



PEDIGREE  **DYNAMICS**

MONTJEU

With the plethora of Danzig line horses and Mr. Prospector line derivatives at stud in Australia this year, the commercial sire pedigrees I analyse every day start to look the same, with many also having common ancestors in the first few generations of their dams. Whilst there is no arguing that these lines are highly successful, from an analyst's point of view, it is refreshing to look upon a pedigree that introduces some individuals to give a new slant to matings.

Montjeu is by Sadler's Wells, but the added appeal of this horse for me is the pedigree of his dam, who is the product of successful U.K. and French lines. His dam Floripedes (Fr) is by Top Ville (Ire). This opens up a whole different set of avenues for reinforcement with broodmares in Australasia.

A Coolmore – owned stallion, Montjeu is standing his first season at stud both in Ireland and New Zealand this year. Windsor Park Stud continues its association with Coolmore, having previously stood their stallions Tale of the Cat and Spinning World.

Montjeu is officially Sadler's Wells' highest rated son, with a Timeform Rating at three years of 135 lbs. This earned him the title of Champion Three-Year-Old on the International Classifications. He was also a stakeswinner at two years and a high class four year old. His stud fee at Windsor Park has been set at the very moderate fee of NZD\$40,000. It would be well worth the trip to send mares from Australia to Montjeu.

Montjeu is a product of linebreeding to the GOODY TWO SHOES family via Sadler's Wells and Val de Loir. This family is better known by its taproot mare THONG (great granddam of Sadler's Wells), however stopping the association there when seeking out linebreeding reinforcement excludes other valuable and accessible family members such as Windsor Slipper, Reform, Lorenzaccio, Val de Loir, **OPEN DAY**, Fox Myth and Thong's own siblings, Lt. Stevens and Ridan. Thong's immediate descendants include

Nureyev, **GEIGER COUNTER, YEATS**, Thatching (sire of **ARCHWAY, SHALFORD** and **RUSTIC AMBER**) and his sire, Thatch.

Apart from Montjeu, outstanding racehorses carrying multiples of this line include the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Helissio; the Champion 3 Year Old Colt in Japan, El Condor Pasa; the U.K. Champion at three and four years, Saddler's Hall; and less recently, Thatching, the Champion Older Sprinter in Europe at four years.

Like Montjeu, **ZABEEL** carries two members of this family – Nureyev and Val de Loir. A mating with his daughters and Montjeu creates four lines to this highly influential family, including a sex balanced duplication of Val de Loir.

Montjeu's second damsire Tennyson is from the family of **ARCHWAY**, who creates a fantastic cross with Montjeu. Not only does he create linebreeding to Tennyson's family, but he is by Thatching, who is from the immediate family of Sadler's Wells.

Mares by **KENMARE** and **KHAIRPOUR** have affinities with Montjeu's second dam. All three carry Zeddaan / Prince Bio crosses. **STANDAAN** sex balances Zeddaan.

Sadler's Wells' enjoys the presence of his damsire Bold Reason's half brother **NEVER BEND** in mares. This is reaffirmed by the Australian based son of Sadler's Wells, Scenic, whose best son, the multiple Group One winner Blevic has Never Bend on his dam's third remove. Other sources of Never Bend include mares by **DON'T SAY HALO, HULA TOWN, HULA CHIEF, STRAIGHT STRIKE, ENGLISH HARBOUR** and **DESERT SUN**.

BRIEF TRUCE mares offer Never Bend and create inbreeding to Northern Dancer through a son and daughter. His sire Irish River crosses very successfully with Sadler's Wells.

Grand Chaudiere is another tail female relation of Bold Reason - he is damsire to **SNIPPETS**.

Sadler's Wells' success with other individuals brings forth some other suggestions. The Mr. Prospector line is also desirable for Montjeu. **CONQUISTAROSE, WAIKIKI STAR, BELLOTTO, GEIGER COUNTER, EL MOXIE** (who also reinforces Northern Dancer's female line) and **STRAIGHT STRIKE** are worthy examples.

Sir Ivor has also had a great strike rate with Sadler's Wells, bringing to mind mares by **SIR TRISTRAM** and sons, **COCKY GOLFER, IMPERIAL PRINCE** and **ST. HILARION**.

That brings us to another die-hard cross, and that's Sadler's Wells' affinity with **HABITAT. ASHABIT, ARCH SCULPTOR, SPLENDENT, HABEAS CORPUS, HABITUATE** and **LORD SEYMOUR** are some of the damsires with Habitat prominent in their pedigrees.