



HT EXCLUSIVE WITH

MATTEO GIUNTI

By HT Team

AT THE AGE OF NINE, MATTEO BEGAN RIDING, AT 16 HE STARTED COMPETING IN THE GRAND PRIX COMPETITIONS, AND AT 18, HE BECAME A PROFESSIONAL RIDER.

During his many years of training, he received his high school diploma. Currently, he works as a professional rider and instructor for the FISE at Centro Ippico Toscana (CIT) in Florence, Italy.

Giunti was lucky enough to gain experience and techniques from international equestrians, which in fact furthered his understanding and passion for the enchanting sport.

“The coach that influenced my career was my father, but my development came out taking all the best from all the people who helped me. Now I still have to give my knowledge to the young as the sport keeps developing quickly that you have to keep yourself learning!”

Individuals that influenced Giunti are Guido Dominici, Hans Horn, Henk Nooren, and Norman Dello Joio from the United States of America (1982 World Cup winner, Silver Olympian Barcelona '92).

Giunti collaborates with other well established equestrian riders, as well as keep himself up to date with new techniques; that are used not only in Europe but globally, by learning from foreign stables.

“To get results you need to follow a system , for me the flatwork is the basis of our sport , if a horse cannot go forward or go backwards, or turn well ; it will be impossible to make a nice round. Another aspect to achieve good flatwork is the health of your horse! when your horse is fit and has his muscles worked well then your horse will be stronger. In my system once a week I work on

ground poles and cavalletti and once a week a course and the rest of the days flatwork working on the details to get your horse more supple and relaxed”

Giunti's students have competed in the European Pony Championships (Failla G, Failla B, and Filippo Baldini) Juniors (Failla G./Baldini), Young Riders (E.Tognoni, two years and G.Franchi two years) and Seniors up to the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. Danae Tsatsou, is Giunti's wife and trainee.

Whilst in Greece, he won 3rd place at Drammen's CSIO against the USA team. In total, Giunti has won 9 European Championships (junior/young rider/senior), 1 Olympic Game in Athens, and more than 30 Nation Cups (junior/young rider/senior). Over the past 10 years, many of Giunti's students have had the opportunity to compete in the Piazza Siena and Verona horse shows.

“My best horse was Bambino Vant Zorgvliet , this horse changed my life and together we won the GP of CSIO LINZ in 2012 , and did some nations cups. I found him when nobody wanted to ride him but when I tried him I felt something magical so I got him”

Matteo Giunti understands the world of horses and techniques that have been used in the industry for centuries. He not only inspires many, but supports his plethora of students, and critiques their technique so that they will achieve great wins, and make their mark as Giunti did himself. 🐾