

## *Noverre's Northerly Aspect*

The forthcoming season has heralded the introduction to stud of some extremely exciting international racehorses. Studs such as Coolmore, Arrowfield and Darley have already announced that the cream of the world's thoroughbred athletes will be available to Australian breeders. Sires from countries as far-flung as the USA, Japan, Ireland, France Argentina and Chile are being placed on our doorsteps, and usually at much lower fees than they stand for in the northern hemisphere. We are in an enviable position of accommodating these elite stallions in one relatively small region, for while Australia is a big place, the majority of these stallions are concentrated in either the Hunter Valley or Victoria's breeding regions.

One of these exciting stallions is Noverre (USA). A three quarter brother to the Champion Two Year Old and Breeder's Cup winner, Arazi, Noverre upheld the family tradition of precocity, capturing the Champagne Stakes Group 2 and the July Stakes Group 3 and two Group 1 placings in his juvenile season.

As a three year old he consistently competed at Group 1 level, winning the Sussex Stakes and going down by a neck in the St. James's Palace Stakes. First past the post in the French 2000 Guineas, he lost it after a positive swab to a preventative arthritis treatment. He was named the Champion Three Year Old Miler in Europe with a Timeform rating of 125.

At four years he earned five Group 1 placings in three countries before retirement.

By Rahy, a Group 1 placed juvenile and son of Blushing Groom, Noverre is out of Danseur Fabuleux, a wonderful broodmare whose remaining eight winners of course include another Group 1 winner, Arazi.

She is a half sister to Joyeux Danseur, a Group 1 winner and from the immediate family of Formidable, Adjal, Flying Partner, Varick, Serheed and Jim French. More distant

family members American Flag and Blue Swords are both also present in Noverre's pedigree.

Those of you who have had a look at the mighty Northerly's pedigree to see what makes him tick, may be nodding sagely at this point. The mating of Serheed to North Bell brings in Jim French, damsire of Bellwater, North Bell's sire.

Northerly's pedigree also duplicates 'Reine de Course' FLAMING PAGE, dam of Nijinsky II (sire of Serheed) and granddam of Far North (second damsire of North Bell).

**NIJINSKY II** line mares are going to look very appealing with Noverre, whose grandsire Blushing Groom has a great affinity with Nijinsky II. This is witnessed locally by the deeds of Tie The Knot and the top racehorses now-sires Fantastic Light and Quest for Fame.

The fact that Nijinsky II is a son of Northern Dancer is also interesting – Noverre is out of a daughter of Northern Dancer, therefore this mating will also result in a sex balanced duplication of this monumental influence.

Of the Nijinsky II line stallions available in Australia, **SERHEED** looks one of the most interesting in that it produces a genetically very similar outcome to Northerly's pedigree, based on strong 'inbreeding to influential females'.

**WESTERN SYMPHONY** mares are also desirable, as he traces to **BLACK RAY**, who is also the ancestress of Blushing Groom. Other Nijinsky II sires in Australia include **ROYAL ACADEMY, YEATS, COPPER KINGDOM** and **WHISKEY ROAD**.

To come in from another 'Northerly' angle, go for mares carrying Jim French such as those by **BELLWATER**. The successful broodmare Savana City is out of a Jim French mare.

Mares by **VARICK** can create further strong linebreeding to Noverre's tail female line.

Varick's sire **MR. PROSPECTOR** is also very appealing for Noverre. His sire Raise a Native appears in Noverre's pedigree as sire of his third dam. Putting him over Mr. Prospector line mares will therefore result in a sex balanced duplication. Mr. Prospector also carries American Flag from (at the risk of being repetitive) Noverre's tail female line.

Mr. Prospector's sons and grandsons such as **BELLOTTO, CLANG, WOODMAN, HECTOR PROTECTOR** and **MR. HENRYSEE** are suggestions.

On a more 'colonial' level, Noverre's second damsire Le Fabuleux is a relation of our own **WILKES**, bringing in the many mares carrying his son **VAIN**.

Rahy is a half brother to Singspiel and **RIVOTIOUS**, the latter another broodmare sire who has great potential with Noverre. It is unfortunate that Rivotious was underrated and died prematurely, as his pedigree bobs up in many of the compatibility studies I do for stallions. A few more well bred daughters to add to the four stakes performing females he produced would have been handy. His daughter Rio Melody is dam of the stakes placed Miz Riocee.

Rahy's dam is a sister to **DEVIL'S BAG**, who is sire of **HIDEYOSHI**, a W.A.-based son of **FANFRELUCHE**. A 'mating of the future' is Noverre over **ORPEN** mares (and vice versa), as he carries Devil's Bag as his damsire as well as sex balancing both Northern Dancer and Raise a Native.