

# HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



January 2008

## 2007 Breeding Season—It's a Wrap!

Welcome to the first edition of the Haunui Update for 2008. Firstly, the team at Haunui hope you all had a safe and merry holiday season and we look forward to catching up with you all in 2008.

The end of December came with a sigh of relief as the breeding season wrapped. All in all, we couldn't be happier with the results with both Don Eduardo (NZ) (Zabeel) and Elusive City (USA) (Elusive Quality) serving close to ninety mares a piece. This is testament to our two young stallions with their eldest progeny just three-year-olds and two-year-olds respectively and a long way to go to prove themselves. However with numbers like this coming through at what will be crucial seasons in their career's as stallions, we can only look forward to greater times ahead.

Don Eduardo has started the 2007/2008 racing season as anticipated with his first stakes performer coming in the form of Dashing Donna (NZ) in the Spring.

Across the Tasman the Gooree Park bred and owned Najib (Aus) also put in some impressive performances for his sire to have Lee Freedman targeting

the AJC Derby in the hope that he can emulate his sire in Australia's premier three-year-old classic.

Summer racing in New Zealand unveiled a certain Mercedes Derby contender for Don Eduardo in the form of Il Divo (NZ), a horse that has had the 2400m classic on his agenda from the word go. Placed second in the Group Two Great Northern Guineas (2100m) at Ellerslie on Boxing Day, Il Divo broke his maiden at the same track in November and if he can continue in the same fashion, will be among the leading contenders for the blue riband event on the 1st of March.

Don Eduardo covered a total of 84 mares this season with 72 confirmed in foal so far with a small number yet to have their final scans. Among those in foal to him include Gesine (NZ) (Nassiapour), dam of Group One Sydney Cup-winner Gallic (NZ) (Zabeel), Label Basher (NZ) (Conquistarose), dam of Group Two-winner and multiple Group One-performer Dezipna (NZ) (Volksraad) and, Group One-winner Acushla Marie (NZ) (Lord Ballina), Scarellt Runner (NZ) (Kingdom Bay), the dam of Onceuponatime (NZ) (Van Nistelrooy) and, Iris La Bonga (Aus) (Inviting), dam of Cyclades (NZ) (Alleged Dash).



ELUSIVE CITY

After standing his first season at Haunui Farm in 2006, Elusive City returned from the Northern Hemisphere in 2007 on the back of some strong yearling sales results.

With ten six figure yearlings and a top price on both sides of the Tasman of \$170,000, he certainly made an impression and his bookings in 2007 reflected that.

The autumn is going to be an exciting time for both stallions and it is certainly satisfying to finish the breeding season with such good numbers and fertility," said Mark. "It is a team effort and the breeding team, lead by Broodmare Manager

Konn and Stallion Manager Dane Trompert, have done a great job," he said.

In his fourth season at stud, Elusive City covered 90 mares—his largest Southern Hemisphere book—and has 77 confirmed in foal with a handful of mares still to have their final scans.

"This is quite a result for the horse," said Mark Chitty, "and I think it is a reflection of the type of horse that he has left and, the word out there about them," he said.

Elusive City departed New Zealand on the 6th of January to head back to the Irish National Stud to serve his fourth Northern Hemisphere season.

## Van Nistelrooy on a Roll

The progeny of Van Nistelrooy (USA) (Storm Cat) continue to make their mark on tracks around New Zealand with 19 individual winners so far this season from 29 starters.

Striker (NZ) and Lodovico (NZ) are two of his most recent winners and have been impressive to say the least with Lodovico winning two from two and Striker two from three.

Bred and raced by Don and Rochelle McLaren, Striker is trained by Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott and looks set to take the next step on the track with a tilt at the Group Three Desert Gold Stakes on the cards later this month.

The team at Wexford stables are also in charge of Lodovico, a Haunui graduate bred in partnership by Haunui Farm and Marie Leicester. He has strung

two very impressive performances together and long-term plans now include a tilt at the Mercedes Derby on the 1st of March.

From his first Southern Hemisphere crop, Van Nistelrooy has had 43 starters for 28 winners of 45 races so far. These figures include two stakes winners in the form of Vandalo (NZ) and Onceuponatime (NZ) and the

stakes performers Vanny Fair (NZ), Pit Lane (NZ) and Boundless (NZ).

"The last few months have been very successful for Van Nistelrooy and his 65% winners to runners ratio is excellent," said Mark Chitty. "We and our partners have first option to shuttle him next season and if the results keep coming, he could very well be back on the plane in August," said Mark.

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## Onceuponatime Close in Stewards Cup

**Onceuponatime (NZ)** (Van Nistelrooy) came within a short head of taking out the SIN-G3 Stewards Cup (1400m) on the 16th of December.

The winner of his first two starts this campaign, Onceuponatime started as race favourite and was in the unenviable position of being boxed in on the fence in the run home. This made for a very cluttered path to the finish

line eventually going down to the Laurie Laxon-trained **Big Maverick (NZ)** (O'Reilly).

Onceuponatime is currently spelling with the Singapore Three-Year-Old Challenge sure to be high on trainer David Hill's agenda. This is a three-race series starting on June 6th over 1200m, followed by a 1400m race on the 27th of June and culminating in a mile event on the 27th of July.



## Five Mercedes Derby Contenders With Haunui Links

Five three-year-olds with links to Haunui Farm are all on their way to contesting the season's major three-year-old event, the Group One Mercedes Derby (2400m) to be held at Ellerslie on the 1st of March.

Four of the five are graduates of Haunui Farm and include Mission Critical (Aus) (Fantastic Light), The Beastunleashed (NZ) (O'Reilly), One For The Money (NZ) (Pentire) and Lodovico (NZ) (Van Nistelrooy). The fifth contender is Il Divo (NZ) (Don Eduardo) whose Haunui connection is obvious, with his sire a resident stallion at Haunui.

Trainer John Sargent labelled Il Divo a Derby aspirant many

months ago. With a \$100,000 price tag as a yearling, he has already gone some way to staking his claim to the event with a very close and very impressive second in the Group Two Great Northern Guineas (2100m) on Boxing Day.

Representative of Don Eduardo's first crop, the Derby would go a long way to kick-starting the career of this exciting young stallion.

Mission Critical was sold at the 2006 Premier Sale by Haunui Farm on behalf of Darley, Australia. Purchased by Paul Moroney for \$75,000, he has two wins under his belt and finished fifth and fourth in the Avondale

and Great Northern Guineas respectively.

Mission Critical is one of two Haunui graduates in the Moroney stable making a bee-line to the Derby, the other being last start-winner One For The Money.

Also purchased by Paul Moroney from our Premier draft, he was in fact knocked down to Paul just four lots before Mission Critical for \$90,000.

Lodovico has had two starts for two wins, his second being an impressive performance over a mile at Hawke's Bay. Trained by Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott, he was bred by Haunui Farm and Marie Leicester and was sold from our 2007 Select

Draft to Scott Richardson for \$50,000.

The fifth Derby aspirant with Haunui connections is The Beastunleashed. Trained by Paul Williams, he broke maiden ranks in his first start and with eight weeks until "D" Day could easily come into Derby contention.

"It would be huge to have five runners in such a prestigious race that are all so closely linked to Haunui," said Mark Chitty. "For any one of them to get the ultimate result would be an enormous thrill and we will certainly be barracking pretty loudly on the 1st of March," he said.

## Six Group One Graduates

Stakes results over the last three years continue to reflect the success that Haunui Farm graduates have had on the race-track.

Six Group One winners and a total of 25 stakes performers have all been bred, born, raised or sold by Haunui in this time.

"It is obviously important that the horses we breed and sell go on to bigger and better things," said Mark Chitty. "Winning races is what it's all about and

the more that can be achieved at the highest level, the better," says Mark. "As a farm, we sell between forty and fifty yearlings at sales in Australasia each year," he said. "So, to have six Group One winners over the last three years is a significant result, especially when you consider that the Haunui broodmare band sits between forty and fifty permanent residing mares," said Mark. "We pride ourselves on the way that we manage and

grow young thoroughbreds and these results reinforce the fact that we are doing some things right," he said.

The Haunui honours board over the last three seasons features the likes of Mikki Street, My Royal Captain, Onceuponatime, Valpolicella, Smitten Kitten and Octapussy and in 2008, there are sure to be further graduates added to this list.

"Our 2004 foal crop (3YO's) has already produced stakes

winners Onceuponatime and Valpolicella and has four horses headed for the Mercedes Derby. Hopefully Solo Flight, who is from our 2005 crop will line up in the Karaka Million and there will be a lot more to come from that crop of foals yet," said Mark. "Our 2006 crop will line up at Karaka in a few weeks time and here's hoping that by this time next year, they and their counterparts have continued to add to the list."

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## Mark's Corner

We are just over a week away from moving our yearlings into Karaka for the parade days leading into the sale and prior to that, I hope that we will see many of you at our annual yearling parade on Sunday the 20th of January.

I'm more than pleased with the progress that our yearling draft has made throughout the preparation. Our full draft of yearlings is available for viewing online ([www.haunuifarm.co.nz](http://www.haunuifarm.co.nz)) with pedigrees, photos and video footage however below is just a snippet of what we have to offer at 2008.

I would like to invite you all to come and enjoy some Haunui hospitality throughout the 2008 Yearling Sales Series and please feel free to contact either myself or Shannon if we can be of assistance to you at anytime.



Lot 324 b f Zabeel—Riesling  
1/2 sister to 2YO stakes winner Valpolicella



Lot 458—b f Elusive City—Zabelette  
1/2 sister to G1 winner Art Success



Lot 278 br c Don Eduardo—Ocean Pearl  
1/2 brother to G1 winner Mikki Street



Lot 429 b c Volksraad—Tristine  
Full brother to G2 winner and G1 performer Katana

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## A Taste of What's to Come

With the foaling season now well behind us, here is a taste of our 2007 foal crop, many of which will head to the yearling sales ring in 2009.



b c O'Reilly—The Perfume Garden

This colt has a 1/2 brother selling at Karaka by Don Eduardo, and is a half brother to two stakes performers



ch f Pins—Muscatel

Owned by Haunui and clients Keryn & Brenda Corrigan, this filly is a member of the Haunui foundation family



b c Don Eduardo—Clear Cut

Owned by Tui Goodwin, this colt is a half sister to stakes winner Clear Advantage



b f Zabeel—Riesling

Her full sister will be offered at Karaka 2008 whilst her half sister, Valpolicella is heading toward the NZ Oaks