

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Stars from the Spy Coast Farm Developing Jumpers Make Good on Early Promise

By Dinette Neuteboom



ARMANI SL Z (Successful in Spy Coast Farm Developing Jumper classes at each age, winner in the Spy Coast Farm Young Horse Show Series at three and four years old)

Armani SL Z (Asca Z x Cumano) is probably one of the best performing horses that has ever competed in young jumper competitions at WEF. With the 23-year-old Mexican rider Eugenio Garza in the irons, the beautiful grey gelding with one blue eye has a record to be proud of. Last summer the now 12-year-old gelding jumped at the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, and performed incredibly well with a silver medal in the team competition and a sixth place finish individually. Three weeks later, Garza and Armani continued their successes at the CSI 4* in St. Tropez, France, by winning the grand prix qualifier and finishing second in the Grand Prix. Earlier in 2019, Garza and Armani were runner up in the CSI 5* Grand Prix in Langley, BC, and in the CSI 3* Grand Prix in Lexington, KY, in addition to multiple top placings at the highest level of the sport.

As a young horse, Armani SL Z already stood out with his outstanding jumping abilities. In 2011, as a three-year-old, he won both the In-Hand and Loose Jumping divisions in the final of the Spy Coast Farm Young Horse Show Series at PBI EC and as a four-year-old, he was the Jumping Under Saddle champion in the same competition. In one of the events leading up to the 2011, final he even got awarded the “perfect 10” for jumping style and the judge

commented that Armani had “top FEI potential.”

In the years that followed, Armani competed successfully in the Young Jumper divisions (now called Developing Jumpers) at WEF as a five-, six- and seven-year-old under Ezequiel Peralta. After that he was sold to Eugenio Garza’s parents, David and Monica.

“Armani is the result of our trip to the World Breeding Jumping Championships for Young Horses in Lanaken, Belgium, for which we qualified in 2008 with our six-year-old Carambo Z, owned by the Bakker family,” said Wendy Peralta of Seabreeze Farm. “Armani was still with his mother at that time, but we were smitten by his cresty neck, his blue eye, and his Cumano-bred mother. The Bakker family purchased Armani, he was weaned, and the rest is history.”

Peralta really believes that the Developing Jumper divisions are beneficial in the development of the young equine athletes. “When you reflect back on those years when Armani did the competitions, then you realize how special it was to be able to showcase a young horse in that atmosphere,” she said.



F ONE USA (2016 Six-Year-Old Developing Jumper Circuit Champion)

F One USA proves that success in the world of show jumping is not only based on luck. The people in the life of the now 10-year-old stallion knew how to limit the variables to a minimum.

His co-breeder Roelof Brill from the Netherlands was a successful international show jumping rider himself and he knew that if he wanted to breed a successful show jumper, he had to start with a mother that had proven successful herself. So he paired his mare Beat Me, who herself had jumped up to 1.50m-international level, with the Belgian stallion Toulon, who competed at the international 1.60m level.

F One USA was born and as a three-year-old stallion, was approved for the KWPN, the Royal Dutch Warmblood Studbook. Poden Farm from Great Britain bought F One USA and with their excellent care, fantastic management, and the top riders they hired to develop their young talent, F One USA got all the chances to develop into a promising show jumper. And he didn't disappoint. In 2016 F One USA was circuit champion of the then-named Adequan Six-Year-Old Young Jumper division at WEF under Olympic Champion Nick Skelton (GBR). Another world-class rider and Olympic Champion, Ben Maher (GBR), took over the reins and last summer, as a nine-year-old, F One USA jumped at the biggest five-star shows in Europe like Aachen CHIO in Germany and the Global Champions League events in London, Paris, Monte Carlo, Madrid, and Rome.



MANHATTAN (2017 Spy Coast Farm Six-Year-Old Developing Jumper Circuit Champion)

For Georgina Bloomberg's Gotham Enterprizes, the circuit championship for Manhattan in the 2017 Spy Coast Farm Six-Year-Old Developing Jumper division was a very special one. Not only

was Gotham Enterprizes the owner of Manhattan, the New York and Wellington-based operation is also the breeder of the chestnut gelding and Bloomberg has ridden Manhattan's French-bred father Metropolitan (by Cabdula du Tillard) as well as his German-bred mother Lumina 2 (by Lancer III) at the highest level. Between 2005-2010, she rode Metropolitan and Lumina to four WEF Challenge Cup victories. Last summer, as an eight-year-old, Manhattan showed successfully in Europe at the two-star level with Irish rider Jeremy Sweetnam and later in the season with Bloomberg herself.



ORBETELLO (2011 Adequan Eight-Year-Old Young Jumper Circuit Champion)

In 2011, Olympian Margie Engle rode her own Orbetello to the circuit championship in the Eight-Year-Old Developing Jumper division, but the success of the bay stallion didn't stop there. Orbetello went on to compete at the highest international level with three different riders. In 2015, the then 12-year-old stallion jumped to no less than 10 top-10 finishes at the international four- and five-star competitions at Spruce Meadows with U.S. show jumper Brianne Goutal. He even won a class at five-star level and finished sixth in a demanding five-star Grand Prix.

The well-bred Orbetello has in Orlando van de Heffinck one of the best Belgian breeding stallions as his father. His mother, Landkind, is a daughter of one of the most famous German stallions of all time, Landgraf I. His pedigree and own accomplishments in the sport combined was reason enough for several European studbooks to add Orbetello to their list of approved breeding stallions.



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TUPAC VAN DE VROMBAUTSHOEVE (2017
*Spy Coast Farm Seven-Year-Old Developing Jumper
Circuit Champion*)

Over the summer of 2019, the now 10-year-old Tupac van de Vrombautshoeve showed that his circuit championship in the in 2017 Spy Coast Farm Seven-Year-Old Developing Jumper division wasn't just a lucky one. The Zangersheide-bred gelding has the same sire as McLain Ward's championship horse HH Azur (Thunder van de Zuuthoeve) and won the 2017 championship under Emanuel Andrade from Venezuela. Last year Tupac, currently owned by Oakmont Stables LLC, further developed into an international competitor under American show jumper Hardin Towell. The combination performed well at four- and five-star level at Spruce Meadows and the Hampton Classic and finished fourth in the Grand Prix of the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival in Traverse City, Michigan.

MORE ABOUT SPY COAST FARM

Spy Coast Farm specializes in the breeding and development of top-quality performance horses. With three locations along the east coast, Spy Coast attempts to take advantage of the best the U.S. has to offer by way of climate, veterinary services, show facilities, training and riding talent.

The breeding, training, competition and sales arms of the business are all integrated, so that the quality of any one of these functions keeps improving with the continued feedback and support of the others. The Spy Coast Farm team members are committed to this process in order to make top quality performance horses available.

