

by Kamila Kozłowska, photos by Jadem Arabians archive

In the world of Arabian horses, Christine Jamar-Demeersseman surely needs no introduction. In almost 45 years of being actively involved in the Arabian horse breeding industry, Christine has become an accomplished breeder and the owner of the world famous Jadem Arabians as well as an experienced international judge and a true equine expert. Believe it or not, this is just a start of the long list of her amazing achievements. Even greater thing about her lies in the fact that she does not keep all the knowledge exclusively to herself but is happy to share what she has learnt over the years with the next generations of breeders. Without hesitation, Christine reveals the secrets of her spectacular success in the field of Arabian horse breeding.

Kamila: *You have bred Arabian horses for almost 45 years now. What is the secret of your success?*

Christine: *I would say it was a combination of different factors. First of all, I have been studying a lot as well as listening to the people who have proved to be successful breeders. Secondly, whenever I am at a show, I always take a close look at every horse. For the past 45 years, the type in Arabian horses has changed so much that it is crucial to keep yourself updated on the current standard. And last but not least, I have bred a lot myself, constantly seeking improvement in my herd. In my opinion, to become a successful breeder, you need to work very hard and never give up because breeding horses involves high*

level of unpredictability and it does not always go according to the plan. Some years, you end up with 70% foals being colts and this is something that cannot be predicted or easily fixed. In such a case, you need to make difficult decisions when it comes to the remaining 30% of your foals because you need the fillies to continue the dam lines but you also need to sell some of them to make your breeding operation financially viable. As hard as it might seem, breeding it is not only about winning but also about making money if you want to keep it going and it is not always easy to achieve both. Luckily, I have always had my own breeding vision which also helped me in becoming successful.



Jadem

EMERALD J and **GALLARDO J** both
Gold Champion at the World Cup in Dubai 2015



EKSTERN (Monogramm x Ernestyna)
with Christine

Arabians

Kamila: *If you were to summarize the breeding vision of Jadem Arabians in one sentence, what would that be?*

Christine: *My goal is to produce typey horses with correct conformation and excellent movement. In other words, I have been trying to achieve the perfect balance between refinement and correctness of built. First of all, the outcome of my breeding vision needs to be a correct horse that you are able to put a saddle on and ride and only after this there comes type and refinement, never the other way round. There has always been an image in my head of the horse that I would like to breed and I am trying to bring it to life. Of course, this image has evolved with time to keep up with the changing standard but I am still trying very hard to breed an actual horse rather than a living statue.*

Kamila: *You have a big selection of stallions in your offer. Do you apply the same principles for choosing a stallion to be represented by Jadem Arabians?*

Christine: *Absolutely! As I have already mentioned, the correctness of conformation has always been of utmost importance to me. Type, attitude and movement are also crucial but first of all the horse needs to be correct and complete, which is not so easy to find these days. The problem often found in very refined Arabians is weaker muscles, which is a consequence of the skeleton being thinner than normal. For this reason, we sometimes need to compromise. At the moment, we have a big variety of stallions representing different bloodlines so that everybody can choose one according to which qualities in a mare need to be improved. If the stallion has a softer back but at the same time produces long necks, and this is something that you would like to improve in your mare, you should choose a mare with a shorter back and hope the cross will produce the expected result. Sometimes it does, sometimes it does not. This is what breeding is all about.*

Kamila: *Your great collection has been recently enriched with some newcomers. Please tell us a bit about the new additions to the Jadem Arabians collection and what makes them stand out among so many breeding stallions available worldwide?*

Christine: *We are really excited to have introduced some new stallions from South-America that represent different bloodlines. One of them is Haash OSB (Dominic M x Partyssima OSB / Sir Fames HBV). So far, we have been very pleased with his offspring and I am really excited to see how he crossed with the mares of the Polish state studs. One great thing about him is that up till now 80% of his produce are fillies. Another interesting addition is RFI Unique (AF Maden x RFI Ultraa Almaktub / RFI Maktub), a beautiful bay stallion with an amazing face, beautiful eyes and swan-like neck. Last but not least, the youngest of these newcomers*

is the two-year old ALK Retajj, Gold Champion and highest scoring yearling colt of the World Cup Show. He is by the amazing AJ Radman and out of LR Domenica, one of the best Dominic M daughters.

Kamila: *Talking about bloodlines, which horses have had the strongest influence on your breeding programme?*

Christine: *When it comes to stallions, the ones that had the greatest influence in the early days of our existence were surely the two excellent Polish studs, Eukaliptus (Bandos x Eunice / Comet) bred by Janów Podlaski and Ekstern (Monogramm x Ernestyna / Piechur) bred by Michałów. More recently, Extreme (Ararat x Elegantkah / Gwizd) and Emerald J (QR Marc x Emandoria / Gazal Al Shaqab), two stallions of our own breeding but still representing mostly Polish lines, have mainly been used to improve our herd.*

Kamila: *And what about the mares? Which ones have proven to be the most valuable broodmares?*

Christine: *Over the years, we have managed to establish some very valuable families in our stud. The basis for our breeding programme were Ekstern daughters and then their daughters by Extreme. The fantastic flea-bitten D Aziza owned by Nayla Hayek is out of our Midnight Kiss J, who is an Extreme daughter out of an excellent Ekstern daughter Maubiba J. Midnight Kiss J was later sold to Dubai Stud but we retained her full sister Magnificent Lady J who extended this dam line at Jadem Arabians. Another very precious family is that of Georgia (Eukaliptus x Galia / Gil). Her daughter Gomera J (by Ekstern) is the dam of triple crown champion Gallardo J (by Emerald J).*

Kamila: *Speaking of champions, in the long history of Jadem Arabians, your horses have won many awards. Which one is the most important to you and why?*

Christine: *For me, it is the European Champion title won by Gallardo J as he represents the fifth generation of our own breeding programme. What is more, he is the progeny of two horses that I truly love, the beautiful bay Emerald J and the above-mentioned Gomera J, an elegant Ekstern daughter who represents a very precious dam line.*

Kamila: *This is an amazing achievement for a breeder and surely it was a memorable moment for you. Any other amazing memories in the long history of Jadem Arabians?*

Christine: *I have so many it would be impossible to list them all. Every baby that is born and meets or exceeds our expectations becomes a great memory. The image strongly imprinted in my mind is related to an exquisite Extreme daughter out of Morning Light VF. Her name was Mysterious Lady J and she was special since the day she was*

born. I remember her playing in the field together with Bess Fa'izah (WH Justice x Sharon El Kendal / ASS Kendal), whom I bought as a baby. It was a spectacular view. They both were so special. Bess Fa'izah was later sold to HH Sheikh Ammar Bin Humaid Al Nuaimi and became 2006 World Champion Junior Filly and 2010 World Champion Senior Mare, while Mysterious Lady J won the title of European Reserve Champion Filly in 2008. Another great memory for me is when Emerald J and Gallardo J won champion titles in Dubai. Father and son, both bred by Jadem Arabians, standing on the podium at such a prestigious show was a moment that I will never forget.

Kamila: You have bred some outstanding horses and you used some legendary stallions at your stud. Is there any historical horse that you would like to introduce into your breeding programme but it is no longer possible? What qualities could this horse potentially improve in your herd?

Christine: It is a really difficult question as the type and standard have changed so much that the horses of the past may no longer fit your breeding programme. One horse that has come to my mind is Pohaniec (Comet x Planeta / Nabor), bred by Michałow Stud and sold to Blommerod Arabian Stud of Sweden. He was the sire of Probat (x Borexio / Exelsjor) and a very strong horse. Generally, it was a very interesting bloodline producing strong and correct horses. This is the reason I am still trying to use Gwizd (Probat x Gwiazda / Elf) in my breeding programme as I still have his frozen semen. Gwizd has the potential to improve the movement, the neck and the general conformation. When it comes to breeding, sometimes you need to take one step back to take two steps forward.

Kamila: You have bred and owned so many horses in your life. Which horse is your personal favourite and why?

Christine: It may be hard to believe but I have no favourites and the truth is that I have never had. I love all my horses. It is mainly due to the fact that I only keep the ones that I love or the ones that make me happy because they have turned out to be outstanding producers.

Kamila: But surely as any other Arabian horse enthusiast you must have met a horse in your life that made your heart beat faster?

Christine: Plenty! But the one that immediately comes to my mind is the Polish mare Pilarka (Palas x Pierzga / Negatyw), 1983 World Champion Senior Mare. She was an incredible and very complete mare with amazing attitude and ground-covering trot. Among all the amazing Arabian horses that I have met in my life, this is the one I will never forget.

Kamila: And what about stallions? Can you name one that takes your breath away every time you see him?

Christine: In the past, it was always Ekstern who unfortunately passed away not that long ago. Even at an older age, he was such a spectacular stallion. At the moment, it is also my own beautiful boy, Emerald J, an incredibly masculine and charismatic show horse who keeps taking my breath away every time, no matter how often I see him.

Kamila: We all know there is no ideal horse but there are so many close to perfection. With your excellent eye for Arabians, can you name one that you consider the epitome of the Arabian breed?

Christine: Again, it is a very difficult question. Luckily, the perfect horse does not exist because the breeding would make no sense anymore. However, to me Ekstern was the one closest to perfection. He had his faults as any other horse but he also had this perfect balance between type and conformation that is so important to me and what is more, he passed it onto his progeny.

Kamila: No doubt he was special. A horse like Ekstern is born once in a lifetime. He also contributed a lot to the success of your breeding programme. As such a successful breeder, have you still got any dreams in relation to Arabian horses?

Christine: I do and I have had this dream for a long time. It probably comes as no surprise that it is to breed more outstanding colts and fillies. I always seek improvement and I wish I get closer and closer to the vision of an ideal Arabian horse that I have had in my head for a while.

Kamila: Where do you see Jadem Arabians in 5 years from now?

Christine: I wish my dream becomes reality and some of these horses that I have in my head will become part of my herd. Maybe then I will have a new vision that will keep me going.

Most people will agree with Christine that success does not come easy and a clear vision of what one wants to achieve is a must. However, establishing aims and goals is just the first step on the way which must be followed by actions. This is why, hardworking and lifelong learning Christine has never given up although there were times when she learnt the difficult art of breeding the hard way. She has always strived for excellence in any venture she undertook and this is how she managed to build one of the most recognized breeding programmes in the world and breed some remarkable representatives of the Arabian breed. Without doubt, with Christine's knowledge, passion, devotion and determination, this perfect Arabian horse that for now is just an image in her head will soon become reality. □

STUD

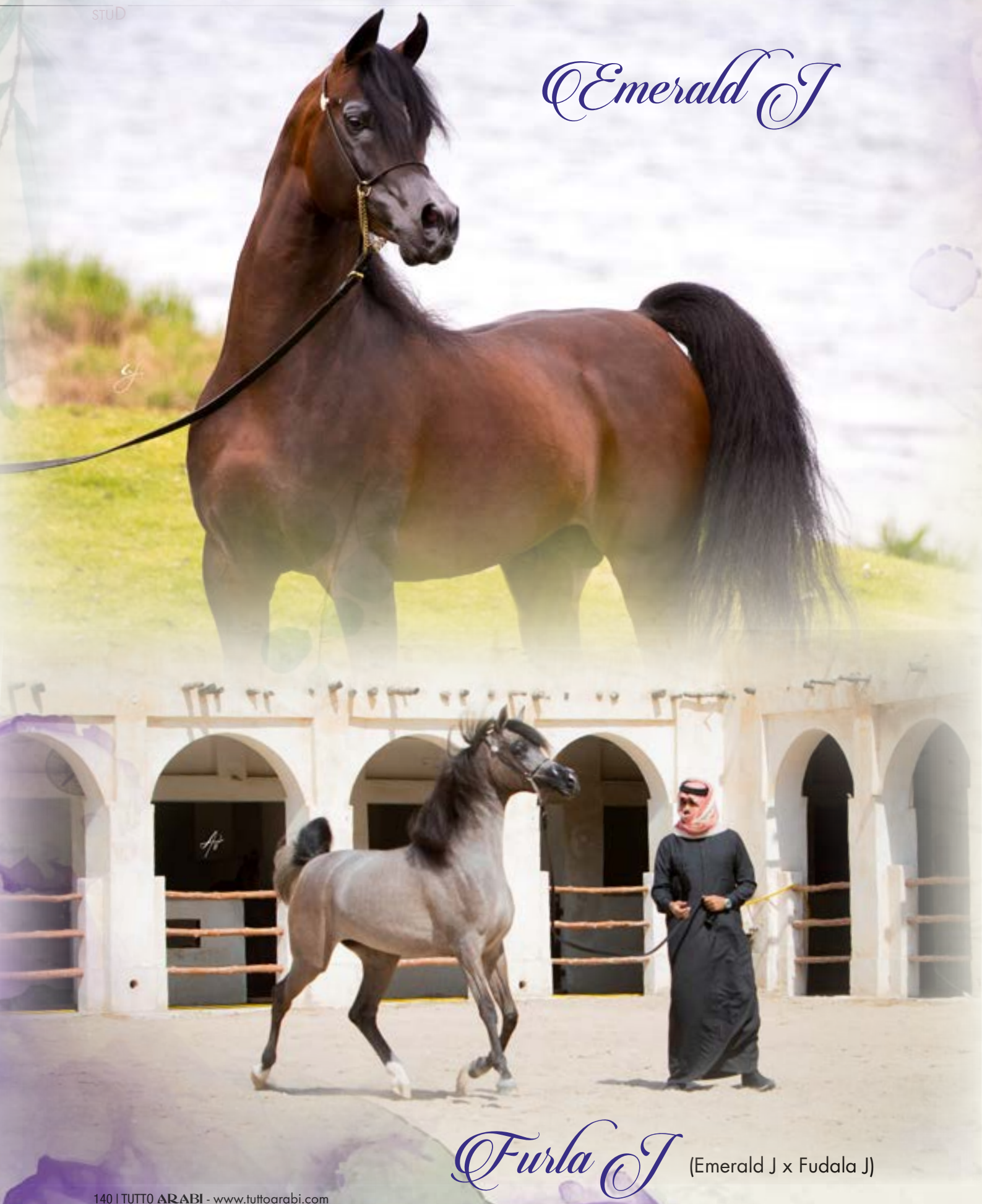
Emerald J

(QR Marc x Emandoria)





Emerald J



Furla J (Emerald J x Fudala J)



Muranas Nader

(Emerald J x Muranas Nabila)



Dana J

(Excalibur EA x Dalia J)



Dalia J

(Emerald J x Danuta)



Diya J

(Dominic M X Dana J)



Marrakech J

(Emerald J x JA Ultima)



Enida J

(Royal Asad x Elgazonda)



Noora J

(Emerald J x Noft Al Nayfat)



Gabriella J
(Ekstern x Georgia)



Ekstern
(Monogramm x Ernestyna)



Mauhiba J
(Ekstern x Starlight)

Gomera J

(Ekstern x Georgia)



Grimaldi J

(Emerald J x Gomera J)



Gallardo J

(Emerald J x Gomera J)



Magnificent Lady J

(Extreme x Mauhiba)

Morgan

(Emerald J x Magnificent Lady J)





Extreme
(Ararat x Elegantkah)



Mississippi J
(QR Marc x Magnificent Lady J)



Miami J

(RFI Maktoub x Mojita J)



Mabrouka J

(Morion x Miami J)



(Shanghai EA x Diacira De Lafon)

Shiraz de Lafon



(Shiraz de Lafon x Miami J)

Messouda J



Rfi Unique

(AF Maden x RFI Ultraa Almaktab)

Alk Retajj

(AJ Radman x LR Domenica)





Flaash Qsb

(Dominic M x Partyssima OSB)



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