

# Haras de Montpezat

by Fabio Brianzoni

photos: Paola Petix

**H**aras de Montpezat is the brand new European Center of His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Saud Al Qasimi, located in Beaucaire, a small town on the Rhône river, in the south of France, an area strategically perfect for the weather and the connection to other countries: the area of Camargue on the coast, 80 km from Marseille, 200 km from Nice, 500 km from Milan, 650 from Paris and 300 from Barcelona. Where a breeding farm is located is very relevant as the connection with the shows must be easy and fast as well as the shipment of the semen, fresh or frozen, within 24 hours throughout the Europe must be guaranteed. The Stud farm of Montpezat is equipped

with a center of insemination. Here the veterinarian in all the equipments necessity for the collection, the storage and the sending of the fresh semen and frozen.

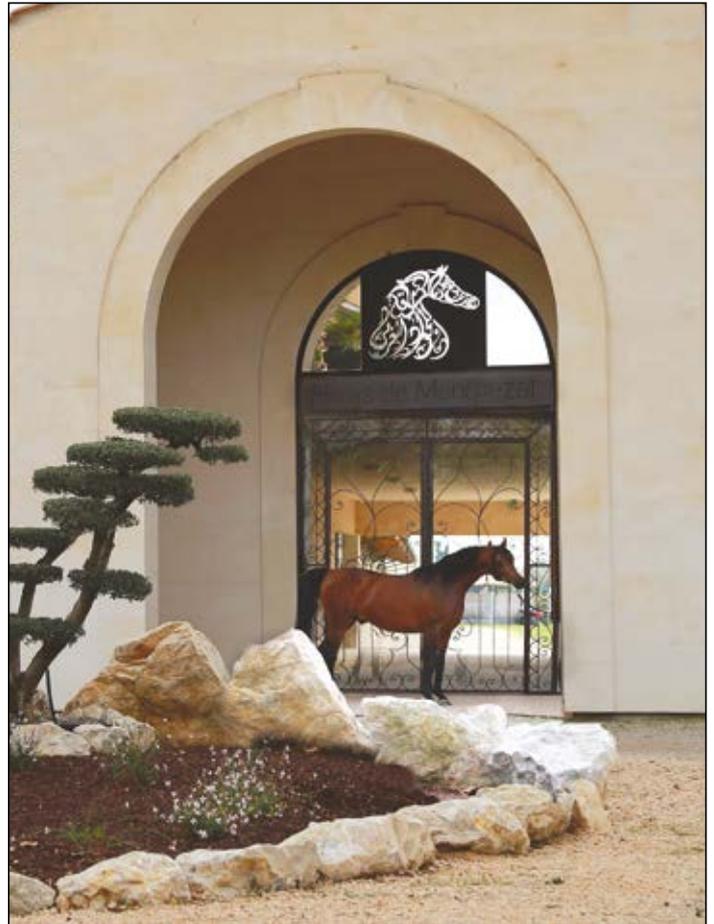
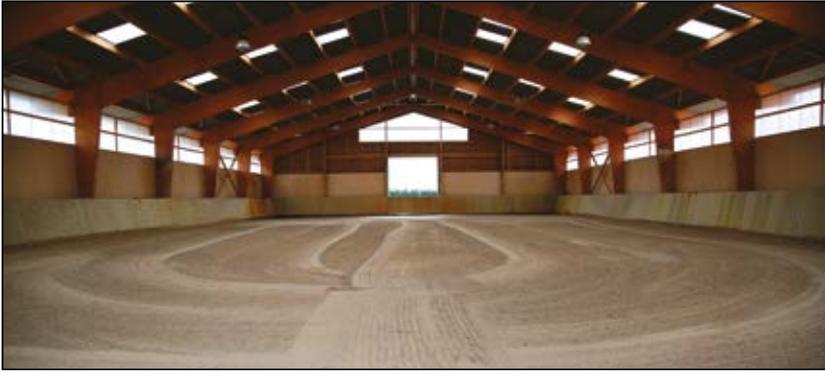
Haras de Montpezat, founded as a breeding farm and a training center, is the reference for Albidayer horses in Europe.

So the Stud farm is opened to receive other horses which park in Europe.

Daniel Souppat is the Manager of the Stud Farm of Monpezat.

As you can see in the pictures, the Center extends over 35 hectares and boasts enormous paddocks, a covered arena, 50 boxes, tapis roulants, covered walking machines, offices, club house and much more.







During our visit we met Mr. Souppat and we interviewed him about the goals of the project.

**TuttoArabi:** Daniel, start with something about you for our readers.

**Daniel Souppat:** I was born in Lyon, my grand father had work horses and a big passion for this animal. As I was growing my passion for horses grew. I started by buying a Polish mare, then a Russian mare, G Meneska, who has the same mother of Gazal Al Shaqab. I have been breeding 25 horses over the years.

My wife Christiane takes care of the stud when I am working away. I have always been passionate of riding and even today when I am stressed I use to ride my 22 years old stallion to relax. Who has an Arabian horse has a friend not only a

horse. Personally I have been a breeder for 25 years and an ACA (National Association Cheval Arabe) counselor for 15. I have been organizing many national shows, the last was in Vichy 6 years ago. After that I founded an Association (A.C.A.S.) for the organization of this international show, at its sixth edition next year in Vichy. I am a national judge, DC and Ringmaster. That's why I had the chance to follow many shows worldwide: I tried to take the best from anyone to put in the organization of Vichy International show.

**TA:** Today we are here at the marvelous Haras de Montpezat. We know that you built it. Can you tell us about it?

**DS:** Yes! It's true. I am mainly a builder. This place, started in 2012, was built





by me using all the passion and the best technics and innovations in the field of building, just because this is an Arabian horse stud and it is in France. The friendship and the respect granted over the years by His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Saud Al Qasimi have been important in the choice he made to entrust to me the managing direction of the farm in 2014. His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Saud Al Qasimi has the most of Arabian horses in Sharjah (UAE) where he lives and many others at Michael Byatt's in USA; the manager of Albidayer Stud is Mrs. Dawn Martin.

**TA:** What are you working on now? As we can see many people today are working and all the horses are outside in the pastures...

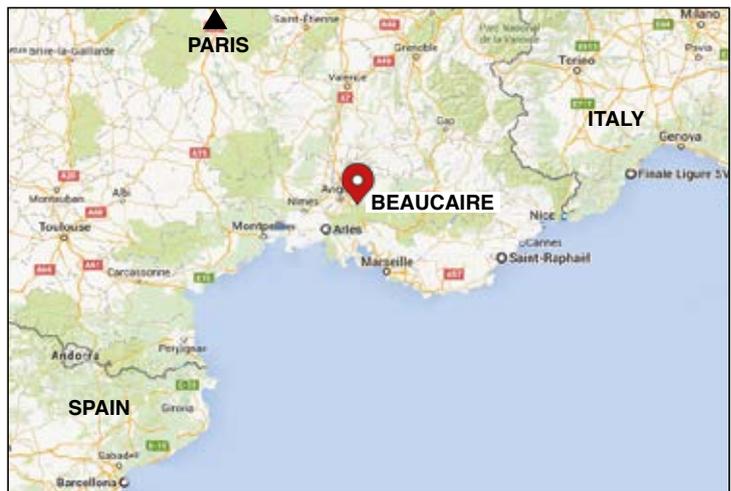
**DS:** As this is a big Stud, the beginning has been prudent. What I want are good results

and to reach them we are working on our team staff.

My objective is to operate the Stud Farm with:

- Breeding
- Training Center
- Insemination Center

At the moment the center is operational with the horses of Albidayer Stud. We have 14 mares for the breeding program, colts, fillies and stallions on training for the next European show season. Soon a website will be ready for our marketing and we are planning our presence on the magazines, brochures and newsletters. The stud farm is also open to the welcome of the other horses the owners of which wish to make them park in Europe. ○



# Haras de Montpezat

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