

# *Follow your own belief not the fashion!*

---

the talk with Sarah and Niclas Holm  
of Bränninge Arabian Stud

---



text by Urszula Łęczycka  
photos by Anette Mattsson, Stuart Vesty, Karolina Misztal



AANAN LEMBARAK  
Hadidy Al Shaqab x AJ Sundos

***L***ast 12 months have been an exciting time for you at Bränninge Arabian Stud. You have included a few absolutely stunning horses to your breeding program, that electrified the international community worldwide. Can you tell us about them - why those particular horses have you chosen and how they spent these months at your farm?

Everything happens for a reason and we have been blessed to cross path with people and horses during the last year which has led to the fortune to be able to welcome some pretty spectacular horses into our breeding program. We feel that the foals we got this year are leading us closer to our breeding goal. It is a blessing to see our dreams and visions come to life and that the horses we have bred show that the essence of a breeding program is to follow your own belief and not the fashion. The mares and stallions we have added into our breeding program during the last 10 years have all

a significant role in what we are producing today and it is exciting to take new steps creating new generations with Ferrum, Anan Lembarak, Tchaata Iniziato and Barok.

***One of your most spectacular purchases was Ferrum bought during 2023 Pride of Poland auction. Its almost 1 year since you enjoy your life together - can you tell me what has he brought into your life and into your breeding program? Which mares he has covered, when do you expect his first homebred foals by him?***

Ferrum is a larger than life stallion and it was a dream come true when we managed to buy him at last year auction. He has brought so much joy into our lives with his amazing personality, his playfulness and his sweet and kind disposition. We have bred some of our best mares to him and are so excited to welcome his first foals in 2025.





TCHAATA INIZIATO  
Inizio x Avalon Just Mywenn

***Another stallion that you have added was Tchaata Iniziato. Why did you choose him and what are your expectations for him as a sire in your breeding program?***

*When I saw Iniziato the first time, Sarah remembers, I fell in love instantly. We bought our first stallion Tchaata Matisse from Philippe and he was my heart horse and a wonderful stallion. When Philippe approached me last year and asked if we wanted to lease Iniziato it was a huge honor as we know how much he means to Philippe and we are so grateful to have this incredible sweet stallion with us.*

*Iniziato is stunningly beautiful and correct and he is a bit of an outcross for our breeding program with Versace, WH Justice and Om El Extreem and that combined with a dam line with Russian and Polish bloodlines who mirrors our vision and goal we feel that he will be an important and very interesting addition to our program. Stallion value is very*

*much defined by his dam family and Iniziato belongs to one of the strongest Polish dam families - the family of Mlecha d.b. Tchaata Iniziato has a very impressive show record and his offspring has been very successful this season so we can not wait to see his foals at Bränninge next season.*

***Let's switch to the ladies now - what are the biggest treasures in your broodmares band and why?***

*We were incredible blessed to have been the last caretakers of the legendary Wilga (Ekstern x Wenessa) and she gave us two great foals - the chestnut colt BR Wirus (by Wares) and the bay filly BR Wilja (by Jaipur el Perseus). It was devastating when we lost Wilga during foaling in 2022 and the loss hit us extremely hard as she was such an amazing mare with great presence and personality. When the sale list for 2022 Pride of Poland auction was revealed a couple of weeks later and we saw that the Wilga-daughter Waranga*



FERRUM  
Morion x Ferrmaria



WARANGA  
QR Marc X Wilga



*Follow your own belief  
not the fashion!*

BR WARANGIAN  
Jaipur el Perseus X Waranga



BR PAS MAL  
HLA Cheval x Psychedelic Magic

(by QR Marc) was offered for sale we knew that she had to come to Bränninge and after a fierce bidding we manage to bring her home to fill her mothers place and it is a humble privilege to have her in the barn. Waranga is not only stunningly beautiful, she is so much like her mother and this year she produced an exceptional colt by Jaipur el Perseus named BR Warangian and we can not wait to see him mature.

One of the first mares we bought was the bay Psychedelic Magic (Magic Dream x Psydney), bred by Arabian Expressions in USA. She has been an extremely valuable mare for us producing BR Pas Mal (by HLA Cheval) multiple champion as a colt, stallion and now gelding. She has also given us the young superstar BR Phoenix (by Jaipur el Perseus) who we sent to GC Arabians Training Center in Spain where he has been successfully shown 8 times with 8 medals.

The family of the great mare Sagana (Engano x Salexja) has been very important for Sarah since the 1980's when she followed Sagana and her illustrious daughters closely at Aspenäs Arabian Stud, then neighbors to Sarah and her family. To be able to acquire the two Sagana granddaughters Salza (Khidar x Szansa) and Splendida (Wadim x Szansa) into the foundation of Bränninge's breeding program has been an important corner stone and the two full sisters BR Sawannah and BR Saga (Wares x Salza) have shown their value in their daughters born in 2023 and 2024 by Jaipur el Perseus and Aanan Lembarak.

**And the new additions to the mares herd at Bränninge? Can you tell us a bit about them?**

The two last years have added some new mares of valuable bloodlines to our breeding program and we were so excited to see the first foals out of some of them this year. Shortly



**JAIPUR EL PERSEUS**  
Perseus el Jamaal x Jullye el Ludjin



**BR ARIANNA**  
Jaipur el Perseus x JL Azamah

after we purchased Waranga we were offered to buy her full sister Wiktorina from DB Arabians in Belgium. We had earlier bought Wilga and Splendida from DB Arabians and they were now looking for a forever home to Wiktorina and her best friend Gwandolyn (Ekstern x Gwana). Gwandolyn is the sire of the beautiful multichampion stallion Gzavi (by Aja Justified), owned by Suweco Stud in Czech Republic.

Last year we welcomed JL Azamah (Kanz Albidayer x JB Aurora) and Lethyza SA (Tyson HVP x Tahine SA), both mares highly decorated in the showring and with new bloodlines so we are thrilled to see how they will influence our breeding program. JL Azamah gave us a stunning bay filly this year, BR Arianna (by Jaipur el Perseus) and we consider her to be one of the best horses we bred and the best daughter of our precious Jaipur. BR Arianna was named Swedish National Gold Champion Foal this year and we are excited to see her next year as a yearling in the show ring!

#### ***Your best home bred horses - who would you mention here and why?***

Our most successful home bred horse in the show ring is the young star BR Phoenix, a bay colt born in 2022 sired by Jaipur el Perseus and out of Psychedelic Magic. He was shown twice as a yearling with two Championship titles and this spring we sent him to GC Arabians Training Center in Spain and he has been shown 8 times by Santiago Garcia Calvino with 8 Champion titles. BR Phoenix has been sold to Morocco and we are excited to see what the future will bring to him with his new owners. But as breeders we consider our best home bred horses from a perspective of breeding vision and amongst them the best being BR Saga (Wares x Salza), BR Arianna (Jaipur el Perseus x JL Azamah) and BR Gwana (Aanan Lembarak x Gwandolyn). They all represent what we are aiming for and will be important corner stones in our breeding program. BR Saga





LETHYZIA SA  
Tyson HVP x Tahine SA



BR SAGA  
Warex x Salza





FERRUM  
Morion x Ferrmaria





ZŁOTNA  
El Omari x Złota Gaza

is a 5-year old mare sired by our precious Wares (Piruet x Wendeta) and out of the Khidar-daughter Salza who belongs to the valuable S-line through her dam Szansa (by Rusazcie) and granddam Sagana (by Engano) is the epitome of what we are aiming for - a correct and solid mare with an abundance of charisma and superior movements. BR Saga has a beautiful Arabian type with a very pretty head although not overly extreme with huge black eyes, a wide forehead and big round jowls. You can see in a long distance that here comes an Arabian with a lot of snort and blow but yet extremely kind and sweet to handle, just like an Arabian should be. And you can see at once if it is a stallion or a mare!

BR Arianna and BR Gwana represent our "new" lines and BR Arianna just takes our breath away with her presence

and her beauty. BR Gwana is absolutely stunning and we are so grateful to have a daughter of her amazing mother to carry on her legacy here at Bränninge.

**What is your ideal Arabian horse - what features should it have and do you have your ideal Arabian at Bränninge Arabian Stud or are you still waiting for it?**

For us BR Saga is very close to our "perfect" horse - see above.

**You have stars that have already settled well at Bränninge Arabian Stud, and you have some new and exciting additions to your show and breeding program. Could you please tell us about your future plans regarding your horses that we just spoke about?**







BAROK  
Om El Bellissimo x Baida

*We are very excited about 2025 and our first foals sired by Ferrum and Tchaata Iniziato. We are also very happy to welcome the wonderful Barok (Om El Bellissimo x Baida) and the beautiful mare Zlotna (El Omari x Zlota Gaza) in foal to Morion (Kahil Al Shaqab x Mesalina), two great additions to our breeding program.*

*This year we both have been licensed to collect stallions and inseminate mares and Bränninge is now a certified semen station. We collect and ship semen from our farm and we have a selection of stallions from other owners, among them*

*2024 Swedish National Gold Champion Stallion Poter (Ecaho x Pinga).*

*Bränninge has been hosting their Annual Foal Fest in the Spring and since 2023 we have held two Open Houses - one in April and one in September as well as our ECAHO affiliated Bränninge Cup International Show the first weekend of June. We are so happy to invite new and old Arabian horse enthusiasts to share our passion of these amazing horses.*

BAROK

Om El Bellissimo x Baida



BAROK

Om El Bellissimo x Baida

