

# RFI ARABIANS *and the legacy of*

# RFI Maktub

by Rogério Santos



photo by Gigi Grasso



The Brazilian Breeders' Cup is a great way to evaluate the extraordinary genetic power of RFI Maktub. For those who devote themselves to the selection of Arabian Horses in Brazil, winning the always very competitive Breeders' Cup is the proof that such work has reached the highest level of excellence in the year.

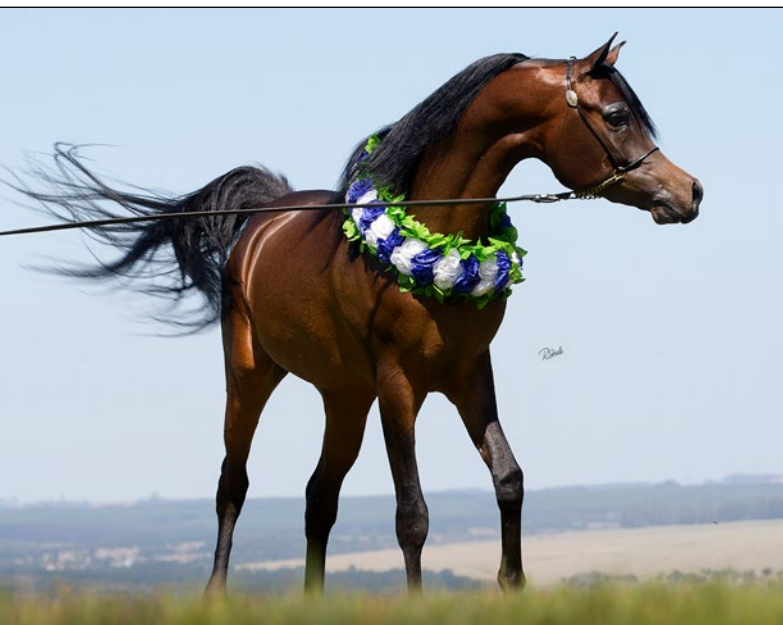
At the Breeders' Cup, the breeders are allowed to register up to four horses from their own breeding, from six to 36 months of age necessarily, both male and female. The Breeders' Cup title goes to the breeder who totals the highest number of points in the evaluation of their animals.

RFI Arabians won its first Brazilian Breeders' Cup in 2011, at the time with four offspring of RFI Maktub, and then winning the Breeders' Cup again in 2017, this time however, the four horses presented had RFI Maktub to call their grandsire. "For us, such result symbolizes RFI Maktub capability of passing on to his descendants more than morphological characteristics and reproductive superiority," affirms Rodrigo Forte, the founder of the prefix RFI. "This result was the confirmation that RFI Maktub established a high-quality genetic imprint and that should remain in the history of the Arabian horse," concludes Leopoldo Coutinho, who has been Rodrigo's adviser for 22 years in the breeding program management.

RFI Maktub's short reproductive life, only six years, was enough for him to leave his mark as an outstanding sire.

From his singular genetics, the well-known RFI Farid (x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal) was the first to arrive. He was 2007 Brazilian National Reserve Jr Jr Champion Colt and exported to Europe soon after, where he was notorious on the shows, especially in reproduction, standing out as one of the most remarkable stallions in the world nowadays. In 2016, RFI Farid achieved an unprecedented feat; three of his daughters were World Champion Filly: D Ajayeb (Gold Champion), HDM Maria Apal (Silver Champion) and Madinat Al Baydaa (Bronze Champion); and Farid himself conquered the title of the Best Stallion of Salon du Cheval.

At RFI Arabians, Rodrigo and Leopoldo have selected five sons of RFI Maktub that have been breeding a selected group of mares in order to evaluate who should carry on the work initiated by RFI Maktub. The most advanced at the moment and one of the two oldest is Quasim CRH. He was acquired at side of Maxine CRH, when he was only five months old, while his father RFI Maktub was still alive. The quality of Quasim CRH was the main reason behind Rodrigo's decision to buy Maxine CRH, daughter of the Brazilian National Reserve Champion Stallion Nuzyr HCF (AF Don Giovanni x NV Ali Bey by Ali Jamaal). Despite the short time, Quasim has proved himself a stallion of great quality and potential. He is the father of the 2016 Brazilian National Bronze Champion Jr Jr Filly RFI Fahaara AlMaktub (x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal), that, with another gorgeous



**RFI Splendor**  
(El Tino x RFI Sophie AlMaktub by RFI Maktub)



**RFI Faenza AlMaktub**  
(Quasim CRH x Fire Glory by NV Sure Fire)





**2017 Breeders Cup Championship**

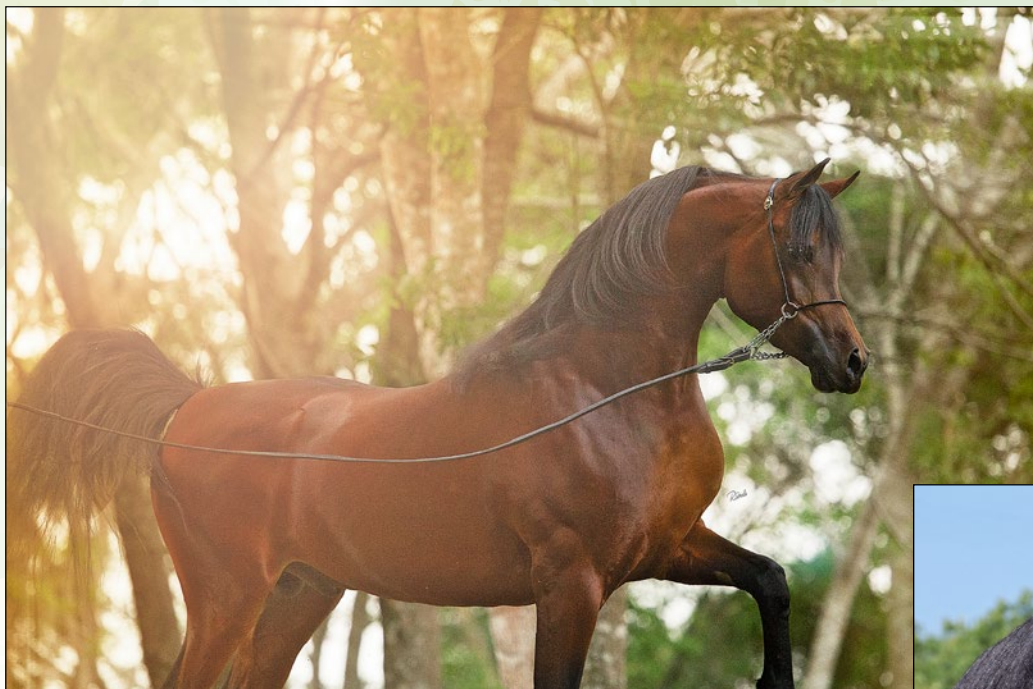


**RFI Fahaara AlMaktub**  
(Quasim CRH x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal)



**RFI Sawari**  
(Excalibur EA x RFI Sophie AlMaktub by RFI Maktub)





**Quasim CRH**  
(RFI Maktub x Maxine CRH by Nuzyr HCF)

daughter of Quasim, RFI Faenza AlMaktub (x Fire Glory by NV Sure Fire), formed the team that obtained the 2017 Breeders' Cup title for the breeding of Rodrigo Forte.

Coming from RFI breeding, another four sons of RFI Maktub have been selected, whose production has recently started. They are: RFI Faruk AlMaktub (x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal), 2013 Brazilian



**Ramsés SAMS**  
(RFI Maktub x Ali Mahakeshi by Imperial Alishihab)



**RFI Faruk AlMaktub**  
(RFI Maktub x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal)



**RFI Raj AlMaktub**  
(RFI Maktub x Letycha HPA by Lethyf El Jamaal)





**Jyar Meia Lua**  
(RFI Maktub x Jiullya El Jamaal por Ali Jamaal)

National Gold Champion Jr Jr Colt, full brother to RFI Farid, RFI Fidji AlMaktub (x RFI Faiza El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal), highly prized on shows in Brazil, and the two youngest, RFI Ramses AlMaktub (x Hazine CRH by Berry CHR), twice National Champion, 2014 Silver Champion Jr Jr Colt and 2016 Bronze Champion Colt, and RFI Raj AlMaktub (x Letycha HPA by Lethyf El Jamaal), 2018 Brazilian National Top Ten Young



**RFI Farid**  
(RFI Maktub x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal)

Stallion. These five young sons of RFI Maktub form today the panel of RFI Arabians stallions.

In other Arabian horse breedings around the world, RFI Maktub descendants are being used also with excellent results; for instance Jyar Meia Lua (x Jiullya El Jamaal by Ali Jamaal), from Lenita Perroy's breeding and owned by Ferdinand Huemer from Austria. His offspring have



**RFI Ramses AlMaktub**  
(RFI Maktub x Hazine CRH by Berry CHR)



**RFI Fidji AlMaktub**  
(RFI Maktub x RFI Fayara El Shiraz by Shiraz El Jamaal)





**Stephana W**  
(RFI Maktub x Spartana W by Power World JQ)



**RFI Amira AlMaktu**  
(RFI Maktub x Ali Mahakeshi by Imperial Alishihab)

begun to be born and have already displayed high-quality. Another example is Ramsés SAMS (RFI Maktub x Ali Mahakeshi by Imperial Alishihab), owned and bred by João Roberto Sorvilo, from Haras Vale Formoso in Brazil. One of the first Ramsés SAMS's progeny, Caleb HVF (x AF Ialeria by AF Edil), was sacred 2018 Brazilian National Bronze Champion Junior Colt.

Rodrigo mourns the death of RFI Maktub in 2014 with only six effective years dedicated to reproduction, "It was indeed a great loss for our breeding program, with negative impacts on all Arabian horse breeding in general, but just like everything else, there is a silver lining: his sons have been more widely used and now they have the opportunity to demonstrate their competence as stallions as well."



**Lumiar Ethna**  
(RFI Maktub x Evening Star TGS by Lumiar Amadeus)



**Vaidosa Rach**  
(RFI Maktub x Vanity Rach by Mister Eros HX)





**RFI Sophie AlMaktub**  
(RFI Maktub x RFI Sophia Al Neschi by Neschnij)

Leopoldo adds to it saying that Maktub was a very special stallion because he was also able to produce high-quality males and females.

Besides his sons, the daughters of RFI Maktub have proved themselves excellent mothers, and a great example of that is the current Brazilian National Gold Champion Mare RFI



**Jyvara El Maktub**  
(RFI Maktub x Jiullya El Jamaal by Ali Jamaal)

Sophie AlMaktub (x RFI Sophia Al Neschi by Neschnij). Sophie, at eight years of age, is the mother of three Brazilian National Champions and one international champion, whose fathers are totally distinct, coming from diverse bloodlines: RFI Sensation, 2016 Brazilian National Silver Champion Filly, daughter of Jazeer De Wic, a stallion who carries the blood of Monogram in his sire line and Ali



**Leopoldo Coutinho, Carlos Forte, Nei and Julia Rodrigues, Marisa, Marina, Rodrigo, Sabrina and Felipe Forte with RFI Sophie AlMaktub and her offspring**





### **RFI Sensation**

(Jazeer De Wic x RFI Sophie AlMaktub por RFI Maktub)

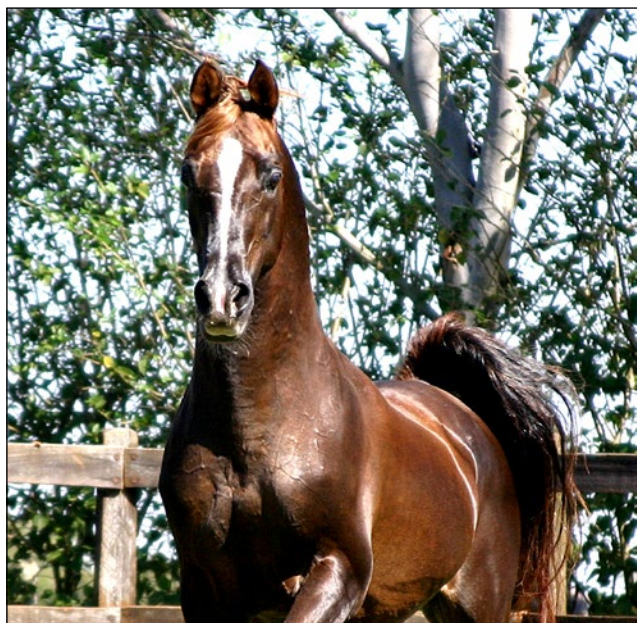


### **Pharaoh HBV**

(Psyche HBV x RFI Sophie AlMaktub by RFI Maktub)

Jamaal in his dam line; RFI Sawari, 2017 Brazilian National Gold Champion Junior Filly, is daughter of Excalibur EA, from WH Justice sire line and Marwan Al Shaqab dam line; RFI Splendor, 2018 Brazilian National Silver Champion Colt, son of El Tino, by DA Valentino; and Pharaoh HBV, 2017 Dubai Silver Champion Colt and 2016 Nations' Cup Silver Champion Col, son of Psyche HBV, from Padrone Psyche and Bey Shah lines, bred by Luciano Cury and owned by a partnership between his breeder and Al Baydaa Stud, from Gizah, Egypt.

As well as RFI Sophie AlMaktub, there are two other daughters of RFI Maktub who have stood out not only by being National Champions, but also by the quality of their progenies. One is Lumiar Ethna (x Evening Star TGS by Lumiar Amadeus), three times Chilean National Champion and 2017 Brazilian National Silver Champion Mare, bred by Haras Lumiar and owned by Haras Panquehue and Haras Aguas Claras, both from Chile, and dam of Royal Asad (by El Tino), 2016 Unanimous Brazilian National Gold Champion



### **Neschnij**

(Neman x Neschi by Killimandscharo)



### **Shiraz El Jamaal**

(Ali Jamaal x Satyna by Etat)





**Fire Glory**  
(NV Sure Fire x Key of Glory JP)

Junior Colt, 2017 Scottsdale Arabian Breeders Finals Gold Champion Junior Colt and 2018 Scottsdale International Gold Champion Junior Stallion, owned by Royal Arabians-USA, and Gloriosa El Power, by Power World, 2018 Chilean Gold Champion Filly. The other daughter of RFI Maktub, outstanding in the Brazilian shows, is Vaidosa Rach (x Vanity Rach by Mister Eros HX), who was sacred 2017 Brazilian National Gold Champion Young Mare, bred and owned by Rach Stud.



**Singularsentation**  
(Gold Krugerand x Forever Mi Love by Negatraz)

Just like the first son of RFI Maktub, RFI Farid, that has achieved great impact in Europe and the Middle East, his first daughter, Stephana W (x Spartana W by Power WorldJQ), bred by Dulce Rosas, was an enormous success when exported at nine months of age to Saudi Arabia. Nowadays Stephana W is property of Al Khalediah Farm-Tebrak, from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Soon after, in 2013, RFI Amira AlMaktub (x Ali Mahakeshi by Imperial Alishihab), bred by RFI Arabians, was exported to the Middle East and is now owned by the breeder Ali



**Donatela UB**  
(Vortex x Dulcinea BHF by Denali BHF)



**Maxine CRH**  
(Nuzyr HCF x Barbara Psyche HC by Magnum Psyche)





**Colt by RFI Ramses AIMaktub x Von Horte Showcolate by Von Herte Katssuo, bred by Dulce Rosas**

Ghanem Ali Humaila Al Mazroui from the United Arab Emirates. RFI Amira AIMaktub conquered several prizes in class A shows in the Middle East.

The second generation of RFI Maktub descendants has just started to be used in the breeding. This is the case, for instance, of the son of RFI Sophie Al Maktub, RFI Splendor, by El Tino, who is in his first breeding season in the RFI Arabians. Rodrigo and Leopoldo are selecting some of the best dams for him, like Fire Glory, RFI Farid great dam, and Maxine CRH, dam of Quasim CRH, among others.



**Filly by Quasim CRH x S Rhapsody by Marwan Al Shaqab, bred by RFI Arabians**



**Filly by RFI Raj AIMaktub x RFI Fantina AIMaktub by RFI Maktub, bred by RFI Arabians**

RFI Arabians has had as its main goal, since the beginning, cementing in its breeding the ever so desirable Arabian type allied to a consistent conformation. The lines for drawing the initial path were mainly the daughters of the pure Russian Neschnij (Neman x Neschi by Kilimandscharo), imported from Germany, and the daughters of Shiraz El Jamaal (Ali Jamaal x Satyna by Etat), bred by Lenita Perroy, which contributed with great quality. With such genetics, RFI breeding had been obtaining good results; however, for Rodrigo Forte, the great leap in quality happened when RFI Maktub first took part in the breeding program, "Maktub was the game changer in RFI breeding, he matched very well with the mares that we had been selecting throughout the years. "Nowadays, the horses bred in RFI are easily recognized by their unique pattern of beauty, movement and conformation," certifies Rodrigo. His breeding adviser Leopoldo Coutinho adds more details to the preponderant features of the descendants of RFI Maktub, "They are taller animals, with great shoulders, long arched necks, short dished heads and big eyes." In addition to its beauty and quality, the blood of RFI Maktub has been very interesting for diversifying, once he does not carry in his pedigree bloodlines widely used in the current great breedings, what mostly explains the success of RFI Farid in Europe and the potential of his other young sons in the Brazilian breeding and worldwide," ensures Leopoldo.

As well as RFI Maktub, the mares of RFI Arabians are the cornerstone of the RFI high-standards. The dam families have been selected by their quality and superior genetics, among which we can highlight: family 'F', from Fire Glory (NV Sure Fire x Key of Glory JP), dam of



RFI Fayara El Shiraz and grandmother of RFI Farid, RFI Faruk Al Maktub, RFI Fantina AlMaktub, among other stars; and the family 'S', from Singularentation (Gold Krugerand x Forever Mi Love by Negatraz), dam of RFI Sophia Al Neschi, grandmother of RFI Sophie AlMaktub and greatgrandmother of RFI Sensation, RFI Splendor and RFI Sawari.

In order to keep the diversity in the RFI breeding program and provide more mares for the sons of RFI Maktub, RFI Arabians has invested in the acquisition of new mares highlighting: Maxine CRH (Nuzyr HCF x Barbara Psyche HC by Magnum Psyche); AF Leneta (Nesperado x AF Veneta by Juliano); Donatela UB (Vortex x Dulcinea BHF by Denali BHF); Scarlet El Karim (Karim El Power JQ x Eskalla Lethyf by Lethyf El Jamaal); Khiva Meia Lua (Eman El Ludjin x WC Godiwa by Gazal Al Shaqab); and Ghynevere El Perseus (Perseus El Jamaal x Ginza El Ludjin by Ludjin El Jamaal).

All those mares have been carefully selected with the support of Leopoldo Coutinho. They descend from dam lines highly qualified. The latest two, Khiva Meia Lua and Ghynevere El Perseus, were acquired from the beloved friend Lenita Perroy in her dispersal sale. Lenita was a great admirer of RFI Maktub and had used him several times achieving excellent results. Part of this production of RFI Maktub was exported, like the full siblings Jyvara El Maktub, Jynnah Meia Lua and Jyar Meia Lua (RFI Maktub x Jiullya El Jamaal by Ali Jamaal), all of them, nowadays, property of Ferdinand Huemer in Austria.

Next year, on May 1st, RFI Arabians will celebrate 28 years in the Arabian Horse breeding and Rodrigo Forte, who was still a teenager when his parents, Marisa and Carlos Forte, and his sister Isabella, had started the breeding, nowadays is the head of RFI selective program, "We have always aimed to breed Arabian horses who allies beauty with athletic performance. We seek to progress a consistent breeding program, free from fashionism and with the long run in mind," ensures Rodrigo.

At present RFI Maktub legacy is worldwide recognized and, it is crystal clear now that, even without him, his pattern of beauty and quality has consistently been passed down through his descendants. Rodrigo tells us that when Maktub died and when he had mentioned the sad fact to his friend Lenita Perroy, she promptly soothed him by saying, "What is valuable lasts forever." Rodrigo says that he will never forget that phrase. ■



Felipe and Marina Forte, Rodrigo's kids



Rodrigo Forte and RFI Sophie AlMaktub





**RFI Arabians**

Rodrigo & Carlos Alberto Forte

**Breeders**

Itapetininga | São Paulo | Brazil

**Contact**

Rodrigo Forte | +55 11 98878-6017

Leopoldo Coutinho | Breeding Manager | +55 19 99793-1963