



PEDIGREE DYNAMICS

ASHKALANI

A stallion who carries the distinction of defeating the five-times Group One winner Spinning World in England and France on no less than four occasions, Ashkalani has been outstanding value at his stud fee of \$10,000 plus GST.

Unbeaten in two starts as a two-year-old, Ashkalani really hit his straps at three years, winning three of his five starts and running second in the St. James' Palace Stakes (Group 1) in England. Two of his victories included the Group 1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and the Group 1 Prix du Moulin. He was deservedly awarded the title of Champion French Miler of 1996.

Ashkalani commenced stud duties in 1997, standing at the Irish National Stud and at Chatswood Stud in Victoria, where he served books of around 60 mares for three seasons from 1997 to 1999. He was left off the southern hemisphere roster in 2000, however with the early emergence of 'a good one' here in Ashkaleta, who won the VATC Blue Diamond Prelude (Group 3) and third in the SAJC Magic Millions Classic (RL), Ashkalani earned a berth on the 2001 flight. He now stands at Arrowfield Stud in the Hunter Valley.

By the top European sprinter Soviet Star, Ashkalani has three 2-year-old stakes performers world-wide – Lunaska in France, Gabriella Giof in Italy and Ashkaleta here in Australia.

Both Gabriella Giof and Lunaska carry Cure The Blues – he is the sire of the dam of the former and the damsire of dam of the latter. Scrutiny of Cure The Blues' pedigree reveals that it carries several common factors with Ashkalani's dam, Ashtarka.

Both Cure The Blues and Ashtarka carry Turn-to, IMPERATRICE, Prince Bio (twice in Ashtarka) and strong representation of the LADY JOSEPHINE family. This comes in the form of Royal Charger, Tudor Minstrel, Kashmir II and Prince Taj in Ashtarka, and Royal Charger and Nasrullah in Cure The Blues.

Also of significance in this 'nick' is that both Ashkalani and Cure The Blues' sire Stop the Music trace to CAMILLA through the taproot mare Margellina. This family is best known for the outstanding pedigree influence, St. Simon. Significantly, Ashkaleta has an amazing 171 presences of St. Simon in the first fourteen generations of his pedigree.

Cure the Blues has only had one son stand in Australia, that being **LUCRATIF**, who stands in Western Australia. Cure The Blues' sire Stop the Music however, is represented in Australia by **SACKFORD** and **SQUILL**.

Sackford started his career in Australia with one mating in 1985. The following season he covered seven mares, hitting an early 'peak' at nineteen mares in 1989. He was then taken to New Zealand to stand at stud in 1989 for a couple of seasons, where he served good books. With the unveiling of talents such as Pharoah, A Little Kiss and Rhythmic Charm from these early small crops however, Sackford was spirited back to Australia in 1993, covering 57 mares, followed by 56 the following year. Sadly his book dropped off again and his last year at stud, 1996, shows a book of only 27 mares. Suffice to say that he didn't have a huge number of progeny, but with a total of around 300 live foals in Australia and New Zealand, it is safe to assume (with attrition) that there are roughly 120 potential broodmares there to represent him.

To-date some of those mares have produced the stakes winners Mr. Smugg (NZ), Red Nile, Brief Kiss, Zino Belle (NZ), Toy Warrior (NZ), Gaily Funky (USA) and Special Bond. There are a further sixteen stakes placegetters, including the talented Kugelhopf, Chestnut Dream and Moon Magic (NZ).

A mating between Ashkalani and a Sackford mare is not only supported by Stop The Music. Sackford has the distinction of having the great War Relic on his third remove. His second dam En Casserole is by War Relic out of a Black Toney mare- this pattern happens to be the same cross as Relic, who appears in Ashkalani's sire Soviet Star.

Sackford's damsire Ben Lomond is by Alycidon, who adds to the duplication of Turn-to in this mating by also being a descendant of **MARCHETTA**.

As mentioned previously, Ashkalani's dam is strong in the **LADY JOSEPHINE** family. His sire Soviet Star is also well endowed with this hugely influential line. He contributes

Mahmoud, Aristophanes, Fair Trial, Nasrullah and Pheroazshah. Not surprisingly, Ashkaleta's dam Italian Century (as well as that of Gabriella Giof and Lunaska) reinforces this prepotency. She carries Badruddin, Fair Trial and three lines of Nasrullah.

Another line which should suit Ashkalani is **ZAMAZAAN**. His dam is a half sister to Soviet Star's damsire, Venture. Zamazaan's grandsire Le Haar also has much in common with Ashkalani's second damsire Sicambre, as they both carry a Bacteriophage / Rabelais cross.

RORY'S JESTER also carries a relation of Venture – his full brother Buisson Ardent, who is the sire of Rory's Jester's damsire Roan Rocket. Rory's Jester also contributes several lines to LADY JOSEPHINE, namely Nasrullah, Fair Trial, Pheroazshah and Mahmoud. Imagine the potential early speed from a mating of Ashkalani with a Rory's Jester mare!

There are a couple of other interesting linebreeding creations possible with mares with Ashkalani.

The duplication of Prince Bio in Ashkalani's dam should find favour with mares carrying **VAGUELY NOBLE** – both trace to SEADUNE.

Ashkalani's granddam is a half sister to **ZEDDAAN** and it would be highly remiss not to recommend reinforcement of this line. It is most easily accessed in Australia through daughters of **KENMARE**. His sire Kalamoun is out of a Prince Bio mare, further boosting Ashkalani's granddam, who has Prince Bio as her grandsire. Kenmare is also very strong in the LADY JOSEPHINE family, making his daughters extremely desirable partners for Ashkalani.