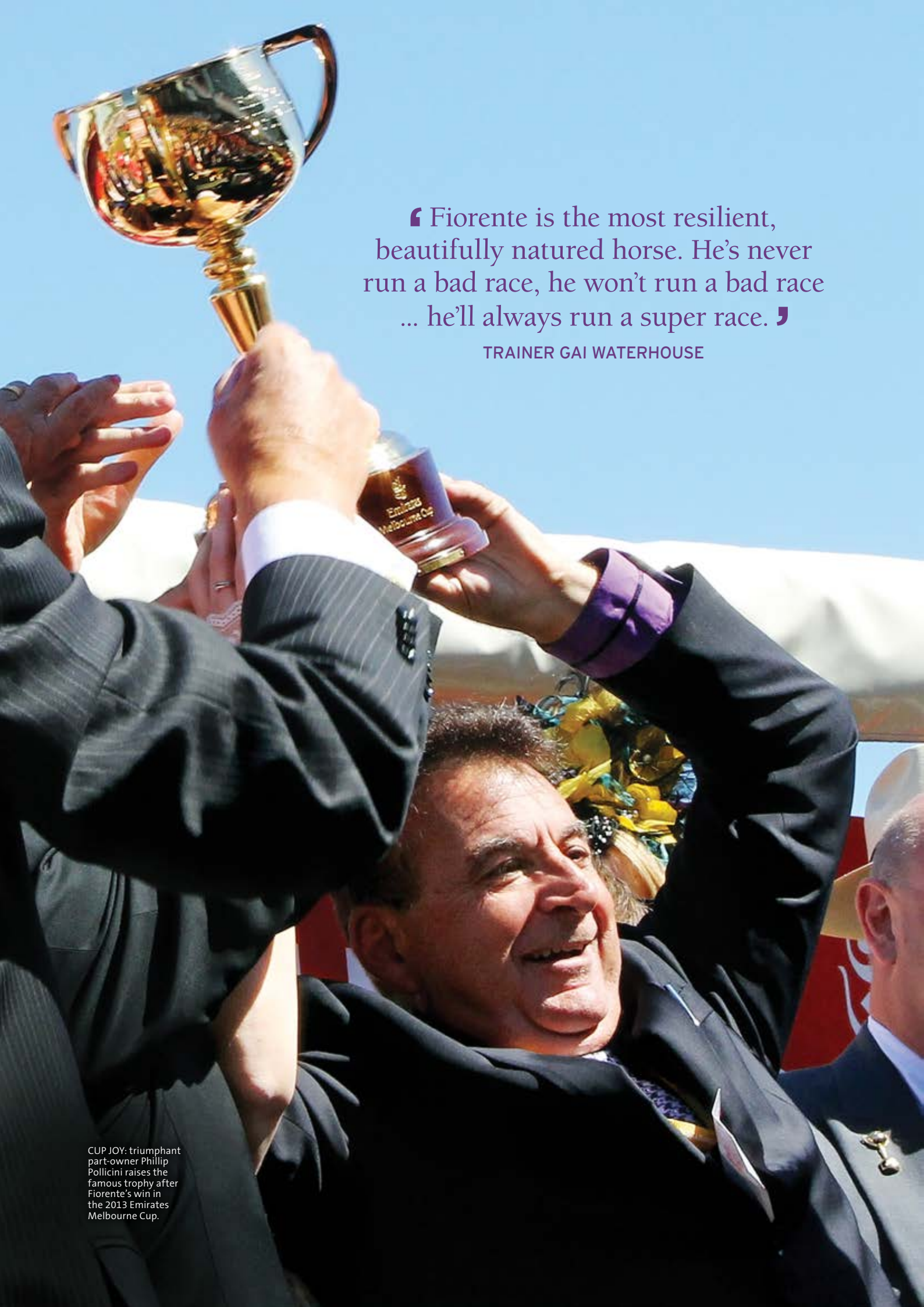


Fiorenze

— A GREAT OF OUR TIME —



A photograph of Phillip Pollicini, a man in a dark suit and purple shirt, smiling and holding a large, ornate gold trophy high in the air. The trophy is a cup with a wide rim and a decorative stem. The background is a clear blue sky. Other people's hands and arms are visible around the trophy, suggesting a celebratory moment.

“ Fiorente is the most resilient,
beautifully natured horse. He’s never
run a bad race, he won’t run a bad race
... he’ll always run a super race. ”

TRAINER GAI WATERHOUSE

CUP JOY: triumphant
part-owner Phillip
Pollicini raises the
famous trophy after
Fiorente's win in
the 2013 Emirates
Melbourne Cup.

THE *Fiorente* STORY

DANNY POWER looks in to the history of Fiorente, the magnificent import who gave trainer Gai Waterhouse, Australia's 'First Lady of Racing', her first Melbourne Cup. This is an edited version of a story that was published in *Inside Racing* magazine.

When 'Herman the German' won the 2013 Emirates Melbourne Cup, the staff at Ireland's Ballymacoll Stud did a jig to remember and broke out the whiskey. Even 3.30am is a good time for some craic.

Across the Atlantic in Kentucky, Peter Reynolds, who for 43 years has managed the 121-hectare thoroughbred farm in County Meath, north-west of Dublin, listened to the race on the radio. He described Ballymacoll's achievement of breeding a Melbourne Cup winner as a wonderful thrill.

The personable Reynolds, after returning from the Keeneland Yearling Sales a week after the Cup, was more than happy to chat about Fiorente's life at Ballymacoll Stud.

"We named him 'Herman the German' because he was by the champion German sire Monsun," he said.

Within minutes of Fiorente having won for trainer Gai Waterhouse with Damien Oliver in the saddle, the stud's staff emblazoned the achievement on the front

page of its website ballymacollstud.com:

"Welcome to Ballymacoll Stud—the breeders of TROY, PILSUDSKI, SUN PRINCESS, ISLINGTON, NORTH LIGHT, CONDUIT and 2013 Emirates Melbourne Cup winner FIORENTE.

"Also the birthplace of ARKLE—the Irish people's champion."

Ballymacoll Stud is on Ballymacoll Estate, which was founded by Henry Hamilton in the late 1700s. The farm remained in the hands of the Hamilton family until 1911, after which there were a number of resident owners, including Lord Nugent, famous trainer Richard 'Boss' Croker and the Irish Army, which moved on to the property during World War II.

Before Croker, an Irish-American politician, moved into Ballymacoll, he trained Orby (in 1907) to be the first Irish-trained winner of the Epsom Derby. Croker was denied access to Newmarket by the Jockey Club, so he returned to Ireland to set up a stud and training farm near Dublin.

Croker was reportedly approached by an Irish punter, who rejoiced that Croker had won the Derby: "Thank God and you, sir, that we have lived to

see a Catholic horse win the Derby."

A few weeks later, Orby became the first horse to win the Epsom Derby and Irish Derby double.

In 1946, Ballymacoll Stud was sold to Dorothy Paget, an Englishwoman who was the daughter of Lord Queensborough and Pauline Whitney, a member of one of America's most influential racing families. The very eccentric Paget, never visited Ballymacoll, which she owned until her death, aged 54, in 1960.

There are some wonderful stories about Paget, who was described by writer Christopher Wilson in London's Daily Mail as: "She ate like a horse, smoked like a chimney and despised all men".

"She slept all day, but spent most nights awake on the phone to her bookmakers. She bet in millions. Bookies employed people to stay awake all night just to take her calls. She would even bet on a race that was already run, promising the bookmakers that she didn't know the result.

"By midnight, Dorothy was ready to telephone her trainers to discuss the next day's racing, and when one of them tried

‘ He’s a dream to ride; a great attitude, particularly for a stallion. ’

DAMIEN OLIVER



IN FULL FLIGHT: a magnificent image of Fiorente and jockey Damien Oliver sprinting for the line in the 2014 Australian Cup

to put a stop to it by disconnecting his phone, she had someone go around and wake him and tell him to reconnect it.”

Paget died three years after the legendary jumper Arkle was foaled at Ballymacoll. After her death, Ballymacoll was sold and a new era began for the famous boutique farm.

Industrialists Sir Michael Sobell and his son-in-law Sir Arnold Weinstock (later Lord Weinstock) bought Ballymacoll from Paget’s estate and the farm has remained in the ownership of the two families. In 54 years under them, the farm has produced 29 winners of 54 Group 1 races.

Since Reynolds returned to Ireland from the Keeneland sales, he has watched and relished replays of the four-hour Irish coverage of Australia’s great race. The rewind button has been in full swing.

Reynolds said he recognised about six years ago that the Germany-based Monsun was an exceptional stallion and worth using. “We sent a mare to him each of five years until his death last year,” he said. “We wanted a filly by him, but those five matings have resulted in four colts and one mare was barren.

“All the Monsun colts have been successful for us. The last one is a two-year-old (named Tercel).”

The most recent Ballymacoll-bred son of Monsun is the exciting middle-distance galloper Arab Spring, who completed his fourth win from five starts in the Duke Of Edinburgh Stakes (2400m) at Royal Ascot in June this year. Reynolds said Arab Spring will be aimed for the 2014 Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe (2400m) at Longchamp.

“A friend of mine said that Monsun is the ideal stallion to send a mare. You can

even mate an ugly mare to him ... because he’s blind,” the jovial Irishman said.

Fiorente has the dark colour of Monsun and the toughness of the breed, but according to Reynolds is a lot like his dam Desert Bloom, a daughter of the Ballymacoll-bred Pilsudski, a champion racehorse. “Fiorente has inherited a lot of quality from the mare. She was unraced because she broke a pelvis as a youngster.”

Reynolds said there was an incredible story behind Desert Bloom. “Her dam Desert Beauty won on the same card the day Pilsudski won the Irish Champion Stakes (at Leopardstown in 1997) and when Pilsudski was sold to Japan as a stallion, she travelled on the plane with him to be mated.

“She missed the first year, but got in foal the second season and returned to Ireland to foal Desert Bloom.”

Fiorente was sent to Di Turner’s

Lodge Farm in Leicestershire, England, to be broken in. “Most of our horses go to Di Turner’s for breaking in and pre-training,” Reynolds said. “She does an excellent job. She comes from a famous thoroughbred background, her family had (champion racehorse and influential sire) The Tetrarch,” Reynolds said.

Once the colt’s education was complete, Fiorente joined the Newmarket stable of Sir Michael Stoute, one of the trainers of choice for Ballymacoll. “Michael thought a lot of the horse and (after his second start win at Newbury in May 2011) ran him at Royal Ascot (as a three-year-old).”

Fiorente finished an impressive second behind the high-class Nathaniel (Glencadam Gold, now a Waterhouse stablemate, was third) in the Group 2 King Edward VII (2400m) at Royal Ascot on June 17. He had only one more run for the year—second to Namibian in the G3 Gordon Stakes (2400m) at Goodwood on July 26 before Stoute set him aside.

Reynolds said Stoute’s patience made him the ideal trainer for the staying stock bred by Ballymacoll. “He likes to give them time, which is what they need.”

At four, interest in Fiorente didn’t manifest itself until he convincingly beat Joshua Tree and Red Cadeaux in the Group 2 Princess Of Wales’s Goldsmith Stakes (2400m) on a slow track at Newmarket on July 12. It was a break-out performance that saw Fiorente race handy to the speed before powering clear of a strong field that also included Dandino (seventh), but Reynolds, despite many inquiries from agents, most acting for Australians, said he was reluctant to sell.

“However, After his run in the Prix Foy at Longchamp, we both agreed that it was time to sell him,” Reynolds said. “And wouldn’t have made it to the Melbourne Cup last year (2012), when he was second to Green Moon.

“We had so many Australians wanting to buy him. I was holidaying in Portugal and they nearly ruined my holiday with all the offers. In the end we sold him for 700,000 sterling. (Irish agent) Hubie de Burgh and his Australian-based mate (James) Harron prevailed.”

Du Burgh and Harron were acting for Waterhouse, who had had her eye on Fiorente after being at Newmarket to see him win in July. Du Burgh also was the

agent who secured Green Moon for Lloyd and Nick Williams.

Not that Reynolds is knocking the influx of Australian money into Europe—leading Australian owner Terry Henderson calculated that \$40 million was spent by Australians on 160 European horses in 2012.

“We owe a lot to Australia. If it wasn’t for Australians buying our (Ballymacoll’s) horses, we’d be out of business, we couldn’t afford to run a place like this,” he said.

“We had so many Australians wanting to buy him.”

PETER REYNOLDS

“We have to sell a yearling and a going horse or two so we can finance the farm. Last year it was Fiorente who had to go.”

Ballymacoll Stud has had a strong association with Australia and the Cup in recent years. In 2011, three ex-Ballymacoll horses—Glass Harmonium, Saptapadi and Modun—ran in the Melbourne Cup. Last year Fiorente represented the farm and this November it ‘topped and tailed’ the race with Fiorente winning and his close relation Ruscello finishing last.

This year, Australian Paul Fudge bought the promising Sir John Hawkwood from Stoute and Ballymacoll, but the horse pulled up lame when ninth behind Phantom Brew at Caulfield (2000m) in September for

Sydney trainer Craig Ritchie.

It’s a tremendous performance from a boutique farm with only 18 mares that belong to two wonderful families that go back many generations at Ballymacoll. Fiorente’s Ballymacoll-based family traces back nine generations to Coventry Belle (by Hyperion), who came to the stud in 1938.

Fiorente, born in 2008, is the fourth foal of Desert Bloom. She has a 2009 colt, Cecchetti Method (by Sadler’s Wells) and a 2011 colt by Montjeu. In April 2013, she foaled a colt by Australia’s top stallion Fastnet Rock, who shuttles to Coolmore Stud in Ireland. She is back in foal to the stallion.

Reynolds, who is a distant cousin of Richard Ball, who bred the great Australian stallion Star Kingdom, said he had hoped Fiorente ran in the 2014 Melbourne Cup, as he planned to be in Melbourne to watch it.

“I’ve been to only one Melbourne Cup, five years ago (2008 won by Viewed). We dropped in after going to a wedding in New Zealand. We stayed with (former Victoria Racing club marketing general manager) Stephen Silk, who we met when he was a young vet working here in Ireland.

“A few years ago, when Stephen was working with the VRC, he bought the Melbourne Cup to Ballymacoll, and we all got our photos taken with it.”

Now Reynolds has file photos of the Melbourne Cup won by Ballymacoll-bred Fiorente.

Danny Power is a contributing editor for *Inside Racing* magazine.

FIORENTE’S RACE RECORD

Multiple Group 1 winner. Timeform rated 125. \$6,265,611.

WON	VRC Melbourne Cup- G1 (3200m) VRC Australian Cup- G1 (2000m) MVRC Dato Tan Chin Nam S.- G2 (1600m) MRC Peter Young S.- G2 (1800m) Newmarket Prince of Wales’s S.- G2 (2400m)
2ND	VRC Melbourne Cup- G1 (3200m) Royal Ascot King Edward VII S.- G2 (2400m) Goodwood Gordon S.- G3 (2400m) Goodwood Festival S.- L (2000m)
3RD	ATC All Aged S.- G1 (1400m) MVRC WS Cox Plate- G1 (2040m) ATC BMW S.- G1 (2400m)



TRIUMPH: Jockey Damien Oliver is jubilant after winning the Group 1 Australian Cup at Flemington on the brilliant Fiorenze.

After the Cup, another triumph for Fiorente

After the Melbourne Cup, Fiorente dominated the Melbourne autumn.

DANNY POWER continues the journey.

When Fiorente returned to racing in the 2014 autumn, Waterhouse set him on a task few Melbourne Cup winners have achieved—to win the weight-for-age Australian Cup, over 2000 metres, at Flemington.

Only two past Cup winners have taken Flemington's "cup double" in the same season, and both of them champion mares. Let's Elope was the first to do it in the 1991-92 season and the incomparable Makybe Diva did it in 2004-05.

After a soft trial at Randwick, Fiorente produced his renowned finishing burst to win the Group 2 Peter Young Stakes (WFA, 1800m) at Caulfield on February 22. It was a sensational return to racing that reminded hardened racing men of the brilliant autumn returns of some of the Melbourne Cup's best winners—Comic Court, Jeune, At Talaq and Saintly.

The win had the usually effervescent Waterhouse gushing.

"It was as though we were having the Melbourne Cup all over again," she said. "It's nice when they have won a really major race to see them come back so well. He only won the race in the last 75 metres, but the way he got out and strode into his rhythm—they don't often win first up over 1800m against a class field. There's lots more improvement to come."

Damien Oliver was equally enthusiastic in his praise of Fiorente.

"He's a great horse to ride, he's what you dream of riding. He does everything right for you, he's got a great will to win. He pins those ears back and doesn't want to let anything beat him.

"He's a big-framed horse and he pulled up pretty clean in the wind. Gai doesn't have to do a lot with him on the track in between races, she just keeps him happy and ticking over and he performs on race day. He couldn't have come back better."

Fiorente's quest for the Australian

Cup wasn't going to be easy, especially after the Cox Plate winner Shamus Award returned in brilliant style to win the Group 1 Australian Guineas (1600m) at Flemington.

It's been a while since the Australian Cup hosted a clash between the two spring titans and when Shamus Award took up his customary position in front of the field, the race was set for a dramatic finish.

However, the promoter's dream of the two stars going head-to-head at the finish didn't eventuate. Oliver stalked the pace from just off midfield on Fiorente and made his move wide on the bend. The son of Monsun was simply too strong, too classy for his younger rival.

“I can tell you all right now, that he is one of the most impressive middle-distance stayers that I have ever run my eye over.”

GAI WATERHOUSE

Fiorente stormed to a brilliant win to give Waterhouse and Oliver their first Australian Cup.

"It's great to see a Melbourne Cup winner come back and be so dominant in the Australian Cup," said Oliver, who had been placed seven times in the Cup.

"He's really stamping his authority and it's really great to be a part of his journey."

Waterhouse was effusive about Fiorente's Australian Cup win. In her blog on gaiwaterhouse.com.au she wrote:

"I have always wanted to win the Australian Cup, but I have just never had a horse there in the perfect form. Grand Armee was usually in Sydney around Australian Cup time and didn't run in the race. Juggler, bless him, ran third in the

late 1990s behind Octagonal, but he never quite got over the line.

"The Australian Cup is a tremendous race over the weight-for-age classic distance of 2000 metres and held at the immaculate Flemington. It is a true testament to the track and the Victoria Racing Club that Fiorente could win from last—although had we desired, he could have led and won, such was the quality of the track.

"The Australian Cup is a Group 1 race that has been on my radar for a long time.

"There is no better feeling than training a winner in a big race. To do it in front of the big crowd on Newmarket day "Super Saturday" is an extra thrill. Fiorente is the real hero of this story.

"Since the big win, I have read a little of the press and it's a wonderful thrill to see Fiorente's name being listed in articles along with Let's Elope, Saintly and Makybe Diva.

"Training a champion is one thing, but to potentially have an "immortal champion" on my hands certainly keeps me and my entire team on our toes. He is now the eighth highest prizemoney earner in Australian racing history and he has only had nine starts on the Australian turf."

Waterhouse had her eyes on the Sydney carnival and even further towards Royal Ascot, but Fiorente succumbed to a tendon injury that forced him into retirement.

He headed to Eliza Park International in Victoria with a record of six wins, five at Group level from 1600 metres to 3200 metres, and more than \$6.26 million in stakes.

No Melbourne Cup winner had retired to stud in recent years with a better record. The fact he had the talent to win at weight-for-age at 1600 metres at Group 2 level in the Dato Tan Chin Nam Stakes on his way to winning the Melbourne Cup emphasised that this was a horse with the perfect blend of speed and stamina.

Late boost for Monsun in the twilight of his career

Racing Post's pedigree expert, TONY MORRIS, declares his love for Fiorente's champion sire, Monsun, in an article in April 2013. Things only got better from then.

As the founder and self-appointed president of the Monsun fan club (established 2000, when his first three-year-olds appeared), I have been thrilled to allude to his exceptional merit as a sire on countless occasions.

If he had merely proved himself the most successful sire in the history of German breeding, that would have been sufficient to justify the many eulogies delivered at the time of his death, at the age of 22, in September (2012). But Monsun achieved a whole lot more than that, becoming the first horse from his country to make a major impact at the top level on the international scene.

These days the huge prize for the winner of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe automatically ensures the horse responsible for it becomes France's champion sire. In 2012 that meant Poliglote—and only Poliglote—ranked more highly than Monsun on the list, and that was the second occasion when the Arc result had robbed him of first place, Rail Link having snatched the title for Dansili in 2006.

Monsun's fine record in France has since been enhanced in 2013. On the last Sunday in March his unbeaten son Ocovango notched an impressive Listed victory in the Prix Francois Mathet at Saint-Cloud, and on the Sunday just gone his sons collected the honours in the first Pattern events of Longchamp's new season. Three-year-old Triple Threat overcame a tardy start to fly home victorious in the Group 3 Prix la Force, and an hour or so later five-year-old Maxios returned with a smooth success over Don Bosco and Saga Dream (who had filled the first two places in last month's Prix Exbury) in the Group 2 Prix d'Harcourt.

Monsun's progeny have now accounted for 98 wins in the European Pattern, and the century cannot be long delayed. The former Schlenderhan resident now ranks ninth overall among Pattern sires, the elite group ahead of him being Sadler's Wells, Danehill, Galileo, Nureyev, Habitat, Riverman, Danzig and Northern Dancer. Compile your own list of the celebrities he has already left behind, and be aware that he may well reach fifth place before his last runners have departed the scene.

When Monsun began his innings at stud in 1996, what was anybody entitled to expect? He had been a good racehorse, a winner 12 times from 23 starts, his Group 1 triumphs coming in the Aral Pokal at three and the Preis von Europa at both three and four. One glance at his pedigree—German for several generations—was enough to convince that if he was going to make a mark, it would be solely in his homeland. That was the way of things, how they had always been, and the records of his own sire Konigsstuhl and maternal grandsire Surumu might be cited as proofs of the point.

Monsun broke the mould. Although in his early years he covered only small books—none of his first four crops numbered as many as 40—local breeders noticed he was delivering an extraordinarily high ratio of winners to runners. Before long, breeders elsewhere recognised there was also a significant proportion of high-class performers among his stock. After Shirocco's victories in the Breeders' Cup Turf and Coronation Cup it became obvious Germany was harbouring a sire of genuine

MONSUN: resting in his paddock in 2012, not long before his death.
PHOTO SU-ANN KHAW
INKMARKSOF.SU.COM





‘... Monsun’s ratio of winners to foals was 64 per cent – phenomenal, outlandish, quite off the scale.’

TONY MORRIS

international class, and top breeders could no longer ignore him. Such other outstanding runners as Manduro, Schiaparelli and Stacelita confirmed he belonged among Europe’s elite.

In a sense, Monsun’s success, which at first had seemed so unlikely, might now be viewed as almost natural. His pedigree made him a complete outcross for a multitude of mares, and that was just what they needed. Ribot might be cited as a similar example, although his breakthrough as a sire was more predictable after an unbeaten racing career, including a King George and a pair of Arcs.

The Ribots and Monsuns of this world should provide pause for thought.

How many other horses with less than mainstream pedigrees have been neglected—and are still being neglected—because breeders prefer to stick with what is fashionable rather than have faith in something a little out of the ordinary?

The last figure I saw for Monsun’s ratio of winners to foals was 64 per cent—phenomenal, outlandish, quite off the scale. And his stock are typically honest, genuine performers who train

on, excelling at middle and extended distances.

As we should have anticipated, his best runners have come from a wide variety of female backgrounds; he has blended successfully with all sorts, although it comes as no surprise that mares descending from Northern Dancer have featured significantly.

The broodmare sires of Shirocco, Manduro and Schiaparelli were, respectively, The Minstrel, Be My Guest and Old Vic. The three sons who have been to the fore in France this spring fit a similar pattern; Maxios was produced by a daughter of Nureyev, who is the sire of Ocovango’s granddam, while Triple Threat is out of a mare by Lyphard.

There are naturally Classic aspirations for Ocovango and Triple Threat. Both are trained by Andre Fabre, who was famously associated with the latter stages of Manduro’s career, referring to him then as the best horse he had ever trained.

On the evidence of their performances there can be no doubt each will be well suited by the Derby distance, whether it be that at Epsom or the shorter version at Chantilly.

The Verdict

Monsun’s illustrious stud career provides a prime example of how a horse with a ‘different’ pedigree can succeed, given appropriate opportunities.

His success on the international stage resulted from the fact of his representing a radical outcross for a majority of mares.

ON THE CHARGE: Fiorente storms home to brilliantly win the G2 Dato Tan Chin Nam Stakes (1600m) at Moonee Valley.

PHOTO COLIN BULL



ALERT AND INTELLIGENT: Fiorente has settled in beautifully to his new surroundings at Eliza Park International, Kerrie, in Victoria.

Fiorente's impressive mares

Breeders considering using Fiorente this spring can send their mares to the stallion safe in the knowledge that a strong book of outstanding mares already have signed on for a mating.

Eliza Park International is excited by the depth and the quality of the mares coming to the 2013 Melbourne Cup winner.

"The fact that seven or eight trainers have booked mares to him is an indication of how his yearlings will be accepted at the yearling sales," said Mark Lindsay, Eliza Park's sales and nominations manager.

"It also helps breeders to know that when Fiorente's yearlings are sold (in 2017), there will be a huge buying bench—including the 39 original owners, his trainer Gai Waterhouse and Eliza Park International's racing arm—with a keen interest in buying the best progeny of Fiorente.

"I doubt there is a mare in Australia that isn't suited to going to Fiorente. He will especially match up well with mares with Danzig blood as he has some Danzig blood in his female line and we have seen the doubling of Danzig working very well in Australia in recent years."

According to Lindsay, as soon as word got out that Fiorente was standing at Eliza Park, the phone started ringing with many broodmare owners keen

to tap into one of the genuine stars of the Australian turf and, for students of international breeding, the phenomenal success of Fiorente's sire, Monsun.

"Breeders won't be disappointed when they come to see him. He's a magnificent individual with great athleticism, strength and bone."

Also a number of Fiorente's race owners having already committed to send mares of their own, so the young stallion, a leading contender for the Horse of the Year title, will be a busy boy from September 1.

Eliza Park International is determined to give Fiorente the best possible start to his stud career and opened the purse at the Gold Coast National Broodmare Sale in May/June, buying a number of quality mares under the 'Fiorente Syndicate' banner.

The highlights include, **Happy Hussey** (for \$230,000), a very well-bred Hussonet mare from the famous Denise's Joy family—she in foal to Lonhro—and Stakes-winner **Lucky Witch** (dam of four Stakes winners), who is in foal to All Too Hard, and was bought for \$160,000.

French and Sydney winner, **Theresmusicplaying**, an American-bred mare by Street Cry out of black-type winner Foolish Kisses, will have Fiorente as a mate, while another American-bred mare, **My Chestnut Girl** (by Horse Chestnut SAF)—whose progeny will generate plenty

of interest—is a winning half-sister to champion USA 3YO and sire, Big Brown. She is in foal to Medaglia d'Oro.

Some of the other outstanding mares heading to Fiorente are also in foal to Australia's leading stallions. They include:

■ **Fit For A Queen** (by Montjeu IRE), who is closely related to Irish Oaks winner Colors핀 and is in foal to Fastnet Rock.

■ **Gorgonzola** (by Hussonet USA), a city-winning half-sister to Group winner Startsmepu. In foal to Snitzel.

■ **Imagineire** (by Fusaichi Pegasus USA), a Stakes-winning mare in foal to Snitzel. Imagineire won the WA St Leger and she is a daughter of champion mare Beau Art, winner of the WA Derby, WA Oaks and runner-up in the 1995 Caulfield Cup behind Doriemus.

■ **Marie Rose (IRE)** (by Sadler's Wells USA), a daughter of Group 2 winner Langoustine, who is from the famous family of Storm Cat and Royal Academy. Marie Rose is in foal to Snitzel.

■ **Rock Idol** (by Flying Spur), a half-sister to three-time Stakes winner Zero Rock, out of the brilliant filly Broc 'N' Roll and from the family of triple Oaks winner November Rain. Rock Idol is in foal to Snitzel.

■ **Miss Lily Rose** (by Red Ransom USA), a Group 1-placed mare from the famous Belle family, who is closely related to Sharscay. Miss Lily Rose is in foal to So You Think.

■ **Chordata** (by Fusaichi Pegasus USA), a daughter of dual Group 1 winner Dashing Eagle, a daughter of Danehill who won the Flight Stakes-Thousand Guineas double. In foal to Sebring.

■ **Evasive** (by One Cool Cat USA), a winning half-sister to G1 Rosehill Guineas winner Zabrabive. Out of the SW mare Danasia, by Danehill, tracing back to Epsom Oaks winner Meld, who is the dam of Epsom Derby winner Charlottown. In foal to Sebring.

One thing is for certain, there's going to be a whole lot of interest around the Eliza Park International barns at the 2017 yearling sales!



CLASSY MARE: top mare Lucky Witch, the dam of Group 3 winner, Lucky Diva, pictured winning at Caulfield, will be mated to Fiorente this spring.
PHOTO SLICKPIX

Fiorente

... a perfect match for Australian bloodlines

World-renowned pedigree analyst ALAN PORTER looks at the nicks and crosses that work best with Fiorente taking a line through the success of his international champion sire Monsun.

Fiorente is one of the most outstanding sons of the great German stallion Monsun, who in recent years has taken European racing by storm. He is also rapidly beginning to make an impact as a sire of sires.

Monsun is a complete outcross for the **Northern Dancer** strain, and we can note that there have already been more than 70 stakes winners on a Monsun/Northern Dancer cross, at least 15 of them Group or Grade 1 scorers. Fiorente does have two crosses of Northern Dancer in his dam, but they will be in the sixth generation of his foals.

The cross with Northern Dancer through **Sadler's Wells** particularly appeals here, as it has worked well for Monsun and his sons, and Fiorente is also notable for a double of frequent Sadler's Wells foal,

NORTHERN DANCER: mares from the Northern Dancer line are a perfect match for Fiorente, according to Tony Morris.



Mill Reef. Branches of Sadler's Wells that have proved successful under Monsun, include Barathea, and Singspiel and his sire In the Wings. This strain could also be introduced through Scenic and his son Blevic; Carnegie; Montjeu; Galileo; High Chaparral; Artie Schiller; Entrepreneur; King of Kings; and Refuse to Bend.

Monsun and sons have also enjoyed success with Sadler's Wells's three-quarters brother **Nureyev**, including through Peintre Celebre and Fasliyev, as well as Pivotal, Theatrical and Wolfhound. In Australia, this strain also is sourced through Spinning World (sire of Thorn Park), Stravinsky, Ashkalani, Soviet Star and Starcraft. The success of Sadler's Wells and Nureyev, would also suggest considering Sadler's Wells's brother, **Fairy King**, with options including Encosta de Lago and sons, and Falbrav.

Another branch of Northern Dancer to prove particularly suited to Monsun-line stallions is that of **Nijinsky II**. Here we can note a particularly strong affinity for daughters of **Royal Academy** (sire of Bel Esprit), as well as successful crosses with mares by Generous (by Caerleon, also sire of Tenby, Corwyn Bay and Alquoz), Hernando (by Niniski, also sire of Kala Dancer), and Green Dancer and his son, Green Tune. This also suggests trying other Nijinsky II-line broodmare sires such as Strawberry Road (by Whiskey Road), as well as Serheed, Western Symphony, Copper Kingdom and Yeats (a close relative to Sadler's Wells and Nureyev). Monsun also sired one of his best runners, Shirocco, out of a mare by Nijinsky II's three-quarter brother, **The Minstrel**, and that horse can be found through Palace Music and his son Naturalism, Bakharoff and Masterclass.

Monsun also has a Stakes winner out of mare by Bluebird (sire of Dolphin Street and Lake Coniston), a son of **Storm Bird**, a Northern Dancer-line horse closely related to Nijinsky II and The Minstrel. Given

¶ ... we can note a particularly strong affinity for daughters of Royal Academy (sire of Bel Esprit) ¶

ALAN PORTER

this, and noting the success of Monsun with Royal Academy, we should also consider Royal Academy's close relative, **Storm Cat**, a son Storm Bird. There are numerous Storm Cat line representatives that have stood in Australia. Among them Hennessy (sire of Johannesburg), Giant's Causeway (and his son Shamardal), Tale of the Cat, Catrail and High Yield.

Other easily found branches of Northern Dancer that have produced Stakes winners by Monsun or his sons, include **Shareef Dancer** (who appeals in Australia, and is in the sire line of General Nediym) and **Last Tycoon** (who is represented by O'Reilly, Marju, Bigstone, Towkay, Iglesia and Written Tycoon).

Fiorente's dam has a double of **Danzig**, but that will be in the fifth generation of Fiorente's offspring. There are four stakes winners by Monsun and sons out of mares from the **Danehill** branch of Danzig, two out of daughters of Tiger Hill. Among other representatives of Danehill that might be tried are Fastnet Rock (who particularly appeals, as he is out of a Royal Academy mare); Redoute's Choice and sons; Flying Spur; Exceed and Excel; Danehill Dancer and his son Choisir; Commands and Rock of Gibraltar. There is also a Monsun-line Stakes winner out of Danzig grandson, **Grand Lodge** (by Chief's Crown), and **Anabaa** may also work in Australia. One of the Danzig strains in Fiorente's pedigree is through a daughter of **Green Desert**, but we are beginning to see Stakes winners with that strain doubled, inviting mares by Cape Cross, Invincible Spirit, Desert Sun, Volksraad and Magic Ring. Mares by Green Desert's three-quarter brother Bertolini might also be interesting.

Despite limited opportunities, the cross of Monsun and his sons with **Mr Prospector**-line mares has proved to be a very productive one. This includes champion Silasol, out of a mare by Gulch (sire of Thunder Gulch); a Stakes winner out of a mare by Zafonic (sire of Xaar), and a Graded winner by that horse's sire, Gone West (also sire of Zamindar, Elusive Quality, Grand Slam and Mr. Greeley). There are two Stakes winners, one Graded, out of mares by Lycius, a Stakes winner out of a mare by Kingmambo (who would be good through King's Best), and a Stakes winner by a son of Monsun out of a mare by Hussonet. Other appealing sources of Mr. Prospector include Machiavellian, who is responsible for a Stakes winner out of the granddam of Fiorente, and who can be found through Street Cry, Street Sense and Vettori; Distorted Humor; End Sweep; and Fusaichi Pegasus.

The cross of Monsun with **Blushing Groom**-line mares has enjoyed considerable success, and this

includes a group one winner out of a mare by a son of Rainbow Quest, the sire of Quest For Fame and Spectrum, a Group 1 winner out of a mare by Nashwan, and a Group winner out of a mare by Rahy (sire of Fantastic Light).

There are three Stakes winners by Monsun and his sons out of mares from the **Sharpen Up** line, including from mares by Halling and his son Diesis (also sire of Daggers Drawn). Sharpen Up can also be introduced through Famous Star, College Chapel, Keen (a brother to Diesis) and Switch in Time (by Kris, a brother to Diesis). Monsun is also sire of two Stakes winners, one Group, out of a mare by Don't Forget Me (by Ahonoora).

Alan Porter owns the thoroughbred pedigree consultancy and management company, Pedigree Consultants.

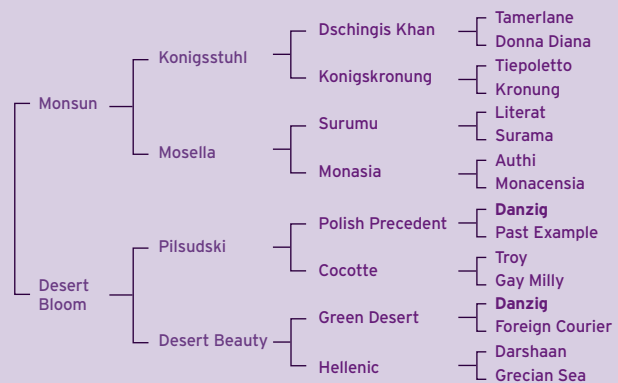
BEL ESPRIT: Tony Morris rates mares by Eliza Park's Bel Esprit, a son of Royal Academy, ideal for mating to Fiorente.





CLASS, SPEED, STAMINA:
Fiorente had it all, as well
as a wonderful will to win.

FIORENTE'S PEDIGREE CHART



A line steeped in history

Monsun represents a unique sire line that once dominated the world. Fittingly, the Blandford line has been resurrected at a time when the thoroughbred breeding world has been desperate for an outcross to match with the Northern Dancer line.

Monsun, **Fiorente's** world-champion sire, stepped up to the plate to fill the breach and it is through his sons and grandsons that the fruits of Germany's decision nearly a century ago to invest heavily in the best bloodlines, particularly the Blandford line, and the subsequent state-controlled "closed shop" that helped to preserve its soundness and strength for the rest of the world to access today.

A number of breeding experts have been lauding the resurrection of the Blandford line in the wake of Monsun's phenomenal success. One of those is John Berry, from thoroughbredinternet.com.

"Blandford ranks as one of the most influential stallions of the 20th century. Through the 20th century Blandford's line produced umpteen excellent stallions around the world, including Midstream (a multiple champion sire in Australia), Faux Tirage and Zamazaan (champion sires in New Zealand) as well as Khorassan and Trictrac (sires of the champions Tulloch and Balmerino respectively)."

Berry added that Monsun did it the hard way to earn his success. In his early years in Germany not only did he cover small books, but the mares he covered were nowhere near the quality he would served in his latter years before his death in 2012. **Fiorente** is a result of a classic Irish female line.

"However, what one can say is that he was in a class of his own as regards siring top-class, super-tough middle-distance and staying horses, and that—unlike most other members of the exclusive ranks of elite stallions—he genuinely owed his huge success entirely to his own merit, having had to rely on his ability to upgrade his mares, rather than on receiving an unbroken stream of high-class partners," Berry wrote.

Monsun was truly a remarkable stallion and now Australian breeders have access to one of his best sons, **Fiorente**, a fast and versatile representative of this famous line, and one who also proved himself against the best in Australian conditions.

Sire Line

MONSUN (GER)

1990-Stud 1996. 78% winners to runners - 18% stakes winners to runners. Sire of 460 winners, 101 stakes winners and \$63 million inc.

FIORENTE (08c, Pilsudski, Green Desert). 6 wins from 1600m to 3200m, A\$6,265,611, 1st Flemington Melbourne Cup, Gr.1, Flemington Australian Cup, Gr.1, M Valley Dato Tan Chin Nam S., Gr.2, Newmarket Prince Of Wales's S., Gr.2, Caulfield Peter Young S., Gr.2, 2nd Flemington Melbourne Cup Gr.1, Ascot King Edward S., Gr.2, Goodwood Gordon S., Gr.2, Goodwood Festival S., L., 3rd M Valley Cox Plate, Gr.1, Randwick All Aged S., Gr.1, Rosehill The BMW Gr.1.β

NOVELLIST (09c, Lagunas, Night Shift). 9 wins from 1500m to 2400m, A\$1,967,265, 1st Ascot King George VI & Queen Elizabeth S., Gr.1, Saint-Cloud Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud, Gr.1, Milan Gran Premio del Jockey Club, Gr.1, Baden-Baden Grosser Preis von Baden, Gr.1, Cologne Oppenheim Union Rennen, Gr.2, Baden-Baden Grosser Preis der Badischen Unternehmer, Gr.2, Frankfurt Frühjahrs-Preis, Gr.3, 2nd Hamburg Deutsches Derby, Gr.1, 4th Baden-Baden Grosser Preis von Baden, Gr.1

STACELITA (06f, Dashing Blade, Fioravanti). 10 wins from 1800m to 2400m, A\$2,683,731, 1st Chantilly Prix de Diane, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Vermeille, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Saint-Alary, Gr.1, Deauville Prix Jean Romanet, Gr.1, Arlington Park Beverly D S., Gr.1, Belmont Flower Bowl Invitational S., Gr.1, Longchamp La Coupe, Gr.3, Saint-Cloud Prix Rose de Mai, L., 2nd Goodwood Nassau S., Gr.1, Longchamp Prix de l'Opera, Gr.1, 3rd Monmouth United Nations S., Gr.1, Longchamp La Coupe, Gr.3, 4th Longchamp Prix d'Ispahan, Gr.1

SCHIAPARELLI (03c, Old Vic, Ridan). 12 wins from 2200m to 3200m, A\$1,872,478, 1st Milan Gran Premio del Jockey Club, Gr.1, Milan Gran Premio del Jockey Club, Gr.1, Hamburg Deutsches Derby, Gr.1, Cologne Preis von Europa, Gr.1, Dusseldorf Deutschland Preis, Gr.1, Goodwood Goodwood Cup, Gr.2, Deauville Prix Kergerlay, Gr.2, Hamburg IDEE Hansa Preis, Gr.2, Dortmund Deutsches St Leger, Gr.3, Hannover Grosser Preis der Hannoverschen Volksbank, L., 2nd Longchamp Prix Royal Oak, Gr.1, Dusseldorf Deutschland Preis, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Foy, Gr.2, 3rd Curragh Irish St Leger, Gr.1, Newmarket Princess of Wales's S., Gr.2, Baden-Baden Grosser Mercedes-Benz Preis, Gr.2

SHIROCCO (01c, The Minstrel, Tap on Wood). 7 wins from 2200m to 2400m, A\$3,288,228, 1st Belmont Breeders' Cup Turf S., Gr.1, Epsom Coronation Cup, Gr.1, Milan Gran Premio del Jockey Club, Gr.1, Hamburg Deutsches Derby, Gr.1, Newmarket Jockey Club S., Gr.2, Longchamp Prix Foy, Gr.2, Mulheim RWE Aqua Derby Trial, L., 3rd Baden-Baden Grosser Volkswagen Preis von Baden, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Foy, Gr.2, Cologne Oppenheim-Union-Rennen, Gr.2, 4th Longchamp Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Gr.1

MANDURO (02c, Be My Guest, Elektrant). 10 wins from 1400m to 2400m, A\$2,516,692, 1st Royal Ascot Prince of Wales's S., Gr.1, Deauville Prix Jacques le Marois, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix d'Ispahan, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Foy, Gr.2, Longchamp Prix d'Harcourt, Gr.2, Newmarket Earl of Sefton S., Gr.3, Cologne Preis des Winterfavoriten, Gr.3, Hoppegarten Volkswagen Preis der Deutschen Einheit, Gr.3, Munich Pferdewetten.de Kriterium Bavaria Preis, L., 2nd Deauville Prix Jacques le Marois, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix d'Ispahan, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Dollar, Gr.2, 3rd Royal Ascot Prince of Wales's S., Gr.1, Longchamp Prix Ganay, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix du Moulin de Longchamp, Gr.1, Maisons-Laffitte Prix Messidor, Gr.3, 4th Rome Premio Roma, Gr.1

GETAWAY (03c, Unfuwain, Riverman). 9 wins from 2400m to 3000m, A\$1,499,126, 1st Baden-Baden Grosser Preis von Baden, Gr.1, Dusseldorf Deutschland Preis, Gr.1, Newmarket Jockey Club S., Gr.2, Deauville Grand Prix de Deauville, Gr.2, Deauville Prix Kergerlay, Gr.2, Longchamp Prix de Lutece, Gr.3, Deauville Prix Michel Houyvet, L., Compiègne Prix Pierre Jamme, Saint-Cloud Prix Barneveldt, 2nd Milan Gran Premio di Milano, Gr.1, Cologne Rheinland Pokal, Gr.1, Hamburg IDEE Hansa Preis, Gr.2, Cologne Gerling Preis, Gr.2, Longchamp Prix Gladiateur, Gr.3, Longchamp Prix Beachcomber Hotels Dinarobin 5 Luxe, 3rd Longchamp Prix Chaudenay, Gr.2, 4th Longchamp Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Gr.1

MAXIOS (08c, Nureyev, Mr. Prospector). 8 wins from 1600m to 2000m, A\$960,899, 1st Longchamp Prix du Moulin de Longchamp, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix d'Ispahan, Gr.1, Longchamp Prix d'Harcourt, Gr.2, Saint-Cloud Prix Thomas Bryon, Gr.3, Maisons-Laffitte La Coupe de Maisons-Laffitte, Gr.3, Longchamp Prix de la Savonnerie, Longchamp Prix de Fontenoy, 2nd Longchamp Prix Ganay, Gr.1, Chantilly Grand Prix de Chantilly, Gr.2

SAMUM (97c, Old Vic, Ridan). 5 wins from 1600m to 2400m, A\$240,784, 1st Hamburg Deutsches Derby, Gr.1, Baden-Baden Grosser Preis von Baden, Gr.1, Munich Grosser Muller Brot Preis, Gr.2, Krefeld Dr Busch Memorial, Gr.3, 2nd Baden-Baden Grosser Mercedes-Benz Preis, Gr.2, Baden-Baden Grosser Mercedes-Benz Preis, Gr.2, 3rd Dusseldorf WGZ Bank Deutschland Preis, Gr.1

Hellenic's legacy

Fiorente's third dam Hellenic (by Darshaan), the dam of three Group 1 winners, including the champion Islington, is one of Europe's great broodmares.

Few Group 1-winning mares have gone to the broodmare paddock to produce three Group 1 winners. Hellenic is in that rare air.

Hellenic was "married" to Sadler's Wells—11 of her 14 foals were by the great son of Northern Dancer. However, it was one of the three times she didn't go to Sadler's Wells that Hellenic produced **Fiorente's** grand-dam, Desert Beauty, who is a daughter of Danzig's great son Green Desert.

This opens the prospect for breeders to consider mating their Sadler's Wells-line mares to **Fiorente**, whose sire, the incredible Monsun, also is a wonderful nick with Sadler's Wells and his sire Northern Dancer.

Ballymacoll Stud's general manager Peter Reynolds lauded Hellenic when she died in 2011. "Hellenic has been a wonderful servant to Ballymacoll. A Group 1 winner that can produce three Group 1 winners is pretty unusual.

"Three of her daughters – Islington, Olympienne, and Desert Beauty – are continuing the line at Ballymacoll. Only one of her progeny, New Morning, was sold.

"She was a wonderful character, very easy to do anything with, a proper lady."

Breeding expert Fionnuala Timoney paid tribute on her blog, *Calvados Bloodstock*, to Hellenic.

"Hellenic won the Group 2 Ribblesdale Stakes at three, and trained on to win the Group 1 Yorkshire Oaks at four. She also was a creditable second behind Snurge in the Group 1 English St.Leger. While an outstanding race mare in her own right, at stud

A Group 1 winner that can produce three Group 1 winners is pretty unusual

PETER REYNOLDS

Hellenic went on to achieve even greater success.

"Hellenic's breeding record truly is remarkable and she should be regarded as highly as Urban Sea and Hasili, other top-class producers of her generation.

"Her breeding record also serves as a great example of the success that the Sadler's Wells-Darshaan nick has enjoyed. Hellenic and her legacy is a credit to the great results achieved by the late Lord Weinstock's breeding operation Ballymacoll Stud, managed by Peter Reynolds.

"The stud, whose main aim is breeding to race, has enjoyed huge success over the past 50 years."

Fiorente is the latest star Group 1-winner to come from the Hellenic line, and he's in a great place to continue her marvelous legacy.



THE DAM: Fiorente's dam Desert Bloom, a grand-daughter of Hellenic, pictured at Ballymacoll Stud, Ireland.

Dam Line

1st Dam

DESERT BEAUTY, by Pilsudski. Unraced. Half-sister to **HYBLON**, **Red Dune**. Dam of three to race, all winners, inc:-

Fiorente (c. by Monsun). £121,965, D9,100, A\$6,068,500, inc. VRC Melbourne Cup, **Gr.1**, Australian Cup, **Gr.1** (see over).

Masada (f. by Key of Luck). 3 wins-1 at 2-at 5f, 6f, Newmarket Fillies' H.

2nd Dam

Desert Beauty, by Green Desert. 2 wins at 7f, 1m, Newmarket NGK Spark Plugs H., 3d Newmarket Ben Marshall S., **L**, 4th Cheshire Oaks, **L**. Half-sister to **GREEK DANCE**, **ISLINGTON**, **MOUNTAIN HIGH**, **NEW MORNING**, **ELECTION DAY**, Olympienne (dam of **MODUN**, **PATKAI**). Dam of 8 foals, 6 to race, all winners, inc:-

HYBLON (Machiavellian). 7 wins from 1200m to 1800m, 153,670,000¥, Tokyo Oasis S., **L**, Nakayama Naigai Times Hai, Keiyo S., Tokyo Tachikawa Tokubetsu, 2d Nakayama Naigai Times Hai, Urawa Gold Cup, 3d Hanshin Naniwa S., Kyoto Aldebaran S., Tokyo Sagamiko Tokubetsu, 4th Sapporo Elm S., **L**.

Red Dune (Red Ransom). 2 wins at 7f, 1m, Newmarket Fillies' H., 2d Ascot October S., **L**, 3d Cologne Wetten Sieberts Neuss Wuppertal Stutenpreis, **L**, 4th Goodwood Oak Tree S., **Gr.3**-twice, Doncaster Sceptre S., **L**-twice, Newmarket Boadicea S., **L**. Dam of-

Feedyah (Street Cry). 2 wins at 2 in 2013, Ascot Hyperion 2YO Fillies' S., 2d UAE Oaks, **Gr.3**, 3d UAE One Thousand Guineas, **L**.

3rd Dam

HELLENIC, by Darshaan. 3 wins at 1 1/4m, 1 1/2m, Yorkshire Oaks, **Gr.1**, Royal Ascot Ribblesdale S., **Gr.2**, York Middleton S., 2d The St Leger, **Gr.1**. Half-sister to **Golden Wave**, **Celtic River**, **New Trojan**, Troyes (dam of **MONT ETOILE**), Sea Picture (dam of **RUSCELLO**), Above Water (dam of **SIEGE**). Dam of 14 foals, 10 to race, 9 winners, inc:-

ISLINGTON (Sadler's Wells). Champion 3YO Filly in GB in 2002 (Intermediate/Long).

Champion Turf Female in USA in 2003. Champion Older Female in GB & Ireland in 2003 (Intermediate/Long). 6 wins from 1 1/4m to 1 1/2m, £449,915, D139,962, US\$704,800, Yorkshire Oaks, **Gr.1**-twice, Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf S., **Gr.1**, Goodwood Nassau S., **Gr.1**, York Musidora S., **Gr.3**, 3d Leopardstown Irish Champion S., **Gr.1**, Royal Ascot Prince of Wales's S., **Gr.1**, Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf S., **Gr.1**, Producer.

MOUNTAIN HIGH (Danehill). 4 wins from 2000m to 2400m, £106,814, D242,210, Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud, **Gr.1**, Ascot Buckhounds S., **L**, 2d Newmarket Princess of Wales's S., **Gr.2**, Royal Ascot Hardwicke S., **Gr.2**, Goodwood Festival S., **L**, 3d Prix de Chantilly, **Gr.2**. Sire.

GREEK DANCE (Sadler's Wells). Champion Older Male in Germany in 2000 (Intermediate). 4 wins from 7f to 10 1/2f, £282,107, 200,000fr., 175,000Dm., HK\$3,000,000 in GB and Germany, Munich Grosser Preis Dallmayr Bayerisches Zuchtrennen, **Gr.1**, Haydock Rose of Lancaster S., **Gr.3**, Newmarket Grantchester Rated S.H., York Michael Seely Memorial Glasgow Conditions S., 2d Curragh Tattersalls Gold Cup, **Gr.1**, Leopardstown Irish Champion S., **Gr.1**, York International S., **Gr.1**, Longchamp Prix Ganay, **Gr.1**, Hong Kong Cup, **Gr.1**.

NEW MORNING (Sadler's Wells). 3 wins at 1 1/4m, 1 1/2m, Sandown Brigadier Gerard S., **Gr.3**, Salisbury Upavon S., **L**, 4th Curragh Pretty Polly S., **Gr.1**, Royal Ascot Ribblesdale S., **Gr.2**. Producer.

ELECTION DAY (Sadler's Wells). 2 wins at 1 1/4m, 1 1/2m, Newbury Aston Park S., **L**, 2d Chester Ormonde S., **Gr.3**, 3d Royal Ascot Gold Cup, **Gr.1**, Ascot Sagaro S., **Gr.3**, 4th Goodwood Cup, **Gr.2**. Sire.

Olympienne. Unraced. Dam of-

PATKAI (Indian Ridge). 4 wins-1 at 2-from 8 1/4f to 2m, £170,716, Ascot Sagaro S., **Gr.3**, Royal Ascot Queen's Vase, **Gr.3**, Haydock Tomboy Cavanagh H., 2d Royal Ascot Gold Cup, **Gr.1**, Sandown Henry II S., **Gr.2**, 4th Goodwood Great Voltigeur S., **Gr.2**.

MODUN (King's Best). 3 wins from 9 3/4f to 1 1/2m, £103,305, 80,740Dhs, Kempton September S., **Gr.3**, Newbury Dubai Duty Free Millennium Millionaire H., 2d Kempton Floodlit S., **L**, 3d Newbury Geoffrey Freer S., **Gr.3**, Kempton September S., **Gr.3**.

Saptapadi (Indian Ridge). Winner at 1 1/2m, Doncaster Chique Designer Boutique of Armthorpe S., 2d Sandown Henry II S., **Gr.2**, 3d Newbury Geoffrey Freer S., **Gr.3**, 4th Sandown Classic Trial S., **Gr.3**, Kempton September S., **Gr.3**.

4th Dam

GRECIAN SEA, by Homeric. Winner. Half-sister to **SAILOR'S MATE** (dam of **CUNNING VIXEN**, **KING ADAM**, **SEA SPRAY**), **Naval Party**, **Ship of State**, Irish Sea (dam of **SHIR DAR**). Dam of 9 winners, granddam of **MONT ETOILE** (Royal Ascot Ribblesdale S., **Gr.2**) Producer), **RUSCELLO** (VRC Lexus S., **Gr.3**) and **SIEGE** (Nad al Sheba HH Sheikh Maktoum al Maktoum Challenge S. No.1, **L**, 3d Newbury Hungerford S., **Gr.3** Sire) and great granddam of **CESARE** (Ascot Summer Mile, **Gr.2**, Paradise S., **L**-twice, 2d Royal Ascot Queen Anne S., **Gr.1**), **NOWHERE TO EXIT** (Deauville Prix La Force, **Gr.3**, 2d Chantilly Prix du Jockey Club, **Gr.1**) and **EMBRACED** (Ascot Swinley S., **L**. Producer).