

JACQUES TOFFI

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A glowing white uniform is not worn by this Sea Captain, but a beige vest with plenty of big pockets. His salt and pepper hair is always covered up with a French hat, and his lovely smile with a thick beard. Holding a cigar in one hand, and on the other a camera, he would put his camera down to take his hat off and greet you. He is not just a gentleman; he is a perfectionist with lens. He is a European, a Syrian and an Arab who loves the history of Arab countries which constantly influence him throughout his job.

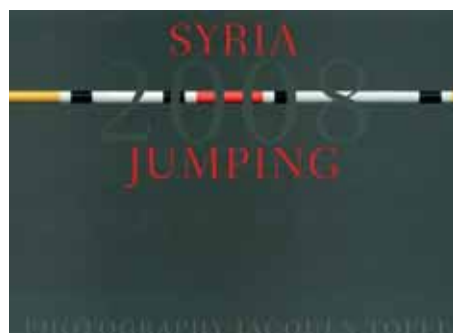
Jacques Toffi was born in Lattakia, Syria to Greek parents in 1952. He started off with entering a German school in Beirut, Lebanon and graduated with a bachelor's degree to move to Hamburg, Germany in 1970. Eight years later he graduated as a Sea Captain not knowing he would walk a path that would lead to international photography.

His elder brother Georges was a very good painter who taught Jacques how to paint. With a hand for painting, and another one for photography which started in 1968 in Lattakia, he developed a passion for

horses through his wife Khatharina whom he met in Hamburg. A horse loving wife and two children, Jean and Michele, Jacques put aside the Sea Captain career and took on professional photography in 1984.

Jacques photographs many horse disciplines such as show jumping, dressage, eventing, polo, galloping, and driving. Additionally, he covers many exhibitions in Hamburg, Frankfurt, Monte Carlo, Paris, Dortmund, Amsterdam, and in other cities. His pictures taken during national and international events; the World Equestrian Games, the European Championships and the Olympic Games are published in Germany and in international publications such as magazines, newspapers, books and calendars worldwide.

With a passion for Syria...it being his home country, Jacques published his first 'Syria Jumping' calendar. He always attends Syrian equestrian events as well as other Arab events like the Pan Arab Equestrian Games that took place in Cairo, Egypt in November 2007.



Jacques: "I Hope to improve my work in order to give back my country the best quality, and I hope I can be helpful in developing this sport in our countries. I wish to see more professionalism, especially in organising and promoting our events. A big wish of mine is to ask all horse people to kindly be fair to their horses as they have been the best friends of humans throughout history."

