

Rabab Stud

■ by **Pat Canfield**

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Rabab Stud is the continuation of a dream that began in the early 80s for Sheikh Khaled Binladin. Even as a child, he had a fascination with Arabian horses as personified by the great old stallion, Hamdan who caught his interest early on because to the young Khaled, he personified the Majesty of the Arabian horse. Khaled developed a great interest in the Desert Horse and its well known beauty, character, spirit and of course, its unique history. Later on as a rider, he saw an opportunity to rescue the Alaa El Din

daughter, Rabab. He bought land on the edge of the desert near the Pyramids and began his breeding program with her as foundation mare. Through the years, his world has developed into a highly specialized and successful approach to breeding. Today he has brought his program to a series of European and Egyptian Championships with plans of more to come.

Khaled is a firm believer in the philosophy that the Arabian

must be in the desert in order to thrive and maintain the characteristics, which make it unique in the world of horses. Through the years, Khaled has observed that even the horses that come to his farm from other areas in Egypt and especially from outside the country become closer to the original vision of the Arabian horse as they acclimate to Rabab and seem to inhale their essence as they live and frolic at the edge of the Sahara Desert in the midst of the Egyptian Pyramids.

Khaled's early years in breeding involved studying the various bloodlines and learning which aspects he wanted to stress in his farm. As his program has developed, Khaled has shown a great passion for bringing in horses and lines that he believes will add to developing the stamp of a Rabab horse. These horses are coming from Europe, the Middle East and America as well as certain farms in Egypt. It has become a serious quest. The overall program has several avenues, which are blending to create the horses he envisions. The Farm names of Al Najdiah, Hadhoub and Leila are part of the overall Rabab program. Khaled's son, Salem is heavily involved in the operation, breeding decisions and farm acquisitions as well as winning Championships with his Dancing Horses and performing internationally at key shows.

As part of his search to learn and refine the program, Khaled travels extensively. Several years ago, Khaled saw the magnificent Al Lahab in the show ring. "This was it for me", he said. "This stallion flew into the ring and I could not look anywhere else. I can understand why he is a true champion. He completely caught my heart. The first few times I saw him, I was captured by the whole picture. Then gradually I began to look at all the components." From this point, Al Lahab get became a major focus of the breeding program at Rabab through the acquisition of several of

his get and foals bred from Rabab mares.

And then, he saw Mahala, the Al Lahab daughter out of Mahasin II by Al Kidir. It was love at first sight. "This is my Egyptian horse", Sh. Khaled said, "I have found exactly what I am looking for. I know she is special and she has never disappointed me". "Every time she is in the ring", he continues, "I feel that she will win". This has certainly held true with her most recent string of wins in Europe during the current season.

The now five year old lightly dappled grey Mahala brings her charisma and great conformation into every ring. Judges and audience responded with tremendous enthusiasm as she won: Unanimous Champion Mare and Best in Show – Arabica Egyptian Event -Frankfurt 2008, Champion Mare, Best in Show and Most Beautiful Head – European Egyptian Event - Belgium 2008, Res. Champion Mare Intl. – Bettona 2008 and Champion and High Scoring Mare – Arabequus Spain 2008. After Paris, Mahala will leave Europe where she has been so successfully shown by Paolo Capecci and return to her home in Egypt where she





Mahala

Al Lahab x Mahasin II

has built a strong following with a win of Senior Champion Mare and Classic Head at the Egyptian Nationals in 2007. Her first foal, the black colt Amore RB by Al Lahab promises to carry forward the best of both champions.

Mahala's half brother GR Lahari, '05 by Al Lahab out of GR Marianah, a Madallan-Madheen daughter, is developing very well into his potential as the dynamic grey colt won Junior Champion Colt at the EAO Internationals in '06. Lahari is maturing extremely well and will be taking his super movement and strong show personality to the European circuit next season.

Another major component of the Al Lahab line at Rabab is F Aisha by the great stallion Alidar out of Flabys Shamoni. A star producing mare, she is at Rabab with her two daughters who are full sisters by Al Lahab: F Liya '03 and





Dananeer '07. Another absolutely wonderful mare, the classic flea-bitten, Imperial Safama '92, a daughter of the recently deceased Ibn Safinaz and out of Imperial Im Wassama looks as though she arrived at the farm directly from an old lithograph. She has added to the program with her colt L'Amour RB by Al Lahab.

A second major facet of the Rabab program is the introduction of Romeo Al Amaar '06 a son of the International Champions, Amaar Al Rayan and out of Imperial Maysama (Imperial Madheen x Imperial Imeriah). This striking two year old colt came to Egypt after winning the Junior Championship at the European Egyptian Event in 2007 and Reserve Champion Colt Travagliato Cavalli Egyptian Event – Italy -2007. Sh. Khaled holds great hope for the colt who is maturing into what Khaled believes will allow him to become one of the leading stallions at the farm bringing as he does the blood lines of Safir and Ansata Imperial and everything implicit in that pedigree.

Another of the very bright stars in the Rabab program is Aziza Al Khalediah '03 by Imperial Pharouk out of Kareema Al Rayan thus making Aziza a granddaughter of Imperial Al Kamar and Safir. The five year old mare makes a spectacular appearance whenever she is presented with smooth balanced and dramatic movement.

In keeping with the philosophy of



A more rb

Al Lahab x Mahala

bringing the best of what Khaled and Salem see that they believe will improve their program; they have added the striking filly with great potential, Aisha by Royal '07 by the spectacular Royal Colors out of SL Samirah. The filly won Futurity Champion at the International Bettona Show in Italy 2007 and Res. Champion Filly at Travagliato Cavalli Egyptian Event 2008. She is now at Rabab where she will continue with showing in Egypt.

The dynamic bay stallion, Kenz Noor an Imperial Madori son out of Naksh El Kouloub by Ibn Nazic, has made a substantial name for Rabab on the American and European show circuit with major wins in the States and an ever expanding role in European shows. He successfully combines the Imperial lines with some of the old Egyptian blood lines and has produced impressive foals on three continents.

The extremely showy light bay stallion established his reputation in the States while standing with Michael Byatt by winning Champion Stallion at Houston and San Antonio Arabian shows in 2007. In Italy he was shown by Paolo Capecci and won Reserve Championships at Cavalli Egyptian Event in Italy and the Arabica Egyptian Event



g Lahari

Al Lahab x GR Marianah



f Aisha

Alidaar x Flabys Shamoniet





f Liya

Al Lahab x F Aisha

in Frankfurt both in 2008. He will now be moving to Germany where he will continue on the show circuit. Before leaving Egypt, he produced some excellent foals including: the filly Dog Doga RB out of Yasmine El Hanafy and the delightful filly Ya Al Maz RB out of Ya Halla Kheir. Ya Halla is by the Ibn Akhtal son, Romman out of Dalloua and is one of the outstanding granddaughters of the great EAO mare Adalat who is one of Sh. Khaled's inspirations especially for her extraordinary head.

Another horse carrying similar lines to Kenz Noor is Anbar Noor '04, a daughter of Ibn Arabia Sakr who was EAO Champion Stallion in 2007 and out of Hams El Koulob). The highly refined and balanced grey filly made a strong impression on the crowds at the Saqqara National Show when she took Reserve Junior Champion in '06 with her high marks in all categories and buoyant personality. She also won Reserve Jr.



D ananeer rb

Al Lahab x F Aisha

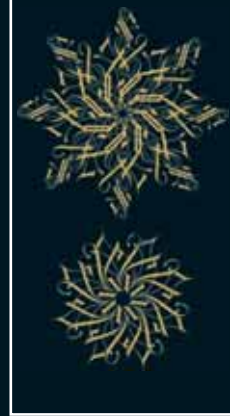


Imperial Safama

Ibn Safinaz x Imp. Im Wassama

Champion at the EAO in '07. Anbar is one of a number of very special young horses who hold great promise for the future of the stud and has recently produced an outstanding filly by Al Rayan, a Madheen son.

For the past few years, Khaled has been particularly focused on the breeding of black Arabians but only those, which he considers to be of great beauty as well as outstanding presence and conformation. His artist's eye complements that of the breeder as he has managed to bring together an outstanding collection of midnight black horses of exceptional beauty. "I am lucky with what I bring", is a phrase often repeated by Khaled as he walks through the paddocks and



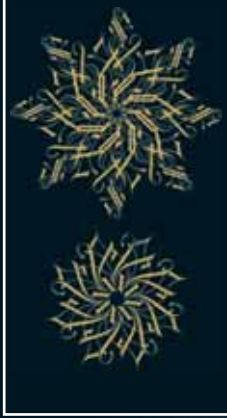
watches over every aspect of the operations.

One of the first stars of this program is Bouznika (Imperial Mashaar x Mayyat) '99, a grandson of the formidable stallions: Imperial Madheen and Shaikh El Badi. A stallion of great presence and self-assurance, Bouznika has had an interesting journey back to his roots near the desert. He started his life at The Royal Stud in Morocco and then moved to Germany. Now the elegant stallion has found his home as he oversees his domain in Egypt. While it is rare to find a black that has both a correct powerful body combined with refinement and a handsome head, it is all here in Bouznika. He has been



L' A more rb

Al Lahab x Imperial Safama



producing very well with a number of mares and passing on his best features to his get. One of his most recent foals is a beautiful black filly out of Bint El Basha '00 (El Basha Sakr. x Bardeya) a striking dark bay who is one of Khaled's best producing mares. Another of his most recent fillies is Nesma RB out of Yasmine El Hanafy (Khaled Sakr. x Safeyet Al-badeia).

Another important addition to the farm is G Ashalima (Asham Sharafa x AK Sirhalima) '91. This elegant black mare carries forward the lines of two famous grandsires: Moniet El Sharaf and Ansata Ibn Halima. The mare had been in Germany until the day when Khaled walked into her barn and she called to him from the far end of the aisle. When he reached her stall and saw the full intelligent eye and the graceful cresting neck, he knew she was coming to Rabab. She is now at the farm with her filly Tamara by Taymour B.

Two bright young members of the stallion side of the program are: GR Fadil (Madallan – Madheen x Fannisah) '05, and GR Maarif '06. The two black colts are expected to make great contributions to what Khaled calls his "black beauties" all of whom have that special polished ebony coat that gleams by day and night. GR Maarif has joined Fadil as one of the new crop of young black stallions in the making. He is a grandson of Madallan-Madheen and the first foal out of Maria Halima by the stallion GR Faleeh. His movement



Romeo al A maar

Amaar Al Rayyan x Imperial Maysama

is truly extraordinary and he delights visitors whenever he is out in the paddock.

For over twenty years, the farm has been in a constant process of evolving and enlarging its program. Today, Rabab Stud is situated on land made lush and green with over fifteen paddocks and full size show rings nestled amidst date palm and mango groves as well as brightly flowering cactus plants all right at the edge of the desert near the pyramids of ancient Egypt. The stables are built in a graceful Arab style with domes surmounting wide aisled rows of stalls. Air and light freely circulate as the horses thrive in natural surroundings. All of the horses spend hours each day in the many paddocks scattered throughout the farm.



A ziza al Khalediah

Imperial Pharouk x Kareema Al Rayyan

Visitors to the farm are always impressed by the devotion of all those involved in the program. Those who have been lucky enough to see the presentation of the horses at liberty in the show ring in their beautiful surroundings can enjoy and appreciate the evolution of the look of the Rabab horse. The elegance, spirit and movement of these magnificent Arabian horses allow all to experience a vision of the desert horse living and showing himself as only they can as they carry their history into the world of today.

In a recent interview, Sheikh Khaled summed up his feelings with words that epitomize his philosophy of breeding:



A isha by Royal

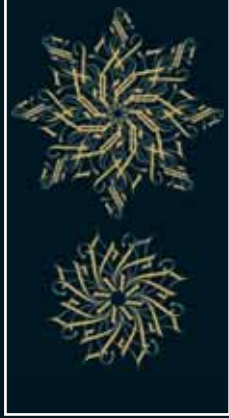
Royal Colours x SL Samirah



Kenz Noor

Imperial Madori x Naksh El Noor

When I think of an Arabian horse, I visualize a living, moving tableau. I see the living heritage of the Arab people. Sometimes I think of the brutal world of the desert with little water, little food and almost no shelter. And yet, this magnificent creature of God was able to survive and even flourish. One must look at them and wonder from where the horse has the spirit and the will to survive and also has the intelligence and the character to mean so much to the history of the Arab peoples. Every day, I give thanks to God that I am here to enjoy and love this gift from him.



Arnar Noor

Ibn Arabia Sqr. x Naksh El Kouloub



Bouznika

Imperial Mashaar x Mayyat
with Sheikh Khaled Binladin



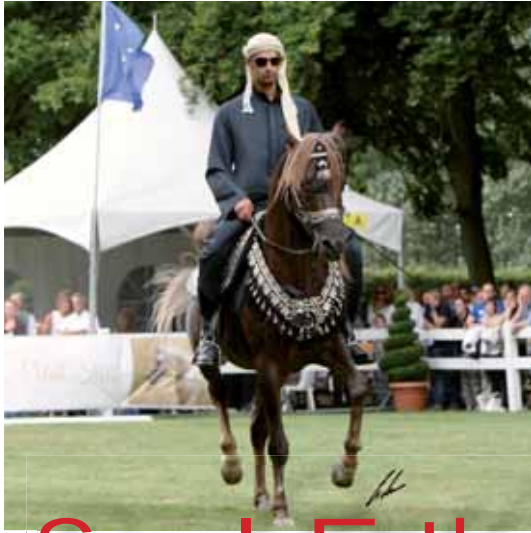
Maarif

GR Faleeh x Maria Halima



Ashalima

AK Sirhalima x Asham Sharafa



Sea el Fath

Ibn Adaweya x Sharbat
Salem riding

The Dancing Horses

One of the highlights of Rabab Stud is their focus on the Dancing Horses. Maneuvers that throughout history were part of military formation and battle almost took on the intricacy of an Equestrian ballet. Many of these movements formed the basis of what is now the highly respected discipline of dressage. This has partially evolved down through the centuries to what are known as the Dancing Horses of Egypt accompanied by the folkloric Tabla Beladi music.

Through the past years, Salem has won five EAO National Championships through '07 as well as the Championship at Sharqiya which is the home of dancing horses in Egypt. The horse and rider must exhibit great concentration and discipline in addition to outstanding athletic abilities. Salem is now performing internationally in spectacular appearances at the World Championships in Paris '07 and the First Al Khalediah Horse Festival in Riyadh Jan. '08. He has recently performed at a number of key shows throughout Europe this season.

The grand old stallion of Rabab, Ibn Adaweya (Akhtal x Adaweya) '80 is the root of the success in this discipline. Khaled has said that whenever he looked at the still powerful and self assured stallion he would have wanted him for his War Horse in previous centuries. SEA El Fateh '99 out

of Sharbat the current star of the program began his career by winning EAO Junior Champion at eight months of age and now thrills audiences with his great abilities. His half brother, Yakout '02 out of Kout El Kouloub is the perfect complement as they perform separately and in duo. They are currently in Italy where they are both in great demand for upcoming shows in Europe and the Middle East. □



Yakout rb

Ibn Adaweya x Kout El Kouloub



Rabab Stud

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