

Rothenberg Stud



GR *Fasin*
Maheeb | Fasinah

Al Escher

Rothenberg

*“Do what you love to do
with all your heart
and force ...
and never give up!”*

*Emotional and inspiring talk with
Annette Escher, the woman
who keep fulfilling her dreams
and reach the success no matter
what comes the way.*

by Urszula Łęczycka
photos by Annette & Erwin Escher



Urszula Łęczycka: *Your farm has been established more than 30 years ago by you and your husband Erwin. Nowadays you run it all by yourself and Straight Egyptian horses with GR prefix are worldwide known. You also run one of the largest Straight Egyptian black coloured herds in the world – that is in high demand nowadays.*

Can you tell us more about the idea of establishing your breeding program? Was it the same from the beginning or it has been changing through the years and following the market?

What were your first horses and where did you get them from?

Annette Escher: We started our Straight Egyptian breeding with a small number of horses several years before we could buy the right place and built “Rothenberg Stud” in 1991. In 1992 the stud and pastures was ready and we moved our horses to here ... from this time, having place enough, we were looking for the right additions and after we haven’t found most of them in Europe (there was only few Egyptians

in Germany / Europe at this time and nearly nothing for sale) we went several times to USA looking at studs and horses driving thousands of miles weekly. During this time we found and bought the foundation horses for my recent breeding, so the mares like: Halims Asmara (Ansata Halim Shah x Lancers Asmara- US National Top Ten and twice World Res. Champion mare), Dalima Shah (Ansata Halim Shah x AK Bint Dalia II), Ansata Aya Maria (Ansata Shah Zaman x Ansata Aya Halima by Ansata Ibn Halima) – Bukra line and the black Champion mare Maria Halima (Haziz Halim x Chelsea), Then the black mare Fasinah (Nahaman x Fatima) we found in Germany a bit later and before 1992 we already have owned the mare Samara (Ibn Moheba x Safiniya by Ibn Galal), I still own her granddaughter GR Safiniya and her black great-granddaughter GR Samantha which meanwhile is pregnant first time!

Over the years we sometimes leased a mare or made breeding-cooperation to add foals out of interesting mothers and motherlines – this way we bred our

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Annette and **GR Anastacia** (Classic Shadwan x Halims Asmara)
full-sister to Multi-Champion & gold premium stallion GR Amaretto



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Dalima Shah Multi Champion mare by Ansata Halim Shah - one of our foundation mares



GR Adelle

black filly *2022, by GR Ishad out of GR Anastacia (Classic Shadwan x foundation-mare Halim's Asmara by Ansata Halim Shah). GR Anastacia is a full-sister to our homebred Multi & European- Champion SE GR Amaretto



GR Alinah

(GR Lahab x GR Anisha by GR Faleeh)
great granddaughter of Halims Asmara - black producing



Classic Shadwan (Alidaar x Shagia Bint Shadwan) - Multi-Champion, foundation stallion



„Queen“ GR Nashidah (by Classic Shadwan) which is the mother of black gold-premium stallion GR Nashad (exp. Kuwait, by GR Faleeh) as well as our black mare GR Layla (by GR Faleeh) who is the mother of our young broodmare GR Larissa and our future stallion GR Layad (both by GR Ishad). After we moved to Rothenberg Stud we also bought our foundation-stallions: Classic Shadwan (Alidaar x Shagia Bint Shadwan imp. Egypt), we found him in France, he was four years old at this time and the black Madallan-Madheen - when we heard about a very special black colt being born 1994 out of special bloodlines we quickly went to see him, and we bought him in age of 6 weeks! He was the very first foundation for our black breeding! Madallan-Madheen was not bred to get black, his parents were chestnut (Ansata El Salaam) and bay (the famous Madinah, mother of Imperial Madheen) but he got black “by accident” and was just bred to be a great horse ... and got a rare gold premium ribbon from the German registry later at the licensing show!

GR Aliyah

(GR Faleeh x GR Anastacia by Classic Shadwan)
first black out of Halims Asmara line

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GR Aya Malikah

black mare, by GR Faleeh out of GR Aya Mahiba (Maheeb x GR Aya Farida) goes back to our foundation-mare Ansata Aya Maria from the Bukra line. Black colt GR Malish *2023 (by GR Ishad) beside which was exported to USA



Most of our early blacks were out of non black lines ... blacks were seldom and good blacks even more and usually they were impossible to buy! Since I was a child I always was a big fan of black horses but Erwin mostly loved the greys - in the end we love all colors so we only had a few blacks in the first years.

Over the years we got more and more black foals (also Classic Shadwan produced fantastic blacks) and after more than 30 years I have managed to get great blacks from all our foundation-horses ... for several I needed generations but meanwhile I have a fantastic group of black and black producing broodmares, many are already 4th and 5th generation of our foundation-mares!

But color was not most important all the time – we both loved pretty exotic faces, good (proven) Straight Egyptian pedigrees and as we also were riders since the beginning we wanted to have a solid horse with good body, legs and movements which are able to carry us over the fields! The goal was not to lose any of this points over the years ... type, body, movement ... and most important at all the fantastic, people loving sweet character the Egyptians are famous for.



GR Faleeh

(Madallan-Madheen x Fasinah) & Annette 25-09-17, the day before GR Faleeh left to Kuwait



GR Dalimah

(GR Mahal (GR Lahab x black Champion mare GR Marianah) x GR Danielle by GR Faleeh) goes back to Dalima Shah



GR Bint Asmara

(GR Moneef x GR Asmara) this year high pregnant goes back to Halims Asmara

UE: Straight Egyptian breeding is one of most difficult ones as you must use a very limited gene pool that creates some problems in avoiding inbreeding and breeding overall harmonius and typey horse. Limiting the Straight Egyptian breeding to black colour group only must be even more challenging. How do you find your way to keep breeding beautiful and correct horses with such a limited requirements?

AE: Most of our foundation horses were not bred to get black which means they had a bigger gene-pool as if we would bought mostly blacks in the beginning ... there were only very few black and black producing lines at this time which already often were inbred. And over the years we always were open to use sometimes outside stallions doesn't matter the color like World Champion Al Lahab

GR Bint Asmara

(GR Moneef x GR Asmara by GR Lahab)
13.9.16 - 4 months after Erwins death



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GR Ishad

(black gold premium stallion GR Nashad exp.
Kuwait x Shaylah Bint Iman by Classic Shadwan)
black gold premium stallion, Dahman Shahwan



if we thought they would bring us something new in blood and look ... in my recent herd I have some great black mares and fillies from this line! We always used the Straight Egyptian bloodlines we liked personally not looking for trends and what other breeders prefer ... we went our own way for our own taste and what we loved ourselves!

UE: *Did you manage to combine your goals of having the bloodlines, the strenght, stamina and also the colour and then keep into the fashion to win the show titles? It had to be extremely difficult task..*

AE: Over the years we often showed our horses and many of our foundation horses and their offspring got Multi-Champions and gold premium stallions. For example Dalima Shah and her daughter Shadwanah (by Classic Shadwan) as well as Halims Asmara and her son GR Amaretto (by Classic Sahdwan) won among other titles the champion titles at the Egyptian Event Europe. Also our first homebred black mares GR Marietta and GR Marianah (both Madallan-Madheen x Maria Halima)

GR Larissa

(GR Ishad x GR Layla) Abayyan line - the future



GR Layad

homozygous black colt 2023
(GR Ishad x GR Layla by GR Faleeh)
Abayyan - line - future stallion at Rothenberg!



GR Mahalia

black filly * 2023
(GR Ishad x GR Maheeba by Maheeb)
Moniet El Nefous line - the future



GR Shakadah

black filly 2019
(GR Ishad x GR Shakirah, Maheeb x GR Shatigah)
- great great granddaughter of Dalima Shah



GR Aisha

black filly 2022 (GR Ishad x GR Anisha by GR Faleeh) goes back
to Halims Asmara - the future

GR Mahidah

black filly 2022 (GR Ishad x GR Maheeba) - Moniet El Nefous
line - the future

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won several championships which was very special at this time as nearly no blacks was shown successfully! Also later our black stallion GR Faleeh (exported to Kuwait; Madallan-Madheen x Fasinah) was shown successfully ... and many more.

We sold our foals nearly all over the world and many of them won a lot for their new owners– many champion titles in halter classes as well as endurance races or riding classes.

Our sold horses live around the world as breeding-horses and produce fantastic foals for their new owners ... or are just best friends and great riding-horses to give their new owners fun and happy hours.

We also bred several gold premium stallions at the stallion registration of the registry, for me one of the most difficult gold to get at all!

We got gold premium titles for GR Amaretto (exported to Iran, Classic Shadwan x Halims Asmara by Ansata Halim Shah), his $\frac{3}{4}$ -brother Maheeb (black; Classic Shadwan x Bint Bint Mahiba by Ansata Halim Shah) and for the other black stallions GR Nashad (exported to Kuwait; GR Faleeh x GR Nashidah by Classic Shadwan), his black son at stud GR Ishad (GR Nashad x Shaylah Bint Iman by Classic Shadwan) and also for our young black stallion



GR Layla

(GR Faleeh x leasing-mare Sheherazade) - Abayyan line



GR Moneef

(GR Faleeh x GR Mona by Madallan-Madheen)



GR Samantha

black filly 2019 (Maheeb x GR Safiniya by GR Faleeh) - goes back to our first SE mare Samara (by Ibn Moheba)



GR Nashidah

(Classic Shadwan x Nejdshah)
mother of our homebred stallions GR Nashad
(gold premium stallion; father of GR Ishad) and GR Lahab.
Black-bay filly GR Nasinah *2023 (by GR Fasin) beside



GR Nasirah

black-bay filly *2022, by GR Fasin out of GR Nashidah (Classic Shadwan x Nejdshah).
GR Nasirah was the first foal of four young homozygous black gold premium stallion GR Fasin!



GR Mariyah

black mare *2018, by GR Moneef out of black champion-mare GR Marianah (by Madallan-Madheen) - goes back to our black foundation-mare, the Champion Maria Halima

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GR Shatigah

black mare 2003 (Pasha Farid x Shadwanah) - last daughter of Shadwanah at stud, goes back to Dalima Shah

GR Fasin (Maheeb x our foundation-mare Fasinah by Nahaman). And I have big hope to continue this fantastic row with my promising young black colt GR Layad (GR Ishad x GR Layla by GR Faleeh) in the future! He also is homozygous without any white markings and has an extremely dishy head – he is the future!

UE: Did you manage to establish some dam and sire lines of your own that you admire until that day and continue?

AE: All of my recent breeding-horses come in direct line from our early foundation horses – and all of them carry either the blood of Classic Shadwan or Madallan-Madheen or both of them!

Over the years I managed to breed fantastic blacks from all of the foundation-mares which made me very happy and proud and I love to see that the sold ones make their new owners happy, too.



GR Shasadah

black mare *2018, by black gold premium stallion GR Nashad (exp. Kuwait) out of GR Shatigah (Pasha Farid x Multi-Champion mare Shadwanah) goes back to our foundation-mare Dalima Shah by Ansata Halim Shah

UE: There is probably no Arabian horse lover in Europe that would not know the photos made by your husband Erwin who passed away 8 years ago. Since that time you keep running the farm by your own with just one helper. Your strenght, passion and achievements could be an inspiration for many woman or girls who dream or run the horse breeding on their own for different reasons. It must be hard, emotional but probably also satisfying when you manage to breed a great horse at the end? What would you say and advice to the other woman – breeders?

AE: Yes, the death of Erwin for sure was the most terrible time in my life, I thought my life have stopped, too. But the horses helped me a lot because giving up is no solution, you have to go on day by day, they wait for you, they need you!

Additionally, Erwins second favorite mare GR Asmara (GR Lahab x Halims's Asmara) died a few days after him



GR Fasin

*2019 (black gold premium stallion Maheeb x foundation mare Fasinah by Nahaman) - black gold premium stallion



GR Myrella

black filly 2023, by GR Fasin x GR Maryah (GR Moneef x black Champion mare GR Marianah) goes back to our foundation-mare Maria Halima



GR Farasha

(Maheeb x Fasinah by Nahaman) - full-sister to GR Fasin



GR Shaminah

black filly *2024, by black gold premium stallion GR Fasin out of GR Shatigah (Pasha Farid x Multi-Champion mare Shadwanah) - goes back to our foundation-mare Dalima Shah - the future

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Maheeb

(Classic Shadwan x Bint Bint Mahiba) - black gold premium stallion, sire of many of our breeding-horses



Halims Asmara by Ansata Halim Shah

Multi-Champion mare, one of our foundation mares



because of problems after giving birth and let her newborn filly GR Bint Asmara (by GR Moneef) alone with me. This baby nearly died as well because of substitute milk so I needed to take milk from other mares to feed this baby ... you can imagine that I nearly had no time to sleep over months which was very hard but maybe also good for me in this situation. My only aim was that we both need to survive ...and we did! Meanwhile GR Bint Asmara gave birth to already two wonderful black fillies herself ... and this made me very happy!

My advice is: do what you love to do with all your heart and force ... and never give up!

There are always good and bad times in our lifetime ... you need to survive the bad time and grow yourself in the

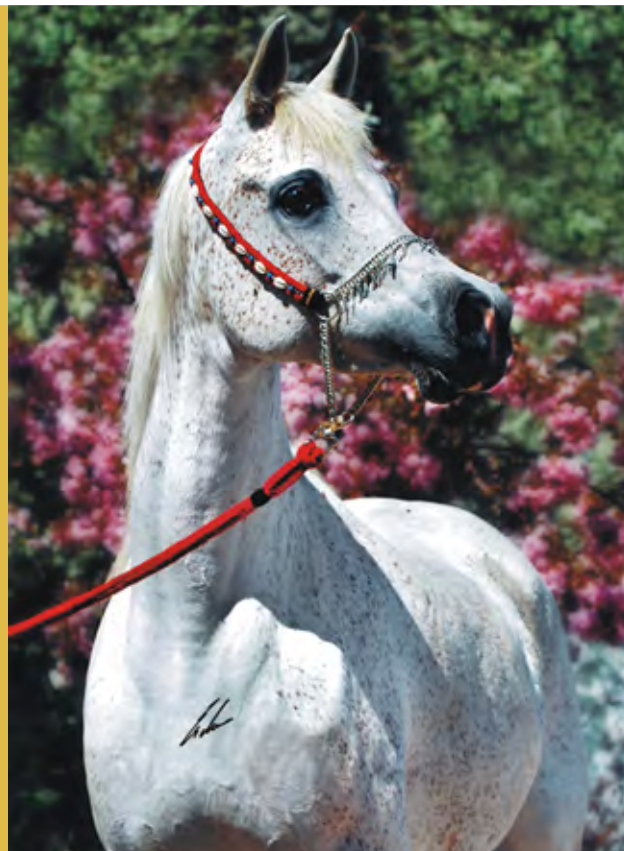
Madallan-Madheen

(Ansata El Salaam x Madinah) - black gold premium stallion, foundation-stallion



Fasinah

(Nahaman x Fatima); black foundation-mare, mother of homebred black show-winner GR Faleeh (exp. Kuwait) and my young black gold premium stallion GR Fasin



Shadwanah

(Classic Shadwan x Dalima Shah); first daughter of both her parents, Multi- & European Champion Straight Egyptian. Mother of black broodmare GR Shatigah

good time and take it into your heart for the future. Like when my homebred young homozygous black stallion GR Fasin (by Maheeb by Classic Shadwan), the much too early born last foal out of our foundation-mare Fasinah (which nearly died several time during the first weeks of his life) got a gold ribbon from the German registry as breeding-stallion with just amazing high scores in all points. And every birth when mother and baby are well – just a wonder every time! Such moments keep me running and make me happy!!!!

UE: What an amazing story and the best proof to your words of advice that I would certainly put as a title of this interview! I wish you all the best of luck on reaching your future goals and of course – with mostly those great and happy moments for every breeder.



GR Famonah

black filly *2021, by GR Moneef out of GR Farasha (black gold premium stallion Maheeb x foundation-mare Fasinah); GR Farasha is a full-sister to our stallion GR Fasin



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