

Silvano (GER)

Lomitas - Spirit Of Eagles by Beau's Eagle

The hallmark of a good sire is to be able to produce topclass runners from the first few crops. Usually a new sire just has to make do with whatever mares are available to him in those early years, and make the best of it. Not a great way to start a new career, but on the other

hand, when success comes credit goes where it is due. Such was the start of Silvano in Europe, where his first crops made dramatic impact. In statistical terms only Galileo had a better start than he did.

Silvano's sire Lomitas was the German champion of his generation, voted Horse of the Year, followed by him becoming Germany's Champion Sire in 2001.

Lomitas is a son of Irish St Leger winner Niniski, who is by Nijinsky from a staying female line. The most notable feature of Niniski's pedigree is that he is inbred to full siblings Omaha and Flares. Conventional pedigree wisdom has it that the latter pair are the key-elements in the genetic sibling triangle involving Nijinsky, The Minstrel and Storm Bird. Interesting to see, then, that Silvano's German 1000 Guineas winner (and Gr1 Coronation Stakes runner-up at Royal Ascot) Mi Emma carries that cross. Her sire is a son of Bluebird, by Storm Bird. Bluebird and Nijinsky are very close genetic relatives, taking other factors into account as well.

In the same year that Silvano was born, Lomitas sired another topclass son, Sumitas. This colt carries a double of the mare Love In, who is a daughter of Tudor Love. That line of Tudor Love comes through Sumitas' second damsire Lagunas - a son of sire Ile de Bourbon (who is by Nijinsky out of a mare with a double of Tourbillon). That makes Lomitas and the grandam of Sumitas very close genetic relatives (inbreeding 1x2).

The dam of Lomitas, La Colorada, had a German sire and damsire, but an English/French bottom female line. Both La Colorada and her dam La Dorada were Champion 2yo of their year in Germany. La Colorada was inbred 3x4 to a son and daughter of Hyperion, and 4x3 to a son and daughter of influential German sire Ticino.

La Colorada's grandam Love In was bred in England, by Crepello out of Tudor Love, who could well be a key element in the pedigree of Silvano. Tudor Love was by Owen Tudor out of Amora, a mare inbred 3x2 to Tourbillon.

A close variation on this 'Owen Tudor with Tourbillon' theme can be found in the male line of Silvano's damsire Beau's Eagle, who is by Golden Eagle, by Right Royal V. The latter is by Owen Tudor out of a mare inbred 3x2 to genetic equivalents Karabe and Ksar (Ksar is the sire of Tourbillon).

Close scrutiny of the pedigree elements of Right Royal V (in Beau's Eagle) and Tudor Love (in Lomitas) show the pair to be very close genetic relatives - making Silvano inbred 4x3 to them.

Nijinsky seems to be important in the equation. Evidence of this comes from Silvano's damsire Beau's Eagle. Of the nine best progeny (by earnings) produced by his daughters, more than half have Nijinsky or genetic sibling elements. The latter category embraces Nijinsky's dam Flaming Page, Red God's dam Spring Run (most often through Blushing Groom), and Tom Fool (through Buckpasser).

Significantly, perhaps, there is another tie-in for this. Silvano's third dam Beautiful Spirit produced a daughter Beautiful Glass (by Pass The Glass), who in turn became the dam of Jeanne Jones, a highclass multiple Gr1 placed Gr1 winner in the US. Jeanne Jones is by Nijinsky, and inbred 2x3 to genetic siblings Flaming Page (Nijinsky's dam) and Buckpasser (sire of Pass the Glass).

Now to the bottom female line of Silvano, which has a strong background of Princequillo. His third dam Beautiful Spirit is inbred 4x3 to that sire.

Beautiful Spirit's daughter Big Spirit (Silvano's grandam, in other words) duplicates Princequillo's son Prince John and his genetic sibling Baby La (Silvano's fourth dam) 3x2. Prince John, incidentally, is by Princequillo out of a mare by Count Fleet - who is an important Tourbillon genetic sibling.

Pick of the Bunch

Suitable sires for Silvano could include

1. Mares with Nijinsky (Dancing Champ, Peacetime, Russian Fox), Affirmed (Argosy), The Minstrel (Zafonic), Storm Bird (Bluebird, Lake Coniston)
2. Mares with Tom Fool affinities, through Buckpasser (Al Mufti, Northern Guest & El Gran Senor (Cordoba), Coastal, Lecture), or other lines (Comic Blush, Caesour)
3. Mares with Blushing Groom (Comic Blush, Jallad)
4. Mares with Mr Prospector, notably Gone West (Western Winter, West Man, Count duBois), Windrush (same female line as Silvano), Proclaim, etc.
5. Mares with Tourbillon, Count Fleet - widespread, but notably involving Never Bend (Sadler's Wells, Fairy King, Mill Reef, etc.), My Babu (Joy II)
6. Mares with Nantallah (Sadler's Wells (eg Fort Wood), Fairy King, Nureyev, Ridan (eg Lake Coniston)).
7. Mares with Silvano's female line elements, notably Cordoba (!), Singh, Esplendor, Dowdstown Charley, Green Lightning, Olean, etc.

What mares for Silvano?

Genetic sibling connections gives a wide variety of opportunities. Let's deal with them in their groups.

1. NIJINSKY, STORM BIRD, THE MINSTREL

These genetic siblings are all Northern Dancer line sires, carry Bull Page (in a different position in each); full siblings Flares and Omaha tie them further together (Storm Bird has Flares, Nijinsky has Omaha, The Minstrel has both). A further tie-in can be made with Affirmed, who has full brothers Fighting Fox and Gallant Fox 2x4 in his dam - Gallant Fox is the sire of Flares & Omaha. In the same camp falls Nantallah (female line of Nureyev, Sadler's Wells, etc.). Nantallah's son Ridan appears together with Storm Bird in Lake Coniston, who is the damsire of Silvano's best filly Mi Emma.

2. NIJINSKY, TOM FOOL, BLUSHING GROOM

Nijinsky's dam Flaming Page, Tom Fool, and the dam of Red God (sire of Blushing Groom) make up a highly potent genetic sibling trio. Tom Fool is often found through Buckpasser, and Nijinsky and Buckpasser are genetic siblings as well.

These sires are widespread in pedigrees, but special attention should be given to Dancing Champ (who has a proven big-horse record with inbreeding through Buckpasser with Al Mufti), National Assembly (who carries Grey Flight, a significant line), Comic Blush (whose female line has interesting German connections back into Lomitas' female line). Caesour is interesting, as he has several matching influences.

3. NIJINSKY, MR PROSPECTOR

This pair are genetic siblings, thanks to them carrying genetic siblings Bull Page & Miss Dogwood, and La France (in Johnstown) & Omaha. Mr Prospector is widespread, but noteworthy may be Gone West, who is by Mr P out of a mare carrying Tom Fool and Princequillo.

4. PRINCE JOHN, BABY LA

Genetic siblings in Silvano's second dam. They have lines of Count Fleet and full brother Count Speed, which tie tightly in with Tourbillon. Count Fleet is a notable line in the dam of Mr P, and in Never Bend. The latter can be found when Sadler's Wells is combined with Mill Reef (Shirley Heights).

5. Elements from LA COLORADA

There is a high incidence of duplicated elements from La Colorada (dam of Lomitas) in Silvano's best runners. This could be because these are well represented generally in local German pedigrees (often in multiples, as close inbreeding is the norm in German female lines). Even so, the occurrences seem too plentiful for it to be purely coincidence. The lines concerned are Herold (through sons Alchemist & Arjaman) and Ticino, who combine Neckar & Literat. Also included are Hyperion (through Owen Tudor, or the dam of Graustark/His Majesty) and Donatello, combined with Solario (as in Crepello).