My first encounter with Arabian Horse was a LOVE at first sight, more precisely with Egyptian Arabian Horses thanks to one of the very first books by Gigi Grasso, dedicated to Arabian Horses in Egypt, 25 years ago I knew something about this fascinating breed, my painting activity was until that time focused on dogs breeds, occasionally some horses not Arabians, but the photos by Gigi in that book were the very first concrete approach toward a passion that is increased years after years, bringing the decision to dedicate almost completely to Arabian Horse my painting production, my studies, my passion. I am indebted to some 'special' people for this unlimited love, would like to mention the most important to me, Dr. Nasr Marei, he was the first important breeder I addressed my 'many' questions about this breed, with the strong desire to know more and more about this horse to appreciate better his beauty, to understand better his morphology. 25 years ago with so many paintigns and portraits done and I am very happy and pleased to celebrate this 'anniversary' with DESERT HE-RITAGE this magazine dedicated to the most beautiful of all Arabian Horses. For some professional and family reasons I have been away from the Arabian Horse World for a while, but never loosing my passion for these wonderful creature. One year ago, thanks to a special Show in Rome, the 1st World Championship Show for Straight Egyptian

Arabians, I am come back to my painting works, with my paintings used as special trophies for this show and an exhibition area at my disposal, a very nice experience that I hope will be repeated again in October, a fantastic occasion to meet old friends and find new ones. Over these 25 years my style and painting techniques have been surely improved, I have tested new techniques having always as an imperative challenge to portray Arabian Horse in a realistic way because it is so easy to extremize his beauty a 'Barbie' look is not absolutely what I am looking for in a painting, Arabian horse beauty is a mix of perfection, functionality, balance, elegance no need to add something out of reality. It is a joy for me to share with DESERT HERITAGE friends and readers some of my most recent paintings. I continue to use the classic techniques of oils and watercolor, or mixing watercolour and gouche with the aim to give an higher definition in details, maintaining at the same time delicacy but also a good rendering of lights and shadows. My desire to improve technical skills, to test new painting techniques are, after 25 years of painting activity, more stronger than ever, thanks also to the nice appreciations I am receiving at an International level. The Arabian Horse is in my mind a creature of endless beauty, a vision of perfection a source of inspiration and a joy for eyes and soul.

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SINAN AL RAYYAN

"Desert breath that blows the sand against a sea of gold Winged spirit, swifter than a desert storm When your hoof touches the ground the sound is more musical than an ancient 'Oud' Your flowing mane and tail dance in the wind.... Your big eyes are black, soft and mild They have the same gazelle tender touch..." (From 'One of a kind poem' Paola Marinangeli)



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FREE SPIRIT



Paola Marinangeli



THE DANCER



A PRINCE FROM EGYPT



DAUGHTER OF THE WIND