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# QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE MORE THAN A VICTORY, IT'S A TRIUMPH!



SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> AND SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER

PARISLONGCHAMP RACECOURSE

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PRESS RELEASE

02 / 10 / 2022

## QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE

PARISLONGCHAMP – Sunday, October 2

### Alpinista on top of the world

The english trained five-year-old Alpinista was an excellent winner of the 101<sup>st</sup> running of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, the world's best race, which took place on Sunday at ParisLongchamp. Owned and bred by Kirsten Rausing, who is originally from Sweeden but moved to Ireland at a young age, Alpinista was ridden by Luke Morris and is trained in Newmarket (Great Britain) by Sir Mark Prescott. The seventh four-year-old trainer was recording his first success in the race and has won over 1300 races in total.

With the track riding heavy due to a torrential downpour just before the off, the race was dictated early by the Japanese trained Titleholder. Alpinista was always to the fore and put up a courageous display to hold off the challenges of the Aga Khan owned Vadeni and last year's winner, the Marcel Weiss trained German raider Torquator Tasso. The French Al Hakeem took fourth for Jean Claude Rouget, while Grand Glory, who is trained in Maisons-Laffitte by Gianluca Bietolini took fifth place.

Still in training at the age of 5, which is not too typical for a mare of such class, Alpinista has been in the form of her life and remains unbeaten this year. She has now won her last eight starts, six of which have come at Group 1 level.

Alpinista is the first five-year-old mare to win the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe since Corida in 1937.

#### Race Result

QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE

Group 1 – 3yrs and over - 2.400m - 5.000.000 €

1st ALPINISTA

Jockey : Luke Morris – Trainer : Sir Mark Prescott

2<sup>nd</sup> VADENI

Jockey : Christophe Soumillon – Trainer : Jean-Claude Rouget

3rd TORQUATOR TASSO

Jockey : Lanfranco Dettori – Trainer : Marcel Weiss

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## REACTIONS OF CONNECTIONS:

### **Sir Mark Prescott (trainer of Alpinista, 1<sup>st</sup>) – England**

*“To win the Arc she needed to produce an even bigger effort than before, she has done that and some! Over the last two years all she has done is progress, it is incredible. When I was fifteen I won my first race and I remember while I was walking around after the race that somebody asked me who won the first and I just replied ‘It was me!’”. Those were the ten best minutes of my life, but today is the best day I have ever had in racing! I think my assistant William is going to hate me, he has been waiting to take over for twenty years but thanks to Alpinista I will probably keep going and he will have to wait (laughs)! He was with me when Alborada won the Champion Stakes. I trained both the mother and grandmother of Alpinista, its incredible. I have been working for 36 years with Mrs Rausing and 11 with Luke Morris.”*

### **Kirsten Rausing (owner and breeder of Alpinista, 1st)**

*“We are obviously delighted ! It is incredible to have bred such a mare, especially as she is a sixth generation. The mare has progressed over the last two years, just like her owner and trainer! For the minute, we will just make sure that she gets home safe and sound. We will go and have a think to see if she runs again this year. We have considered the Japan Cup, as well as the Breeders Cup. She will go to stud next year.”*

### **Luke Morris (jockey of Alpinista, 1<sup>st</sup>)**

*“She travelled so well all the way through the race, and I just wanted to get her out so we could get rolling. She is a very special mare, and I can really explain how I am feeling, it’s incredible.”*

### **Jean-Claude Rouget (trainer of Vadeni, 2nd, and Al Hakeem, 4th) - Deauville (Calvados)**

*“I am not too used to running horses on ground like that! Al Hakeem had a great run round and he will get harder, he’s a star! He is a big stamp and he struggled a bit on the ground. As for Vadeni, we have to ask ourselves if he would have won over further. We have been rewarded for our hard work over the months. I have a wonderful team and to have to horses finish in the top four is a brilliant result.”*

### **Georges Rimaud (director of the Aga Khan Studs, owner and breeder of Vadeni, 2nd)**

*“Vadeni put in an excellent performance and proved himself over the distance! He is a really good horse who was beaten by a really good mare today. He is a credit to himself and has really answered every question we have asked of him.”*

### **Marcel Weiss (trainer of Torquator Tasso, 3rd) – Germany**

*“I thought for a moment that he was going to win but Alpinista was just too good. She beat us in Berlin last year and I knew that she merited the upmost respect. Torquator Tasso finished off the race very strongly and he means so much to us, he is the horse of a lifetime.”*

**Gianluca Bietolini (trainer of Grand Glory, 5th) - Maisons-Laffitte (Yvelines)**

*“Unfortunately Grand Glory missed the break today but she still ran a super race. She showed that she is capable at the 2400m distance and that we can simply forget her below par performance in the Vermeille. She has given us immense pleasure over the years and has already been invited to the Japan Cup, so off we go!”*

**Press Release**

Hélène Dupuy – [hdupuy@france-galop.com](mailto:hdupuy@france-galop.com) – 01 49 10 22 10

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