

# Albert Hall (IRE)

## Danehill - Al Theraab by Roberto

The year 1985 was a vintage one for John W Galbreath's Darby Dan farm and their homebred stallion Roberto. The sire's foals at Darby Dan that year included Dynaformer, Sunshine Forever and Brian's Time - all three destined to be Graded stakes winners and sires. Amazingly, their dams were very close relatives: two of them full sisters by Graustark out of the unraced mare Golden Trail, the third by Graustark's full brother His Majesty out of a daughter of Golden Trail.

Like Roberto, Graustark and His Majesty were bred and did stud duty at Darby Dan. For Golden Trail and her female descendants it was a case of pollination and cross pollination, using Roberto, His Majesty and Graustark, or their descendants. It made for a remarkable collection of talent (see box).

It certainly seemed as if some sort of affinity was at work. This was further illustrated when in subsequent generations sons of Roberto (Red Ransom, Kris S. Silver Hawk, and Lear Fan) continued to get big winners from the family, as did sires with an affinity for Graustark/His Majesty elements: Danzig, Gone West, Diesis.

Albert Hall fits the mould. His dam Al Theraab is by Roberto out of Golden Lamb, by Graustark out of Golden Trail - exactly the same combination of ancestors that produced Sunshine Forever, Brian's Time and Autumn Tint (dam of Gr2 winner Tillerman).

Albert Hall's champion sire Danehill is by Danzig from a mare by Graustark's full brother His Majesty, giving a 3x3 double to the brothers in Albert Hall. The dam of Albert Hall produced two other multiple winners by Danehill (one a stakes winning filly) and a multiple winner (TFR 103) by Danehill's son Flying Spur, while her colt foal of 2005 (currently a 2yo) is by Danzig - which should be interesting.

John W Galbreath established Darby Dan Farm in Kentucky in 1949.

The farm paid \$1 million for a half share in stallion Swaps in 1957, then later bought the other half, also for \$1 million.

Darby Dan leased champion Ribot to stand at stud in the USA in 1961, then signed up Sea Bird for 5 years in 1965 (a lease worth \$1.5 million). Sea Bird was the highest rated Timeform horse ever at 145.

Darby Dan owned and bred Roberto, as well as the full brothers His Majesty and Graustark. All three were influential sires, and conspired to lay the foundation for success in the female family of Albert Hall.



John W Galbreath

**When choosing mares for Albert Hall it might be sensible not to stray from the trodden path, and to stick with Roberto and/or Graustark/His Majesty affinities.**

The Roberto angle could lead to his genetic sibling Hail to Reason on the one hand, or to Mr Prospector (whose dam and Roberto's dam are genetic siblings) on the other. Hail to Reason, for instance, was doubled in the earlier mentioned Tillerman, a son of In The Wings (Sadler's Wells). If Sadler's Wells works, then mares by Fort Wood might make good mates for Albert Hall, given Fort Wood's affinity for Hyperion.

The Graustark/His Majesty affinities can be exploited in a variety of ways. A strong background of Hyperion, or better put, a strong background of ancestors

with Hyperion affinities. Nice one is Swaps, who has a strong affinity for Flower Bowl, dam of Graustark & His Majesty. Or anything with Solario and/or Mahmoud in the background, which isn't hard to find. Major influ-

ences of this come through Royal Charger (Turn To - Hail to Reason - Bold Reason - Sadler's Wells is one good sequence), Tudor Minstrel (Tudor Melody - Mixed Marriage - leading to Gone West, for instance), Court Martial/Abernant, Panorama. The more, the merrier.

## PICK OF THE BUNCH

*Suitable mares for Albert Hall could include*

1. Mares with Sharpen Up (Kris, Diesis, Fine Edge, Dominion Royale, etc), Rockefeller; Sir Ivor/Sir Tristram; Danzig (National Assembly, National Emblem)
2. Mares with ancestors who have Hyperion affinities, notably Swaps/Khaled (Fort Wood, Rakeen, Badger Land), etc.
3. Mares with Royal Charger (eg through Turn To, Hail to Reason, Bold Reason/ Never Bend - leading to Sadler's Wells, Nureyev), etc.
4. Mares with Court Martial, Abernant, Mixed Marriage, Tudor Minstrel, Tudor Melody (wide-spread)
5. Mares with Panorama (Model Man, etc)
6. Mares with Ribot (Sportsworld, Joshua Dancer, etc.)

## HIGHCLASS DESCENDANTS

58f Golden Trail

63f Meadow Stream

71f Beautiful Morning (**Graustark**)

75c Fool's Prayer (**Roberto**)

75c Bold Voyager (**His Majesty**)

64f On The Trail

71f Regal Road (**Graustark**)

75c Darby Creek Road (**Roberto**)

78f Andover Way (**His Majesty**)

85c Dynaformer (**Roberto**)

87f Personal Glory (**Danzig**)

92c Supremo (**Gone West**)

93f Personal Love (**Diesis**)

96f My Annette (Red Ransom (**Roberto**))

04c US Ranger (**Danzig**)

82f Darby Trail (**Roberto**)

87c Cobra Classic (**Graustark**)

70f Java Moon (**Graustark**)

79f All My Memories (**Little Current**)

93f Memories of Silver (Silver Hawk (**Roberto**))

72c Sylvan Place (**Graustark**)

74f Outward Sunshine (**Graustark**)

85c Sunshine Forever (**Roberto**)

76f Golden Lamb (**Graustark**)

88f Al Theraab (**Roberto**)

02c Albert Hall (**Danehill**)

77f Kelley's Day (**Graustark**)

85c Brian's Time (**Roberto**)

78f Autumn Glory (**Graustark**)

85f Autumn Tint (**Roberto**)

96c Tillerman (**In The Wings**)

86f Carya (**Northern Dancer**)

94f Ryafan (Lear Fan (**Roberto**))

99c Epicentre (Kris S. (**Roberto**))

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