



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Influential ancestors on both sides of Ravel's family tree

By Rommy Favershams

The exceptionally well-bred Ravel scored his first stakes victory in impressive style on Saturday in the 1½-mile Sham Stakes (G3) at Santa Anita Park.



Benoit & Associates photo

RAVEL

The race marked the third lifetime start for the big three-year-old Fusaichi Pegasus colt. In his previous start on December 3, Ravel drew considerable attention when he earned his first career victory on Hollywood Park's new Polytrack surface by 3½ widening lengths.

Bred in Kentucky by G. Watts and Louise Humphrey, Ravel sold for \$950,000 at the 2005 Keeneland September yearling sale.

Ravel's pedigree is composed of an outstanding repertoire of influential male and female ancestors.

Perhaps a keynote, five of his first six dams were stakes winners. For good measure, the sires of his first eight dams, from A.P. Indy

to Man o' War, were all United States or French champions, all eight breed-shaping stallions.

Ravel is the second winner out of Let, who was best at age four when capturing the 1999 Churchill Downs Distaff Handicap (G2). Let is a half sister to Eagle Cafe, by Gulch, a multiple Group 1 winner in Japan.

Daughters of A.P. Indy have combined, so far, to produce 18 stakes winners, including 2006 champion three-year-old filly Wait a While, by Maria's Mon, and '06 Haskell Invitational Handicap (G1) winner Bluegrass Cat, by Storm Cat.

Ravel's stakes-placed grandam, Net Dancer, is a three-quarter sister to Grade 1 winner and sire Joyeux Danseur (Nureyev-Fabuleux Jane). This also is the clan of international juvenile champion Arazi and Group 1 winner Noverre.

This female line (#7) originally was introduced into the United States in 1921 by Man o' War's owner, Samuel Riddle, when he imported Ravel's tenth dam, Lady Comfey (GB) who, a year later, foaled Big Red's first champion son, American Flag.

Completing the circuit, American Flag also appears on the top half of Ravel's pedigree as the sire of Lady Glory, grandam of Raise a Native, Ravel's paternal great-grand sire.

Ravel, dk. b. or br. c., 2004

Fusaichi Pegasus 97 532 fls, 25 SWS SI 2.24 DI=3.67	Mr. Prospector 70 7 wins, \$112,171, SW 1178 fls, 180 SWS SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61 838 fls, 78 SWS SI 3.14 DI=1.57	Native Dancer 50	Polynesian 42 Geisha 43
		Gold Digger 62 12 fls, 3 SWS DI=2.23	Raise You 46	Case Ace 34 Lady Glory 34
	Angel Fever 90 1 win, \$25,665, Spl 7 fls, 1 SW DI=3.00	Danzig 77 1055 fls, 194 SWS SI 5.36 DI=4.71	Nashua 52	*Nasrullah 40 Segula 42
		Rowdy Angel 79 8 fls, 2 SWS DI=2.76	Sequence 46	Count Fleet 40 Miss Dogwood 39
Let 95 2 fls, 1 SW DI=1.77	A.P. Indy 89 8 wins, \$2,979,815 Champion 814 fls, 95 SWS SI 3.99 DI=2.54	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWS SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Weekend Surprise 80 14 fls, 4 SWS DI=2.64	Pas de Nom 68	Admiral's Voyage 59 *Petitioner 52
	Net Dancer 89 2 wins, \$46,225, Spl 5 fls, 2 SWS DI=1.38	Nureyev 77 785 fls, 137 SWS SI 4.74 DI=2.83	Halo 69	Hail to Reason 58 Cosmah 53
		Doubles Partner 84 6 fls, 0 SWS DI=1.47	Ramhyde 72	Rambunctious 60 Castle Hyde 68
			Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
			My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59
		Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52	
		Lassie Dear 74	Buckpasser 63 Gay Missile 67	
		Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57	
		Special 69	*Forti 63 Thong 64	
		Damascus 64	Sword Dancer 56 Kerala 58	
		Fabuleux Jane 74	*Le Fabuleux 61 Native Partner 66	

Ravel hails from the third crop of the Mr. Prospector stallion Fusaichi Pegasus, winner of the 2000 Kentucky Derby (G1).

Purchased by Coolmore as a stallion prospect for a record amount (between \$60-million and \$70-million), Fusaichi Pegasus stands for \$75,000 at Ashford Stud in Versailles, Kentucky. He also annually shuttles to Coolmore's facility in the Hunter Valley of New South Wales in Australia.

Fusaichi Pegasus is now the sire of four American graded stakes winners, including Grade 1 winners Roman Ruler and Bandini and Grade 3 winner Andromeda's Hero.

All four, so far, demonstrate inbreeding patterns to Northern Dancer—not so much of a surprise, given the appearance within their sire's pedigree of Northern Dancer's close relative, Halo.

Expect to hear more of Ravel.

Rommy Favershams is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at <http://www.equicross.com>