mostly expensive horses this is worth a lot. Since 2 years we have a manager Vet Dr. Koen Carrein who takes care of the stallions, mares and embryo transfers. To make the "picture" complete, we have our own Arabian recipient mares.*

*Dominique, our personal assistant takes care of all the office work, mails and telephone calls.*

*Dorien, Michelle, Joyce, Ingrid and Frederik take care of the daily conditioning and grooming of the training horses and Lisa, Pawel, Jan take care of the breeding mares and their foals. We can also count on the helping hands of Günther and some students when we need an extra hand.*

*We are like one big family!*

*Which is the horse who gave you the greatest satisfaction in*





*Emerald J*  
(QR MARC x EMANDORIA)

*Gallardo J*  
(EMERALD J x GOMERA J)

*the past years?*

*All my mares give me a great satisfaction as they give me every year a new foal, what I enjoy the most.*

*But one horse means something very special to me and this is the stallion EKSTERN. He was not only a super show horse (13 shows - 13 times Champion stallion including Triple Crown), but a top producer. He loved the shows. The more the public was clapping, screaming and stamping with the feet, the more he was dancing and showing off. He got almost always 20 for his spectacular trot. Eric Dorsers was his handler and they loved each other. This is one of the reasons of the great success in the show ring.*

*He was a wonderful breeding stallion, the most important for me was his foal crop. Amazing what he did in the reproduction. Other stallions need 2 or 3 generations to improve the mare, he did it in one generation. His best babies came out of my Eucaliptus and Bandos daughters. Those daughters are great producers too. Example is Gallardo J multiple Gold Champion colt and this year Dubai Gold Champion Junior Colts.*

*Ekstern has also a wonderful character. Put your head against his shoulder and you can easily fall asleep with him. I enjoyed*

*that horse every day that he was at my farm, for that reason my staff named him Christine's boyfriend. He will be in my heart forever.*

*The last one was a year of great success for Jadem Arabians. Could you tell us which are the most important moments you will remember of the 2014 show season?*

*We love the show in Holland St Oedenrode where our young horses start the season. It's always exciting to see what they do in the show ring. The shows in Brecht, Kokzijde and Ströben or also important B-shows for us. Big outside arena's.*

*I think for me the show that I liked the most was Chantilly. It's a very nice show with very good selection: only horses which have been bred and are still owned by the same person can participate. This is a fantastic idea. Too often people forget the breeders. The breeders put the money in the horse business and they deserve attention as it cost a lot of money before you can bring a horse to the shows. The show is super organized and there is always a relaxed atmosphere. We had great results 4 horses at the show: 2 yearling fillies: Mounira J (Emerald J x Magnificent Lady J by Extreme) was named*

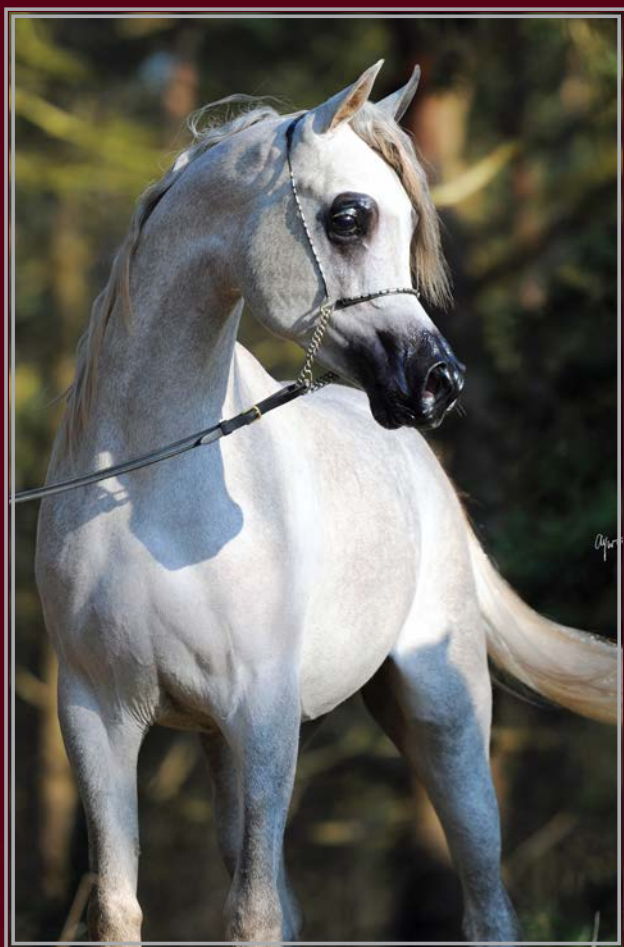




Excalibur EA, owned by Las Rosas Arabians



Mounira J, owned by Al Muawd Stud



Shiraz De Lafon



Ekstern World Champion Stallion 2000



Pianissima, World Champion Mare, successfully trained at Jadem Arabians

*Gold Champion, yearling filly. Firenze J (Shael Dream Desert x Fudala J by Ekstern) was Top 5 and missed with 1 point the Bronze Medal. Mississippi J (QR Marc x Magnificent Lady J) was named Silver Champion Junior Filly. Gallardo J (Emerald J x Gomera J by Ekstern) received the title Gold Champion yearling Colt. So this a day never to forget. Except of the trophies we won some price money, in this way all the*

*travel and show expenses were covered. Double Big Smile!!! Of course the World Championships were also a highlight for us. Together with Mrs. Olivia Strauch, I convinced Princess Leatitia d'Arenberg to send her stallion Excalibur to Europe last year in the springtime. I knew it was her dream to participate in Paris one day. We did participate in Paris and with a super result. Thanks to the team work of Jadem Arabians, Las Rosas*





Eberia Reserve Champion Mare at Towerland 2009



Lorenzo at European Championship

*Arabians and Schoukens Training Center Excalibur became Gold Champion Stallion. Princes Leatitia said 'a child's dream came true'. We all were really happy for her and her family. Now the stallion is at our farm, and we have the privilege to enjoy his beauty every day.*

*In a breeder life there are moments of happiness and moments of woe.*

*You have always managed them both very well.*

*Can you describe how did you manage them in the past to continue with the arabian horses even when you didn't see results. Especially in this economic life moment we guess your advise are important to the breeders. Please tell us*

*In life there is always sunshine after rain. Thanks God. I am a very positive minded person. 'Never give up' and 'nothing is impossible' are my well known slogans at the farm. Disappointments, bad luck, difficulties, sadness, ... belongs to life as well as happiness, luck, love etc... I always try to find a balance. I am a perfectionist and I give always myself if I take any challenge. Hard work and discipline helps to reach the goal. In business, it's very important that you look on long terms. Both parties must be happy and so you can create a nice relationship that will help you also in the bad times. If the incomes are less, you have to try to make less costs, but this may never affect the horses and the people that take care of them. If you love your horses, it's not so difficult. When I make good money I always*

*safe it and that was my luck before the crises of 2008. Always remember after the seven prospers years you have seven mean years. This has always been in history.*

*For many years you have been a well respected judge. Please tell us about the changes which took place over the time regarding the horses, the people and the judging itself.*

*For me judging didn't change very much. The quality of the horses and the presentation of the horses in the show ring changed a lot, as well as the behavior of the owners and handlers. For me judging horse is doing like an exam. I don't like to do mistakes, so you must be concentrated all the time and this is not always easy if you have a lot of horses to judge. A good ring master and DC are a big help for us so that everything is good organized and safe. This improved true the years. The horses are in much better show condition as years ago, the handlers know their job very well to present the horse in his utmost best. So as judge you must be very aware of it.*

*I feel that the handler are more stressed. Normal stress in competition is good, but I HATE to see horses shaking from fear and standing with big scaring eyes. I hate when a handler use a whip to hit and scare a horse. This for me unacceptable stupidity. I like to judge horse when I can enjoy their beauty in a serene way. I love seeing horses trotting full of joy and if they snore it's a plus for type. Luckily the most of the handlers are fine.*





Frederik and Gallardo J



Happy moments with friends in the USA



Mississippi J in Chantilly presented by Frederik Van Sas

*Those days the owners are more stressed as years ago. We always had bad losers, but now sometimes they take the result too personal. Anyway the winners will be always happy.*

*Since last year Jadem Arabians has a new resident trainer, the well-known Frederik Van Sas. Could you tell us more about him?*

*Frederik is a very good ambitious handler and this is perfect what we needed. He is very good with the horses and he takes all the time necessary to prepare them for the show. We don't want many horses in training. We prefer a few very good quality horses so we can prepare them the best. Frederik is very talented and he always likes to learn, what I appreciate very much. I like to see him horses showing, because the horse is his friend and this is the best way to be successful. The horse shows because he likes it. He is supported by very good trainers and conditioners, Dorien, Michelle, Joyce and Ingrid.*

*A good team is the key to success.*

*We are very curious to know how is the daily life in Jadem Arabians: can you reveal us something about?*

*At Jadem Arabians the daily life starts early in the morning by feeding the horses and putting the horses out, we see to it*

*that every horse is going out every day, or in the pasture, in a paddock and/or being trained. We find it is very important for a horse to be out of his stable and has a social life every day. Organizing this for all the horses at the farm, requires a good schedule, which have to be changed a lot. For example when we see a horse is nervous at some place, we will look for another solution. After the horses went out, we start cleaning stables, scanning and inseminating mares, collecting stallions, grooming and training the horses. In the afternoon we start getting in all the horses, after they are in, or being trained we groom them. This is shortly explained how a day at Jadem Arabians normally looks like, off course there are many more things that have to be done and sometimes our whole schedule needs to be changed when clients come to visit or if the photographer comes by. Luckily my staff is the most flexible and always willing to help.*

*Let's talk about the European Championship, the show you have been organized for years, gaining always more success time after time. Last year you found a new great location in Lier, Belgium. How did you find?*

*Last year, it was quiet a stressful year concerning the European Championships as we had to move from location twice. The*





HRH Prince Abdulaziz from Atbah Stud and Christine in Dubai



Christine and Mrs. Izabella Zawadzka



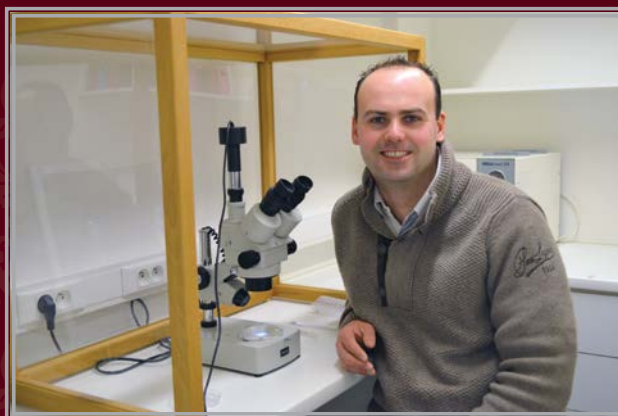
Visit to Al Khalediah Farm Poland, the place where Mr. Ignacy Jaworowski (the founder of Michalow Stud) was born



Izabella giving to Christine a medal for the successful support of the Polish Arabian

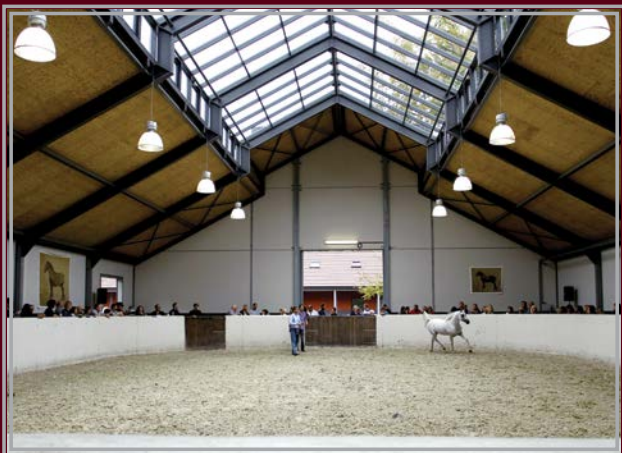


Christine, Olivia and Murillo Kammer



Dr. Koen Carrein, vet and manager





Open Day at Jadem Arabians

2 previous infrastructures were in financial problems. I knew the horse center Azelhof in Lier since 1990 as we held also a successful European Championship that year. I heard that everything was very nice renovated and Carl Van Roosbroeck, partner in this organization, and I went to the Belgium Nationals, which was held in 'Azelhof' in September, to see how the working of the catering and technical service was operated. We found it super and the owner was very excited. We have a team since more than 20 years that always is looking forward to help organize the European Championships. It's hard work, but they love it and you can feel this in the result. Koen Detailleur stayed the whole week before the show with our team to do the decoration. He really is very talented to find always another Theme. Last year it was Theatre. The red curtains and carpet gave a very cozy impression. We got the most entries of all the horse shows, held in Europe with 196 horses for halter classes and 10 for the Ridden Classes. We had a super judging and DC team and more than 95% participants were very happy with the weekend. As a display, we asked the Flying Frenchman Lorenzo to come with his 12 white horses. Everybody loved the amazing spectacle, which was shown during the reception on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. On Saturday evening we had the traditional party

with good food and drinks. The breeders love it as it is a way of de-stress and built up the network.

Of course it's always difficult to start in a new place. You have to negotiate with new suppliers, catering, media, hotels, transport companies, insurance companies etc. At the end we were very pleased and happy that everything went fluently in a very nice atmosphere, with no accidents. We are already looking forward to surprise the participants with new items for the next edition.

**Thank you Christine. The last question: how do you think we could improve the shows and how can we try to draw the attention of new people to the arabian horses world?**

In the Horse World generally, it's hard to compete against racing, show jumping or dressage. The Arabian Horses Show is something typical for people that like horses almost like a pat. So in my opinion is it very important that the shows are hold in a good atmosphere with food and drinks, not too expensive, to attract the people that can be candidate to buy an Arabian Horse. The Media is one of the most important keys and by several organizers the most time forgotten. We make publicity on TV channels, radio, magazines and news papers, 2 weeks before the show. We also invite them to come during the show so



*they can make a report and make the promotion for next time. The amateur show can also be a new push. People can participate, learn and start to get attracted by the Pure Bred Arabian horse. Another good item is prize money to win. Prize money in the shows will always help to make people more excited to participate. Look what happens in the Middle East; Their shows are very successful, where 400 entries is not an exception. I think introducing a combination of all this can be an improvement to attract more people for the future shows.*

*We leave Jadem Arabians with a great enthusiasm. We suggest to all the breeders to visit Jadem Arabian to see with their eyes the farm and to have the chance to talk with Christine. It will be something you will keep in your mind forever. □*



People at our after Aachen party watching the foals



Jadem ArabiansTeam



*Jadem Arabians*

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