



THE ARABIAN HORSE IN ART A PORTRAIT OF

Anne Weber

by © Judith Wich-Wenning



The beauty, grace and nobility of the Arabian horse have inspired artists since ages. This fascination culminated in the 19th century, when during the era of Orientalism painters and sculptors chose the Arabian as one of their most favorite subjects. But also in our days, artists are intrigued by Arabian horses.

A noted contemporary artist of this theme is Anne Weber from Germany. Her wonderful life-like paintings show deep understanding for the Arabian. Moreover, she manages to catch the individual expression of every horse and her work excels by sharp precision, showing even smallest details. In most cases, Anne Weber uses a one-colored, monochromatic background, so the attention of the spectator is centered on the motive. Beyond that, it imparts an almost three-dimensional effect to the painting. An international group of collectors appreciates the work of Anne Weber, whose style and use of color are unmistakable. Many Arabian horse enthusiasts still know her under the name "Muschler", but since she re-married in 2013, Anne signs under her new name "Weber". Today Anne Weber lives in a small, picturesque village in the middle of Germany, circa 1.5 hours by car from Frankfurt/Main in a house surrounded by a beautiful garden.

Since decades, Anne is a passionate Arabian horse lover. But how did everything start? "Horses – first of all Arabians – and painting are fascinating me since childhood", recounts Anne Weber. "I still remember very well that I loved to use my exercise-books at school as sketch blocks and even at that point of time I tried to draw as true to nature and realistic as possible" Some of her teachers recognized her artistic talent and advised her to begin an artistic education after school. Unfortunately, Anne Weber decided against this – a fact she still regrets. But she spent much time and effort learning drawing and painting autodidactically. In her youth, Anne Weber came across a book about the legendary stallion Ghazal (Nazeer x Bukra) and her deep passion for Arabians started. "I wanted to learn more about the Arabian horse and started to read and collect books about its history", she remembers. "Furthermore, I studied the different breeding programs and spent a lot of time with pedigrees, horse families and strains. Soon I discovered my love for the asil, straight Egyptian Arabian horse. I especially admire the Arabians of Judith and Don Forbis and of the Marshall family, who provided the foundation stock for so many other stud farms. I highly esteem their contribution to Arabian horse breeding."

Anne Weber became friends with the late German Arabian horse expert Erika Schiele, who told her that this passion is like a kind of strange "illness". This "disease" which she called "Arabitis" can bring about many worries and is incurable, but the sicker the "patient" gets, the happier he will be.

Soon Anne Weber also devoted herself to the Arabian in art. She very much admires the lithographs, paintings and bronzes of contemporary as well as 19th century artists. "Within the Orientalists, Alfred de Dreux, Victor Adam, Gericault and Vernet are among my favorites. They all knew masterly how to capture the perfection of the Arabian horse – and yet everybody had his own style", she explains.

At the same time more and more people became aware of Anne Weber's paintings, whose technique had gradually developed. While she started using pencils and crayons, after a while she changed to watercolor and finally discovered pastel. Today this is her most favorite technique because the available colors are innumerable. But Anne Weber uses also red chalk, which is especially suitable for grey horses and she paints impressive portraits in oil.

In the 1980s Anne Weber exhibited her work for the first time at several Arabian horse shows and at the German horse fair Euro Cheval. In the meantime, Anne displayed her paintings at numerous international art exhibitions, for example during the Festival of the Arabian Horse in Qatar as well as in Kuwait. She regularly donates paintings to the Pyramid Society in the United States, which are always highly sought-after items at the Benefit Auctions during the Egyptian Event.

Anne Weber also had several one-artist exhibitions at the museum of the German State Stud of Marbach. The museum is a very suitable place for exposing art. Year after year, varying high-quality exhibitions related to Marbach Arabians, are organized. Anne displayed paintings of some of the stud farm's most important horses as for example Hadban Enzabi, Ghazal, Gharib and Nabya. Of course Bairactar, the foundation stallion of Weil-Marbach breeding, was also represented in a portrayal. Anne's exhibitions there proved to be a great success. Fans of Anne Weber's paintings especially appreciate the detailed reproduction of the different horse personalities without being photorealistic. Noteworthy are also the stylish frames, which Anne carefully selects. They match beautifully to the various kinds of paintings.



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SHEIKH AL BADI - BINT MAGIDAA

ALIDAAR





A HEAD STUDY OF ANSATA IBN HALIMA



EL SHAKLAN



ANSATA IBN HALIMA





A PORTRAIT OF ANSATA IBN SUDAN



ANSATA IBN SUDAN



ONE OF ANNE WEBER'S MOST FAMOUS WORKS OF ART: A PORTRAIT OF RN FARIDA



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SALAA EL DIN - AISHA

F. M. M. M.
2000

SAFIR



THE IMMORTAL MORAFIC



ESTOPA



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