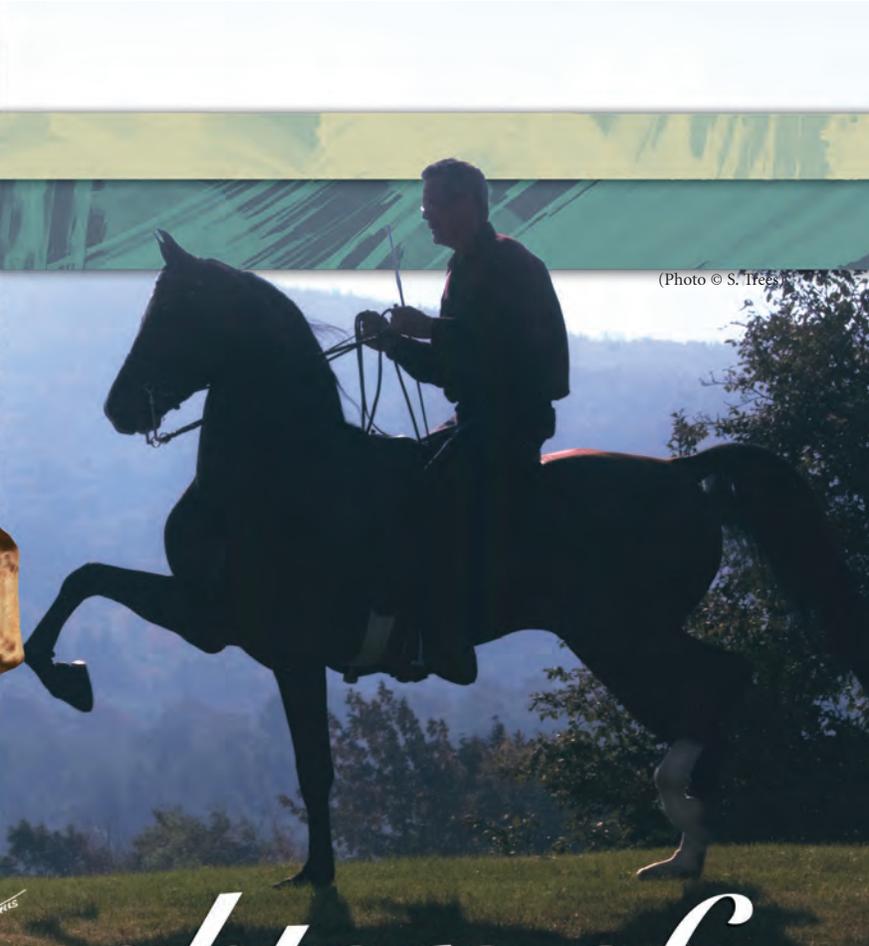


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The Daughters of **SERENITY MASTERPIECE**

*With the passing of this super-sire in 2008,
the daughters carry his influence across the millennium.*

By Stephen Rinney

A unique set of circumstances influenced how the blood of the late Serenity Masterpiece would be disseminated through the Morgan breed.

First is that the stallion's book, for much of his life, was limited through a contractual arrangement known as "The Master Plan." Until the partners terminated that contract in the early part of the new millennium, the general Morgan public was not able to breed to the stallion. It is interesting to note, when researching the progeny list of Serenity Masterpiece, that he sired nearly as many foals once his book was opened to the public as he had through-

out the rest of his life. To be precise, 59 get by the stallion were registered in the 15 years between 1985 and 2000. There are none registered from that time through 2003. Then a total of 55 foals show up, registered in the years 2004 to 2008. The wide range of prefixes on this later group indicates the keen hunger that existed from breeders to use him on their best mares.

The reason to make this point is that there are two distinct waves in the population of Masterpiece get, and this particular story, the productivity of his daughters, will have to be retold when mares from the second wave, which include such champions

"The best Masterpiece mare I know, Pompp And Pazazz, ended up in my barn. Needless to say, I am very pleased with our first breeding out of Pompp to Ultras Special Agent, which produced world champion SPR Pompeii. This season we are breeding her to Mizrahi and Stand And Deliver. I think you could breed her absolutely anyway and get a great horse, but Mizrahi has already proven himself with Pompp as the cross produced Graycliff Tony. I'm so excited to see what the future holds! It just takes patience!"

Gail Bratz, Stove Prairie Ranch

Photos: Pompp And Pazazz (left) has proven her productivity with world champion offspring such as Graycliff Tony (right)



Legacy Mares: The Daughters of SERENITY MASTERPIECE

Showgirls



Top to bottom: MKS Destiny's Echo (© H. Schatzberg);
On Center Stage (© H. Schatzberg); Delusions Of Grandeur
(© Shiflet); MEM Shock And Awe (© H. Schatzberg)

as MEM Shock And Awe (x AFF Evening Episode) and SPR Chanel (x Ultras Formal Request), start to live out their birthright.

The second point is that, for the duration of the contract between owner Mike Super of Clayhill Farm, Mike Pocabello of Minion Morgans and the Rumens of Fire Run Farm, stallion sons of Masterpiece were not available for purchase. Mares were a different story and there was a veritable waiting list for the Masterpiece daughters. Mares like MKS Destiny's Echo, Delusions Of Grandeur, Minion Masquerade, On Center Stage and Minion Starlette became superstars in the show ring. As a result of this management model, which exercised control over supply and demand, it is through his daughters that Serenity Masterpiece exerted his initial, and very significant, impact on the larger Morgan gene pool.

During the earliest part of the stallion's breeding career fillies born at Clayhill Farm, many out of Ohio bred mares with indigenous prefixes like Serenity and CyDons, would be distinctively named. You didn't need a prefix to know who they were or whose program they came from. Three sisters, out of Cy Don's Cynthia, were named Slip Into Silk, Prelude To Passion and Pompp And Pazazz. Other memorable monikers include Beyond Tomorrow, Points Of Light, Rights Of Passage and Dream On Frances.

The Master's Touch, from the first foal crop in 1985, was the only son to be placed in outside hands when he was purchased as a two-year-old by Cindy Nord and went on to win the Park Saddle World Championship a record four times with Mike Goebig up. He captured this win the first time by unseating the defending champion, his own sire.

From the early foal crops came other equally gifted park horses, the great MKS Destiny's Echo (x Serenity Wing Song) among them. Fans ran out of adjectives to describe her stellar show ring performances, many with owner Lisa Howa in the saddle. As a producer she could rest on her laurels if she had produced only one daughter, the dynastic mare AFF Beulah (by Cedar CreekHarlequin). At George Schott's Maine Event Morgans, Beulah has proven a golden cross with Futurity French Command, producing numerous beautiful, world-titled Morgans. Among them are MEM The Patriot, MEM Bailamos, MEM Exotica, Apostrophe, MEM Thriller—the list is staggering. Destiny's Echo has produced other show ring winners including the Connor family's LGH Destiny's Treasure—also sired by Harlequin—and shown, like her dam, under the Arcuri Stables banner. Echo is also the dam of the somewhat extreme moving hunter pleasure horse, RJH Reality on the show string of Earl and Jenny McFall's Dragonfire Morgans.

On the subject of success in the park saddle arena, Peggy Alderman, a supportive advocate for the Masterpiece bloodlines, both as a trainer and a breeder at Salem Farm, rode the great mare On Center Stage to the Ladies Park Saddle World Championship in 1998 and 1999. This mare has stayed very busy in the show ring, most recently serving as the equitation mount for the Alderman's daughter Kate. Along the way, On Center Stage gave one time owner Katrina Wood the colt Graywood's Arthur. This gelding would take then fledgling trainer Sarah Gove to roses as Ladies English Pleasure Champion at the New England Regional Morgan Horse Show.

Though these uniquely named mares received much deserved



Legacy Mares: The Daughters of **SERENITY MASTERPIECE**

Working Mothers



Top to bottom: *Prelude To Passion* with *CBMF Double Down* (© S. Lucine); *Slip Into Silk* and *RWF Cinco De Mayo*; *Cherries Wild* with colt by *Stony Hollow Ice Man*.

attention in the show ring, they would go on to be even more acclaimed for their prowess as producers.

Take *Pompp And Pazazz*, to start with an obvious one. Chris Nelsen did show her in park harness, but it was when her foals started hitting the ground that her name became etched in the imagination. Her son *Continental Vision* (by *War And Peace*) was 1998 World Champion Stallion and 2000 Park Saddle World Champion. His size, square rhythmic motion and statuesque frame made him a sensation wherever he showed for Amy Wilson Scott's Tall Tail Farm under the direction of Scott Thacker. *Pompp* is also the dam of *Minion Millennium*, the handsome chestnut stallion whose advertising calls attention to his size and muscularity with such slogans as "Size Matters." He stands at *Triumph Stables* for *Rohrs Ranch* and is the sire of the 2008 World Champion Mare *Cherrydale Casseopia*. His weanlings have earned great success in the *Morgan Breeder Sweepstakes* competition.

Then there's *Graycliff Tony*, by *Mizrahi* (himself a son of *Legacy Mare Schiaparelli*). Carrying the prefix of *Lynn* and *Jeff Yelton*, who purchased an egg from *Pompp* at auction, *Tony* has impressed the public with his demonstrative wins of both the *Three-Year-Old* and *Four-Year-Old English Pleasure World Championships* in 2007 and 2008, respectively. After his great junior career with trainer *Luman Wadhams*, he's been purchased by *Dawn Fire* for her show string at *Peeper Ranch*. He is certainly a sensation in the ranks of today's *Morgan performance* horses.

Another astute breeder to get an egg from *Pompp* is *Gail Bratz* of *Stove Prairie Ranch*. She's a big admirer of the *Masterpiece* bloodline. She produced *SPR Pompeii* from a mating with *Ultras Special Agent*, and *Pompeii* brought home the *World Futurity Two-Year-Old Stallion Championship* for *Stove Prairie* in 2008. *Gail* has a homebred daughter of *Masterpiece*, something of the reverse cross to *Pompeii*, produced when *Ultra's Formal Request* (1994 World Champion Mare and full sister to *Ultras Special Agent*) produced the glamorous young performance mare *SPR Chanel*. To keep it all in the family, *Gail* acquired *Pompp And Pazazz* last year with hopes for the mare to produce more champions for her *Colorado* ranch. According to registry records there are many young get of *Pompp And Pazazz* waiting in the wings with a variety of owners around the nation. She's been a very busy matron.

Slip Into Silk is one of the full sisters to *Pompp*. She, too, can rest

"At Ridgewood, we are confident in what the Masterpiece mares bring to the RWF breeding program. They are consistent in producing long necks, level topline and incredible drive off their hocks. Additionally, they are typically good-sized, refined and elegant. The golden cross between Noble Flaire and Serenity Masterpiece is tried and true. We have also had success breeding Masterpiece mares to the Wham Bam Command lines. We consider these mares to be a very important component of our breeding program."

Jay Kleiber, *Ridgewood Farm*



Legacy Mares: The Daughters of SERENITY MASTERPIECE



Generation Next

Left to right: Decadence (© H. Schatzberg); Bada Bing (© H. Schatzberg); Minion Mademoiselle (© H. Schatzberg); Minion Millennium (© H. Schatzberg); CBMF Stand By Me (© H. Schatzberg); FRF Seattle Reign (© H. Schatzberg); Continental Vision; SPR Pompeii (© H. Schatzberg); Fire Run Natalia

on her laurels with the production of the ultra-elegant world titled English pleasure horse Minion Mademoiselle (by DBA Street Talk), owned by savvy collectors Lisa and Rick Howa. Silk was owned from 1998 to 2004 by Kurt and Teri Rumens of Fire Run Farm, and produced for them FRF Reason To Believe (by Centerpiece) and FRF Orion (by Aftershock Dot Com). Recent year's productions have been shared by Ridgewood Farm, the Colorado based home to partners Jay Kleiber and Julie Ouska and by Ann Hailey's Copper Beech LLC.

The third full sister is Prelude To Passion. Her daughter, Trade Secrets (by DBA Street Talk), did much to carry the stamp of Masterpiece forward when she gave Phil and Peggy Alderman the super talented Bada Bing, twice English Pleasure World Champion and once Amateur English Pleasure World Champion. Prelude To Passion is the dam of the flashy show gelding CBMF Double Down (by Aljaks Double Whammy) who, after winning as a junior horse in pleasure driving, was purchased by speed maven Dr. Grace Steere as a future roadster. Registry records show Prelude To Passion has a number of offspring in the Copper Beech pastures, waiting to continue their dam's legacy.

Ann Hailey swears by the Masterpiece mares as crosses for her stallions. She also owns I Stand Alone who has produced the upheaded harness horse CBMF Stand By Me (by GLB Bell Pepper), a winner for Kourt Jester Morgans. Also well known in show ring competition is the gelding Meet Joe Black, by Carlyle Upper Caisse. According to registry records there's more cross-

pollination between the Ridgewood and Copper Beech programs through this chestnut daughter of Serenity Masterpiece.

Fire Run Farm used the Masterpiece family as the cornerstone of their breeding program including the sons DBA Street Talk, and Centerpiece. The Masterpiece granddaughter Rush To Judgement (Timelok x Cy Don's Cynthia) gave them the world champion full siblings Fire Run Natalia and Fire Run High Noon (by Pondview Tres Bien). Then there is the exotic FRF Bridalveil (by DBA Street Talk), who is proving herself in the breeding shed after a successful show career. They also owned the late Fleeting Heart (Serenity Masterpiece x Serenity Memoryflite) who was a three-time Grand National champion for them. Fleeting Heart produced seven foals, among them Aftershock Dot Com (by Centerpiece), Cache (by DBA Street Talk), Timecher (by Timelok), and Venus Rising (by DBA Street Talk). Jeffrey Gove's FRF Seattle Reign is by HVK Courageous Flaire and out of the double-Masterpiece mare Exhale (Centerpiece x Fond Memories). Just a few years ago, Fleeting Heart made one of the most remarkable comebacks to the show ring any broodmare has ever staged. She was a sensational performer as well as producer.

Wide Eyed Innocence is the dam of several showstoppers. The dashing park saddle stallion Analyze That now stands at PlayMor Farm in Kentucky, and FRF Exodus has shown owner Connie Locher to the winner's circle in pleasure driving on many occasions. These full siblings, both sired by Centerpiece,



are the result of crossing a Masterpiece son and daughter, a frequent practice by which “The Master Plan” was carried forth into third and fourth generations. Most famously, the sleek and elegant Decadence (by WWW Reality Check Dot Com) was crowned World Champion Mare in 2007, taking reserve honors in 2008. Like many of the horses from this breeding program, she has been shown throughout her career by Keith Nelsen, on behalf of Debra Woolley Lee.

There is an old line about the difference between inbreeding and linebreeding: “It’s inbreeding if you do it and linebreeding if I do it.” But there is no debating that Mike Super bred success from his instinct for these close matings. Look at the case of Just Because (x Phaeton Hill Harmony). Bred to the Masterpiece son DBA Street Talk, she produced One And Only, the 2008 Amateur English Pleasure World Champion, and Prediction, 2001 and 2002 English Pleasure Reserve World Champion. When Tall Tails Farm bred Prediction to Continental Vision they produced AWS Icon who, in 2008, was the Four-Year-Old English Pleasure Reserve World Champion. Clearly the family “speaks English!”

Whether linebred with Masterpiece stallions or outcrossed, their record remains the same. Bred to the symmetrical black stallion Stony Hollow Ice Man, the Masterpiece daughter Cherries Wild (x Cy Don’s Donita) gave breeder Beth Lynne Hoskins the thrill of a lifetime. Her weanling Regal Masterpiece (raf), the first foal sent off Beth Lynne’s Eden Farm to compete, won the top

prize in the 2008 Morgan Breeders Sweepstakes. Under the guidance of savvy breeder Lynn Peebles, the Cojocar family raised the elegant in-hand mare Bell’s Masterpiece, out of Illustra So Rare (x Serenity Enchantress), proving the cross with HVK Bell Flaire successful. Ladies Park Harness World Champion Delusions Of Grandeur has produced the world titled AMHF Absolut Grandeur (by Chandel Absolut) for longtime owners David and Cindy Vogels and world champion AFF Leroy Brown (by Cedar CreekHarlequin) while owned at the old Apple Flat Farm. So interesting here is that Leroy Brown is the sire of the aforementioned Bada Bing, making that outstanding English horse double Masterpiece (Peggy Alderman likes to quip about Leroy Brown that she owns the top rated gelding on the sire’s chart. And she’s glad she kept lots of frozen semen).

So the drumbeat goes on. Successful breeding from the original partnership began the inheritance of the Serenity Masterpiece daughters. The fact that breeders like Copper Beech, Ridgewood Farm, Stove Prairie Ranch, Waterford, and Eden Farm find the daughters indescribably superb producers assures that the heritage has extended even further into the Morgan gene pool.

Since the stallion’s book was opened, he has produced daughters out of some of the finest mares in Morgan herds around the country. In the end, the bequest of the Masterpiece mares will have to wait to be recorded as there are unfinished masterpieces remaining to be written by Morgan breeders avid to carry on the legacy. n