



PEDIGREE **DYNAMICS**

CATBIRD SET TO POUNCE

Yarraman Park Stud's Golden Slipper winning sire is a son of Danehill from a fascinating and very famous female line. Up close, it is the family of the sires Maizcay, County and Dieu D'Or, but further down the female trail is where it gets more interesting.

Catbird traces in direct tail female descent to PRETTY POLLY, one of English racing's most famous and talented racemares. Born one hundred years ago, Pretty Polly won 22 of her 24 races, including all nine of her juvenile race starts. She proved less exciting at stud, her ten foals only managing to win a handful of ordinary races. Her four fillies however, helped her to found a highly prepotent line. Pretty Polly is the ancestress of the famous Nearctic, who appears in Catbird's pedigree as Northern Dancer's sire.

Reinforcement of this prepotent line is highly desirable for Catbird. Mares carrying other family members such as Donatello II, Duccio, Colorado Kid, Persian Garden, The Cobbler, Don, Brigadier Gerard, Jungle Boy, Artaius, Great Nephew, Seventh Hussar, Indian Hemp, County, Romantic, Supreme Court, Arctic Explorer, Marsayas, Guersant, Huntercombe, Vienna, Luthier, St. Paddy and Pardao should work well. Pretty Polly's sister MIRANDA is the ancestress of Tehran, Sind, Foxbridge, Aloe, Foolish Pleasure, Citidancer and Gold Nib which are also desirable for Catbird.

For this reason, amongst others, **BALMERINO** mares look dynamic with Catbird. He is out of a mare by Duccio, who is half brother to Catbird's fourth dam, Donna Lydia. Balmerino's sire Trictrac is out of a Rockefeller mare. Danzig and Rockefeller both trace to TWINE THE PLAIDEN and have worked marvellously well together. With limited access to mares carrying Rockefeller in the southern hemisphere, Danzig line stallions have produced the outstanding racemare Sunline (by Desert Sun), Hut (by Danehill), Monet's Cove (by Monongahela) and Royal Voyage (by Danehill). Over the past seven

years in Europe, the Danzig / Rockefeller cross has produced stakes winners of the calibre of Erhaab (by Chief's Crown), winner of the Gr. 1 English Derby and Champion 3 Year Old Colt in the U.K.; Danehill Dancer (by Danehill), dual Gr.1 winner; Tiger Hill (by Danehill) Gr. 1 Grosser Preis von Baden-Baden, 3rd Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe; Johan Cruyff (by Danehill), Gr. 2 winner; Land of Dreams (by Cadeaux Genereux), Gr. 2 Flying Childers S. Ardkinglass (by Green Desert) Gr. 3 Jersey S; and Sahara Star (by Green Desert) Gr.3 Molecomb S.

Catbird is bred on a similar cross to Sunline's sire, Desert Sun. Both are grandsons of Danzig and carry Hotfoot as either their damsire or second damsire. Hotfoot is a member of the MARCHETTA family. Other family members such as Turn-to, Sayani, Alycidon, Acropolis, Agricola, My Babu, Klairon, Ambiorix, Imperial Prince, Irish River, Stunning and Pharamond II would be desirable in a mare to boost this line for Catbird.

That great broodmare sire **TWIG MOSS** has a lot to offer in matings with Catbird. His sire Luthier is a PRETTY POLLY family member, along with Donatello II through his damsire, High Perch. Luthier's sire Klairon is a MARCHETTA family member, as is Alycidon, the sire of High Perch.

SIR TRISTRAM also has a favourable strike rate with Danehill. Group One winners Nothin' Leica Dane, Danske, Dane Ripper and Blackfriars plus Group One placed Dangerous and Group 3 winner Mannington are examples. For Catbird, there are additional attractions for daughters of Sir Tristram. Sir Tristram's damsire Round Table is a grandson of FEOLA. She appears in Catbird's pedigree as the granddam of Kingstone, damsire of Hotfoot.

Put Sir Tristram and Twig Moss together and you get three quarters of the pedigree of **DR. GRACE**. The sire of stakes winning fillies such as Dottoressa, Sash, Graceful Encounter and Kirkstall Lane and the stakes placed Gracida, Fortunata and Graceful Emma, Dr. Grace mares look particularly appealing with Catbird.

Another strength in Catbird's pedigree is the LA TROIENNE line, with Buckpasser and Pardal present. This influential family can be strengthened by the addition of such members as Private Account, Air de France, Don't Say Halo, Woodman, Ardan, Bimelech, Polish Navy, Bupers, Francis S., Hook Money, Cornish Prince, Poker, Mr. Busher, The Axe II and Jet Action. Seattle Slew carries two lines to La Troienne.

WESTERN SYMPHONY mares look promising with Catbird. By Nijinsky II, this cross with Danehill has produced the Group One winner Redoute's Choice, Group 2 winner Johan Cruyff and Listed winner The Golden Dane. In addition, Western Symphony contributes another line to LA TROIENNE – his damsire Cornish Prince. As I've already pointed out, Catbird is very similarly bred to Desert Sun, so sending Western Symphony mares to him will create a pedigree with much in common with that of the fabulous Sunline (Desert Sun – Songline by Western Symphony).

DON'T SAY HALO mares not only create further linebreeding to LA TROIENNE in matings with Catbird, they also add another dose of ALMAHMOUD (in Catbird present as the granddam of Northern Dancer and great granddam of Danehill) via her grandson Halo. The presence of Turn-to (MARCHETTA line) and Round Table (reinforcing FEOLA) creates even further opportunity for positive inheritance.