



THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS WA

Elusive Lure OF MEYDAN MILLIONS

All American gelding Elusive State is back on track for a second trip to Dubai following a facile victory in the Egret Hcp (1600m) at Sha Tin last month.

Elusive State is rated the best dirt horse in Hong Kong and trainer Tony Millard flagged the G1 Dubai World Cup (2000m) as a mega-rich target next month. It's worth the equivalent of AUD 15.58 million at Meydan on March 27.

"He gave them a galloping lesson," Millard said following a perfect ride by Joao Moreira at Sha Tin. "Joao is a champion. He was in a hopeless position and took him to the front. That's the class of the horse, too. He still kicked on despite the change in tactics.

"He can run 21 (seconds) for the last 400 metres any day of the week, so I was very happy with the run."

Elusive State (7g All American - Jarada by Redoute's Choice) has won 9 times in Hong Kong for earnings the equivalent of AUD 1.62 million. He was already in quarantine in Dubai for last year's carnival before it was cancelled due to COVID-19.

"It's taken a bit of time to get him back into form. Last year, we had hardly raced him and then with Dubai abandoned, it really upset the apple cart.

Millard and owner Eden Wong were also considering the Saudi Cup (1800m) on February 20, however, there are significant obstacles surrounding travel from Hong Kong to Riyadh. It's worth an astounding AUD 25,94 million.

"It's just lovely to have a horse like this but also to have a dream. It's about having a goal and trying to get there and seeing if it comes off."

All American stands at Geisel Park in Myalup and he has 7 yearlings entered for the Perth Magic Millions on February 15 and 16. Among them is the homebred colt from Darkling (Encosta de Lago) entered as Lot 285 in the Swan Valley.

He is a half-brother to Green And Shady who was beaten a nose first time out at Ascot last month. The Dion Luciani-trained youngster is the first to race by Geisel Park's French Group 1 winner Vert De Grece (Ire).



Photo: Elusive State



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February Focus **ON PERTH MAGIC MILLIONS**

Studmasters around Australia were buoyed by phenomenal returns at the record-breaking Gold Coast Magic Millions Yearling Sale in January.

Magic Millions has already switched focus to the Perth Yearling Sale and the local industry is hoping border restrictions won't adversely affect interstate participation in the Swan Valley on February 15 and 16.

Since transferring from Belmont Racecourse to the new sales complex in 2019, Perth's Book 1 turnover has increased 11% and the average has also risen by 8%.

Magic Millions is working with industry stakeholders to ensure interstate owners and trainers not able to bid in person, will be able to bid online or through bloodstock agents to overcome challenges brought about by COVID-19.

TBWA President Fiona Lacey confirmed there has been an increasing acceptance of online sales in the last twelve months. "This has proved beneficial to both breeders and buyers alike, and we are seeing prices soar as buying confidence increases," Lacey said in the latest edition of Westspeed Magazine. "The 2021 Sale is a perfect opportunity to showcase our West Australian product to potential new buyers by embracing the online format and supplying high quality videos, as well as photographs, of our yearlings."

The cream of the Western Australian yearling crop will converge on the Swan Valley as part of a quality catalogue of 303 lots. No fewer than 72 individual sires are represented and, in a great boost for local buyers, 95% of yearlings catalogued are eligible for either the Westspeed Platinum or standard Westspeed scheme.

Magic Millions was forced to cancel its popular stud tours leading up to the Perth Sale, however, there will be a yearling parade at the Swan Valley sales complex on Friday, February 12 from 5pm to 7pm.

COVID-19 restrictions hasn't prevented individual studs holding inspections and trainers like Adam Durrant are hosting Own The Dream tours for prospective buyers. He took 19 yearlings home to Karnup last year and maintaining those numbers will be the goal this year.

Durrant's racing manager Duran Carter knows online communication is more than just an alternative to being on-

site nowadays. "That's the beauty of social media and Prism," Carter said when interviewed by Michael Heaton for Westspeed Magazine. "We put feelers out to gauge interest and attract new clients before the Magic Millions.

"Then you've just got to find the right fit for people in regard to what they can spend and if they want a sprinter or a stayer. We've got good, loyal stable clients as well who chip in every year and they're the kind of people you need."

Selecting what yearlings to bid on is a group process but, in the final analysis, it comes down to Durrant. "They're obviously all horses that Adam picks and likes," Carter continued. "There is a process but it's his call because Durrant Racing retains a share in a majority of the horses."

And in a wonderful initiative, Durrant conducted a competition to win shares in two of last year's graduates while donating the proceeds to Ronald McDonald House. They were both due to trial recently before going out for another beneficial spell.

Dented Romance (Dissident) cost \$55,000 from Amelia Park and is from the family of Randwick stakes winners Continuum and Horizons. Henchard (Blackfriars) is related to G1 Winterbottom Stakes winners Magnifisio and Barakey and was sold by Scenic Lodge for \$85,000.

Duran Carter can be contacted for further information on- 0413 056 364 or dcarter@reliancepartners.com.au



Photo: Adam Durrant & Duran Carter

TOP YEARLING FROM *Yarradale*

The Gold Coast Magic Millions exceeded all expectations in January and Westspeed-eligible yearlings played their part with turnover exceeding \$2 million.

Top of the Westspeed breed was the \$470,000 colt sold by Amarina Farm (as agent) to the Hong Kong Jockey Club. He's by Exceed And Excel from Yarradale Stud mare Melba Avenue (Street Sense).

Melba Avenue is the dam of G2 Karrakatta Plate winner Valour Road who added more black-type to his record in the G3 Prince Of Wales Stakes (1000m) at the Ascot summer carnival.

Segenhoe Stud sold a colt by boom first-season sire Shalaa (Ire) from Amelia's Love for \$260,000. To be trained by Toby Edmonds for Kestrel Racing, he's the second foal from a Blackfriars mare who won at Belmont for Amelia Park owner Peter Walsh.

Newhaven Park offered a Capitalist filly as agent for Dawson Stud and she will return to WA after being snapped up by Neville Parnham for \$150,000. Her dam Allez Bien (NZ) won at Randwick and she is a half-sister to G1 Railway Stakes winner Inspirational Girl.

Dawson owner Graham Daws sold LR Sir Ernest Lee-Steere Classic winner Kissonallforcheeks through Newhaven for \$120,000 at the 2019 Gold Coast Magic Millions. She is

trained by Dan Morton and will join stablemate Elite Street in Melbourne for the 3yo fillies races at the upcoming autumn carnival.

Gold Front Thoroughbreds sire Awesome Rock had a Westspeed filly from Lucky Ana (NZ) make \$57,500 through the consignment from Valiant Stud. She is a half-sister to G2 Karrakatta Plate winner Dig Deep and was purchased by leading syndicator Darby Racing.

Valiant Stud's Fergal Connolly sold an Impending – Swiftly Red colt for Westbury Park owners Phil & Lindy Ibbotson for \$240,000. He's Super VOBIS eligible and was pin-hooked for \$50,000 at last year's Inglis Sydney Foal Sale.

Victorian-based Three Bridges Thoroughbreds also sold three yearlings that have been nominated for Super VOBIS and Westspeed. A Written Tycoon - Enchanted Dawn colt topped the trio at \$400,000 and he will be trained by Team Hawkes.

Magic Millions has catalogued 303 yearlings for its Swan Valley Sale on February 15 and 16 with 95% nominated for Westspeed Platinum or standard Westspeed Scheme.

Yarradale received an update for the Perth Magic Millions when Time To Sizzle (City Place) won at Ascot last month. His half-brother by Oratorio has been catalogued as Lot 147 during Day 1 of the Swan Valley Sale.



Photo: Valour Road

CARLIE CLICKS WITH *Coruscation*

Scott Ryan and Carlie Waller have embraced Western Australia's Off The Track scheme with several ex-racehorses at their farm in Bullsbrook.

Among them are city winners Coruscation (Oratorio) and On Trend (Nicconi) who are developing successful second careers at the couple's Ashmore Road property which was formerly owned by Shaun O'Donnell.

"Coruscation is known as Elmo and On Trend answers to Trendy," Carlie said after they completed in a recent event at Woorooloo. "We have four ex-racehorses here and it helps that they're all willing to learn. That makes it very rewarding seeing them progress so well."

In 52 starts, Coruscation earned more than \$300,000 in prizemoney as a more than a capable sprinter for trainer Paul Jordan and a syndicate managed by the late Harvey Crossman. He had been a \$36,000 buy from Mungrup Stud at the 2012 Perth Magic Millions.

Coruscation's sire Oratorio was Champion WA 2YO stallion on five occasions and his dam Lightning Storm (Metal Storm) came from the family of Dual Cidium (G3 Easter Cup) and Dual's Brute (G3 WATC Quality).

On Trend was prepared by Colin Webster for long-time stable clients Pete Dinnison and Paz Princi. In 14 starts, he won a

Bunbury maiden and doubled up at Belmont during the winter season of 2016.

The other two horses with Carlie and Scott are the former Lindsay Park winner Reprisal (Galileo) and Ascot winner Beau Pago (Pago Mystery) who nowadays is known as Kosciusko.

"They are all competing at two star or above," Carlie said. "Reprisal and Kosciusko were both 8 year-olds when I started with them and they still had a great career after racing."

Carlie and her sister Tam Waller, an accomplished show-jumping rider and equine nurse, are from a horse-mad Geraldton family going back to their grandfather who called the trots in the old days.

They've raced winners like Ysmael (Bel Esprit) who scored in town for trainers Ivan Haggerty, Bruce Watkins and Adam Durrant.

Ysmael was purchased by Tam's partner, former East Perth footballer Rowen Langridge, for just \$5,000 as a cast-off at the 2013 Magic Millions Winter Sale. The gelding had strained a suspensory ligament but Tam spent a year getting him right at Perth Equine Care which she operates 10km east of Mundaring.

Photo: Coruscation airborne at Woorooloo

