

CROSSING

HELEN STREET

by Rommy Faversham

Duplication of complementary strains from the 1985 Irish Oaks winner has the look of a solid breeding strategy

Thoroughbred breeders, particularly those in Europe and Australasia, with a penchant for the creation of novel pedigree patterns might do well to consider, if possible, the duplication of strains from the family of Helen Street (GB). Such an approach is supported by recent early returns of individuals with pedigrees demonstrating inbreeding in this manner.

Owned and bred in 1982 by Sir Michael Sobell and Lord Arnold Weinstock's Ballymacoll Stud in County Meath, Ireland, Helen Street was rated the third best two-year old filly in Europe behind Triptych (USA) and Park Appeal (Ire) after winning the Prix du Calvados (Fr-G3) and finishing second under top weight to future English Fillies Triple Crown winner Oh So Sharp (Ire) in the Fillies Mile (Eng-G3; subsequently upgraded to Group 1).

The following season, she was a top class performer over middle distances, capturing the Irish Oaks (G1), and then finishing third in the Yorkshire Oaks and fourth in both the Champion Stakes (Eng-G1, to Pebbles (GB) and the Washington D.C. International Stakes (US-G1), to Vanlandingham (USA). This earned Helen Street a Timeform rating of 124, ranking her tenth best three-year old filly in Europe, eleven pounds behind the aforementioned Oh So Sharp.

Described as a big, rangy and quite attractive bay with a small white star, Helen Street was trained by Dick Hern who also conditioned her Ballymacoll-bred sire Troy (GB), winner of the English and Irish Derbies (G1) as well as the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (Eng-G1) and Juddmonte International Stakes (Eng-G1), becoming the only horse to ever win all four of these fixtures. ▶▶

International Group Stakes winning descendants of Helen Street

Helen Street



Stallions in CAPITAL LETTERS
Group Stakes Winners in **bold**
Group One winners and/or Classic winners underlined
signifies inbreeding to the Helen Street family



SHAMARDAL
Grandson of Helen Street

Helen Street, Bay filly, 1982

TROY B 1976	Petingo	Petition	Fair Trial	Fairway 13e Lady Juror 9c
			Art Paper	Artist's Proof 14f Quire 16h
		Alcazar	Alycidon	Donatello 14c Aurora 1w
			Quarterdeck	Nearco 4r Poker Chip 22
			Hyperion	Gainsborough 2n Selene 6e
	La Milo	Hornbeam	Thicket	Nasrullah 9c Thorn Wood 1p
			Pinza	Chanteur 12 Pasqua 3i
		Pin Prick	Royal Charger 9c East Wantleye 1b	
			Never Bend	Nasrullah 4r Mumtaz Begum 9c
			Lalun	Djeddah 13c Be Faithful 19b
WATERWAY B 1976	Riverman	River Lady	Prince John	Princequillo 1b Not Afraid 14f
			Nile Lily	Roman 20a Azalea 10a
		Boulevard	Pall Mall	Fair Trial 9c Una 3e
				Malapert
	Costa Sola		Worden	Wild Risk 3f Sans Tares 13c
		Sunny Cove	Nearco 4r Sunny Gulf 1l	

Ballymacoll was also responsible for the development of Helen Street's immediate family. Her dam Waterway (Fr) captured the Prix du Calvados, seven years before her daughter. Helen Street's group winning grandam Boulevard (Ire) was also the third dam of Neo Universe, a three-year old champion and leading sire in Japan.

Soon after the completion of her sophomore racing season, Helen Street was acquired by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum and retired to stud. The Maktoum family has, in fact, enjoyed virtual control over most of Helen Street's family history.

Between 1987 and 2004, Helen Street produced a total of thirteen foals, including ten winners, two of which became stakes winners.

In all, six of Helen Street's seven daughters would become producers. As depicted in her family tree, four of these, so far, have issued group winning descendants. Interestingly, nine of Helen Street's ten group/graded winning descendants have been colts.

Starting with Mount Helena (GB), we find that her best descendant, so far, has been her Group 2 winning / Group 1-placed grandson Thronum bred by Ron Gilbert's Highgrove

Stud, Westbrook on the Darling Downs in Queensland. By Australia's three-time leading sire Snitzel, he was the winner of the 2018 MVRC Stanley Wootten Stakes (G2), Thronum entered stud at Sun Stud in Victoria in 2018.

Grecian Slipper (GB) issued four group winning descendants. Her French Group 3 winning son Graikos (GB), by Rainbow Quest (USA), became a nondescript stallion in Iran. Her multiple group winning grandson Paximadia was by the late highly successful stallion Commands.

The only female descendant of Helen Street who has annexed a group event is Grecian Slipper's daughter Magna Graecia (Ire), by Warning (GB), winner of the Prix de Barbeville (Fr-G3). She, in turn, became the grandam of Territories, (Ire) by Invincible Spirit (Ire), who ran second to Gleneagles (Ire) in the 2015 Two Thousand Guineas (Eng-G1), before scoring in the French Group 1 Prix Jean Prat. Territories entered stud in 2017 at Sheikh Mohammed's Dalham Stud near Newmarket. He also shuttles to Darley/Kelvinside in the Hunter Valley.

Helen Street's ninth foal, Street Cry (Ire) was, by far, her crown jewel. His sire Machiavellian (USA) was a French juvenile champion who developed a uniquely international branch of the Mr. Prospector (USA) sire line.

Street Cry placed in three graded events at age two, including a third to Macho Uno (USA) in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. At three, he won the UAE Two Thousand Guineas before a runner-up effort in the UAE Derby (G3). Street Cry finally came into his own as a four-year old when capturing the 2002 Dubai World Cup (UAE-G1) as well as the Stephen Foster Handicap (US-G1). Despite early favoritism for the Breeders' Cup Classic (US-G1), persistent inflammation in an ankle forced his connections to bring his racing career to a premature end.

Street Cry stood at Sheikh Mohammed's Darley Stud in Kentucky siring twelve crops between 2003 and 2014. He also produced ten Southern Hemisphere crops when shuttling to Darley Australia where he achieved champion sire honors for the 2015-16 season, thanks in large part to his phenomenal daughter Winx. However, he would almost certainly have taken a second sire title if he had not had three years off from shuttling early in his career. In all he was the sire of 1,877 foals, 131 of which became blacktype winners for a very solid strike rate of 7%.

Like his sire, Street Cry did extremely well with mares carrying Northern Dancer (Can) in their pedigrees. He was, in fact, one of the few top-drawer Machiavellians free of Northern Dancer so it was particularly no coincidence that his strongest affinity was with the daughters of Danehill (USA) which yielded 9 Group winners from 55 foals. It was a cross that featured no less than four complementary strains of Northern Dancer's evergreen grandam Almahmoud.

Street Cry got off to an auspicious start at stud when siring 2006 champion two-year old male Street Sense (USA). The first horse ever to win both the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (US-G1) and the Kentucky Derby (US-G1). Street Cry's initial Kentucky crop also included sensational three-time older female champion Zenyatta (USA), the first distaffer to claim victory in the Breeders' Cup Classic and winner of twenty races from



Helen Street's produce record

Ilia, b.f., 1987, by Shadeed

Unraced / producer

Helenus, b.g., 1988, by Danzig

Non-winner in nine starts

Mount Helena, b.f., 1989, by Danzig

Won one race / producer

Sovetsky, ch.g., 1990, by Soviet Star

Won two races over hurdles

Grecian Slipper, b.f., 1991, by Sadler's Wells

Won three races / producer

Varvarka, b.f., 1992, by Soviet Star.

Won one race / no produce record

Helsinki, b.f. 1993, by Machiavellian.

Won one race / producer dam of G1 winner & sire SHAMARDAL

Helehenberg, b.g., 1997, by Shareef Dancer.

Won one race

STREET CRY, dk b./br. c., 1998, by Machiavellian.

Won five races inc. Dubai World Cup UAE-G1 & Stephen Foster H. (US-G1) / sire

HISTORIAN, br.f., 1999, by Pennekamp.

Won three races inc. Listed stakes Prix Rose de Mai / producer

Streetlight, b.c., 2001, by Polish Precedent.

Unraced / unsuccessful sire in Sweden

River Street, ch.f., 2002, by Machiavellian

Won one race / producer

Street Talk, b.g., 2004, by Machiavellian

Won one race



STREET CRY

Machiavellian (USA) - Helen Street (GB) by Troy

21 starts. A lock for entry into the U.S. Hall of Fame, Zenyatta also earned Horse of the Year honors in 2010, her final season. In Australia he had the G1 winners Whobegotyou in his first crop.

Street Cry was capable of getting top runners across the full distance spectrum. His son Street Boss (USA) set track records for six furlongs in the Los Angeles Handicap (US-G1) and Bing Crosby Handicap (US-G1), taking the Triple Bend Invitational Handicap (US-G1) as well. Conversely, Shocking, an Australian champion stayer won the two mile Melbourne Cup (G1).

Greatest of all, Street Cry's daughter, four-time Australian Horse of the Year Winx remains nothing less than a national treasure. She finished off her lengthy racing career with 33 consecutive victories including 25 Group One events, a world record. For good measure, Winx retired as the planet's all-time richest racehorse.

In September of 2014, sixteen year-old Street Cry had to be euthanized while in Australia due to complications related to a neurological condition. In recent years, however, he has established himself to be an effective sire of sires. This includes almost a dozen sons at stud in Australia and New Zealand. Four of these have already sired at least one Group One winner.

Street Sense stands at Darley Stud in both Kentucky and Australia. Through 2019, he has sired 94 stakes winners, seven of them at the Grade One level from nine U.S. crops. His five Australian crops have yielded 34 stakes winners, including four Group One events.

Street Boss also stands at the same two Darley

operations. Through 2019, he has sired 24 stakes winners including four Grade Ones in Kentucky and seven stakes winners including one Group One in Australia.

A third son of Street Cry worth mentioning is 2013 Breeders' Cup Juvenile (US-G1) winner New Year's Day (USA). After four years at stud in Kentucky he was transferred to Brazil in 2018 and then on to Japan one season later. New Year's Day is best known as the sire of 2019 U.S. three-year old champion Maximum Security (USA) who first gained unwanted notoriety when appearing to have won last year's Kentucky Derby (US-G1) only to be disqualified for interference at the top of the stretch. Earlier this year, the star-crossed colt captured the world's richest horse race, the Saudi Cup.

Street Cry's full sister Helsinki (GB) was five years his senior. The winner of one race at age three, she was listed stakes-placed in France.

To the cover of premier Storm Cat (USA) stallion and 2000 European Horse of the Year Giant's Causeway (USA), Helsinki's third foal, Shamardal, would overcome a lethal condition to become a European champion and highly rated international sire in his own right.

Bred in Paris, Kentucky by Brilliant Farm, the bay yearling began to suffer from a lack of coordination and an abnormal clumsiness in his gait which soon led to a diagnosis of Grade 3 Cervical Vertebral Malformation Syndrome (on a scale of zero to 5), commonly referred to as the "wobbles" - a disease that usually ends with the animal requiring euthanasia.

Remarkably, with the help of some unconventional treatment, the colt made a full recovery. Soon thereafter, the colt was sent to the October 2003 Tattersalls Houghton Yearling Sale at Newmarket where he was acquired by Sheikh Mohammed's Gainsborough Stud for the very low price of 50,000 guineas after an endoscopic test had erroneously diagnosed him as having breathing problems.

At two, Shamardal was undefeated in three starts, highlighted by an easy victory in the Dewhurst Stakes (Eng-G1). Based on those performances, he was voted 2004 European Champion two-year old.

As a three-year old, racing under the Maktoum family's Godolphin Racing banner, Shamardal made his debut on dirt in the United Arab Emirates Derby (UAE-G2) but ran poorly. He then rebounded with victories in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French Two Thousand Guineas; Fr-G1) and Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby; Fr-G1), the latter by a head over that year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Fr-G1) winner Hurricane Run.

Shamardal followed up these two classic encounters by annexing the fourth Group One race of his racing career scoring in the St. James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot by three convincing lengths. A month later, however, he fractured a front fetlock joint and was forced into retirement having never lost a race on the turf.

Shamardal became a primary resident at Sheikh Mohammed's Kildangan Stud in Ireland where he served from 2006 to 2020 (except for ►►

In all, Shamardal has sired a total of six champions



Above: **Blue Point** (IRE) (Shamardal - Scarlett Rose by Royal Applause);
Right: **Able Friend** (Shamardal - Ponte Piccolo by Volksraad)

2008 at Dalham Hall). His immediate impact earned him leading first-season sire by progeny earnings during his first Northern Hemisphere season in 2009. Shamardal was also shuttled to Darley Australia from 2005 to 2010.

In all, Shamardal's sired a total of six champions including 2015 Hong Kong Horse of the Year and champion miler Able Friend, bred by Stu Ramsey's Turangga Farm, Scone. 2018 Hong Kong champion stayer Pakistan Star (Ger) and 2010 Australian champion 3-year-old filly Faint Perfume, who was bred and raced by Dato Tan Chin Nam's Think Big Stud near Bowral.

In Europe, his son Blue Point (Ire) became the only horse ever to win three Group One sprints at Royal Ascot. Lope De Vega (Ire) emulated his sire's feat of winning the Poule d'Essai des Poulains and Prix du Jockey Club. Another French classic winner was Shamardal's daughter Castle Lady (Ire), winner of the Poule d'Essai des Poulaches (One Thousand Guineas; Fr-G1). Down Under, he sired 2013 Australasian Oaks (G1) winner Maybe Discreet.

Finally last year, Shamardal became the only stallion to ever sire three undefeated Group One juvenile colts in a single crop - Pinatubo (Ire), Earthlight (Ire) and Victor Ludorum (GB). All three would appear to have a bright future, both on the racetrack and at stud.

Unfortunately, eighteen-year old Shamardal had to be put down on April 16 of this year after battling a range of health issues.



Through 2019, his Northern Hemisphere statistics are particularly impressive. From twelve crops and 1,333 foals of racing age, Shamardal has sired 120 stakes winners for an outstanding strike rate of 9%. In all, he has produced a total of 146 blacktype winners, 75 of these group/graded stakes winners, 25 at the highest level (G1).

Shamardal's influence as a sire of sires is yet to be determined. The best of his sons from his

later crops have not yet sired offspring of racing age and there still are the last three of his own crops to race, let alone reproduce.

By far, Lope De Vega (Ire) has been Shamardal's best siring son. Standing at Ballylinch Stud in Ireland currently commanding a stud fee of €100,000, Lope de Vega has sired at least ten Group 1 winners including French classic winner Phoenix of Spain (Ire) and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf heroine Newspaperofrecord ▶▶



SHOCKING LUCK
Shocking - Shamardal Luck by Shamardal

Photo: Michael McNally

(Ire). He also had success shuttling to Australia between 2011 and 2014.

In Australia he also has a promising sire son in Puissance de Lune at Swettenham Stud in Victoria. The striking grey multiple G1 placed Puissance de Lune has already sired two individual G1 placegetters, Moonlight Maid and Southern Mood, with the latter, who was runnerup in the time-honoured VRC Derby, being out of a daughter of Street Cry and thus in bred to Helen Street.

Shamardal's older half sister, Helsinka (Fr), by Pennekamp (USA), became third dam to the Bahrain-bred Pulsar who won five Cup races in his native land including the Class One Al Khalifa Cup.

Velikiy Zevs (USA), Shamardal's younger full brother, was a mediocre runner in the U.S. and England before his shipment to Russia at age four. There, he became much more competitive winning a Group One event and placing in eight other Group races. He is presently a sparsely used Russian stallion.

Shamardal's younger half brother, Geoffrey Chaucer (USA) by Montjeu (Ire) won the Group Two Beresford Stakes (Ire-G2) as a juvenile. At three, he failed to progress and was distanced while finishing 16th and last to his stablemate Australia (GB) in the 2014 Epsom Derby (Eng-G1).

Completing Helen Street's current family tree of Group winners is her daughter, the Pennekamp filly Historian (Ire), winner of five races including the 2100 meter French listed Prix de Mai. Historian went on to foal the group-placed filly Antiquities (GB), dam of the previously cited Victor Ludorum (GB).

As a 2019 juvenile, Victor Ludorum was undefeated in three starts in France, all at a mile. This hat-trick was completed with an easy

victory in the Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere (G1) on Arc Day.

Godolphin-bred Victor Ludorum, the son of Shamardal, sports a pedigree demonstrating 3X3 inbreeding to Helen Street (in Formula One fashion) as his sire and dam share the same notable grandam. The pandemic-delayed French Two Thousand Guineas and Derby remain as his likely targets.

To date, there have been a total of 22 runners whose pedigree features inbreeding to the family of Helen Street. So far, four of these have become stakes winners, three are Group winners, one (Victor Ludorum) is a G1 winner and a fifth is a G1 placegetter.

The first Group winner was Lucida (Ire), a daughter of Shamardal out of Lura by Street Cry, therefore inbred 2X2 to the full siblings Helsinki and Street Cry, who captured the Rockfel Stakes (G2) for juvenile fillies at Newmarket in September of 2014. Lucida had already been a fast closing second in the Moyglare Stud Stakes (Ire-G1) earlier that month. At three, she was a narrowly beaten runner-up to Legatissimo (Ire) in the One Thousand Guineas (Eng-G1). Later that summer, she was a decent third in the Coronation (Eng-G1) and Pretty Polly Stakes (Eng-G1).

The second Group winner was Shocking Luck, a gelded son of Shocking, by Street Cry, out of the Shamardal mare, Shamardal Luck, and as such inbred 2X3 to Street Cry and Helsinki. Shocking Luck was a wire-to-wire winner in the Group Three Rough Habit Plate at Doomben. The three-year old had been second by a half-length in the Waikato Guineas (G2).

The third Helen Street inbred was the previously described Group One winner Victor Ludorum.

Inbreeding to Helen Street figures to be further facilitated by pathways created by her lesser

male descendants at stud. Even more important will be Street Cry, Shamardal and their male scions' influence as broodmare sires. As in the case of Victor Ludorum, Helen Street's tail-female line will also serve as a valuable complementary strain in the application of this well-founded strategy.

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A list of stallions featured in this year's STALLIONS 2020 register (published by Bluebloods) which feature Helen Street in their pedigrees and can be combined appropriately to create inbreeding to her, follows below.

- Blue Point - Darley, Vic.
- Crackerjack King - Wyndholm Park, Vic.
- Hallowed Crown - Twin Hills, NSW.
- Hualalai - Ducatoon Park, SA.
- Puissance de Lune - Swettenham Stud, Vic.
- Street Boss - Darley, Vic.
- Territories - Darley, NSW.
- Thonum - Sun Stud, Vic.
- Wolf Cry - Larneuk Stud, Vic. **BB**