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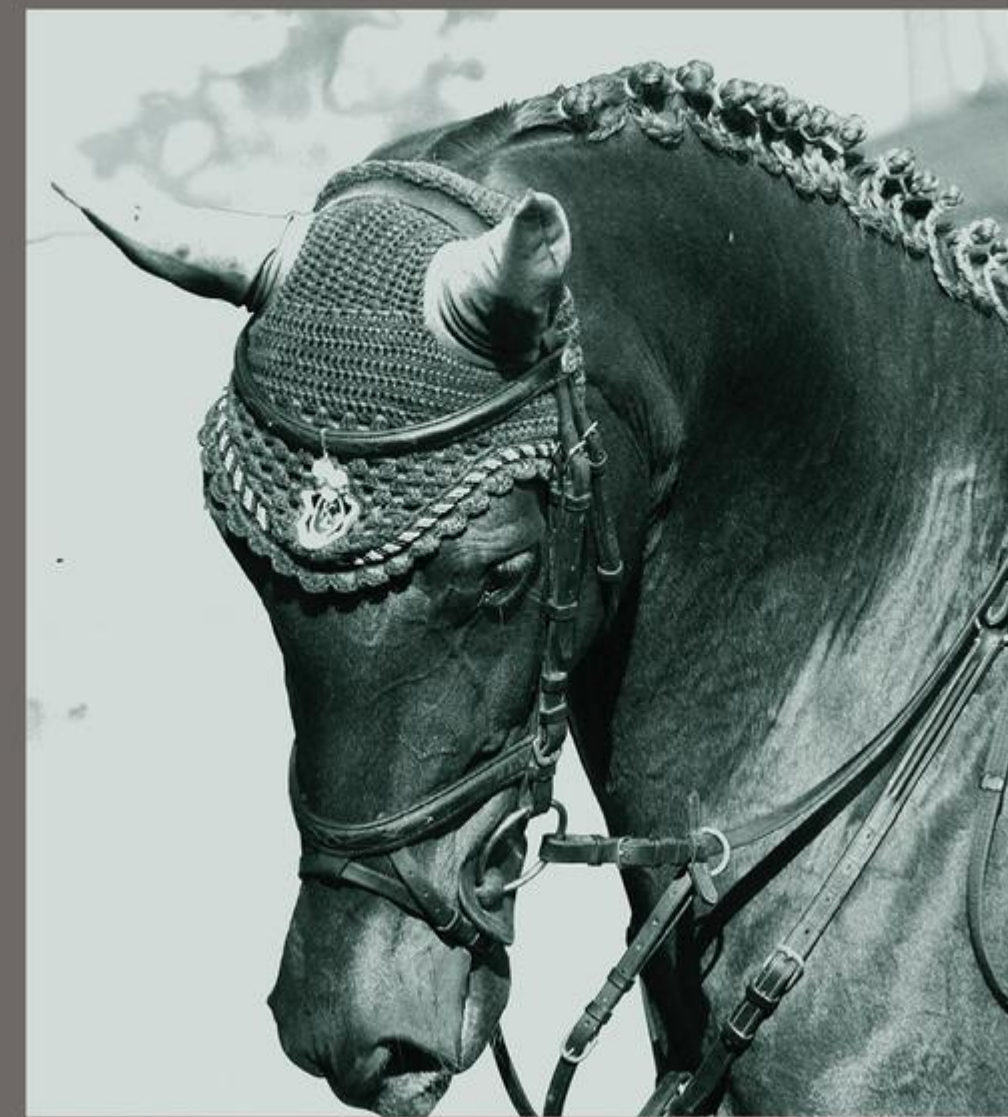
MOHAMED HAMDY

By Nermin Marwan

WE SEE PERFECT SHOTS FOR THE HORSE RIDERS & WE WONDER ABOUT THE MAN BEHIND THE CAMERA; HIS LIFE, HIS DECISIONS, HIS CAREER, AND THE STORIES BEHIND HIS PICTURES.

HT IS HAPPY TO INTRODUCE ONE OF THE BEST EQUINE PHOTOGRAPHERS IN EGYPT; MOHAMED HAMDY.





Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My full name is Mohamed Hamdy Mohamed Aly, born on the 29th of June 1982 in Alexandria. I hold a bachelor degree in Commerce. I've been happily married for 8 years to Safaa Barakat who's an architect and we have two wonderful kids Zain and Ezz. My nickname is Hamada Hamdy.

Why are you specialized in horse-riding photography?

I think the main reason that pushed me forward in getting specialized in horse-riding photography is being insanely in love with horses, and my experience with horse riding helped a lot in capturing the perfect shot.

Have you ever ridden a horse?

Sure, I started riding when I was 16, yet my

passion to horses was way before this age. Since then I have been riding on and off, hopefully will be back again when I lose weight.

Have you ever seen a rider and thought "this rider is going to be a champion"?

Mouda Zeyada, I have known him since he was 6 years old. He was so talented and now he is representing Egypt in the Olympic Games.

What is the challenge you always face in your career?

One of the challenges I face in my work is that I can take high-quality pictures with a poor-quality camera. Sometimes I send the pictures to friends outside Egypt and they ask me about the type of camera used, and when I answer, they are very surprised from the quality of the pictures.

What's the funniest/most weird moments happened to you in your career generally?

On the professional side, when someone falls off a horse, I become so terrified praying they'd be okay but at the same time I feel the shot I took is so unique and unforgettable.

Personally, one of the funniest yet touching moments I've ever experienced was in the operations room when my wife was giving birth to my first son, I was busy taking photos of every second, and once I saw him I had mixed feelings of happiness, fear and confusion.

What your current goal that you are working to reach?

To be an International photographer who covers the most important showjumping, it actually happened before specifically with horse time,

yet I look for unique shows to cover.

Are you keen on having a special style in photography? Something like a signature.

I think I do have my special signature in photography; riders are the ones to be asked if they actually can tell a photo is mine with no logo on it.

Tell us about a moment you were proud of yourself.

Whenever I see people happy with what I do, and the special moments I helped them memorize. Also, when I'm told how influential they feel about me in horse riding shows in Egypt.

Who has been your greatest support?

My wife has been the greatest support since



I decided taking photography as a career, she helped me a lot and was always been my backbone, some of my close friends also encouraged me a lot to start taking photography as a career rather than a hobby.

Who is the horse rider you like to watch?

Mouda, Nayel Nassar and Seif Abbas.

Have you ever thought to change your career?

I actually did, I used to work for 12 years in the airport for a ground service company, and finally took the decision to quit being a full-time photographer.

If you have to choose a super power, what would it be?

If eating without gaining weight is considered a super power, I'd definitely pick it

If you are given a chance to change something in this world, what would it be?

If I could give each and every orphan in this world a loving and caring family to raise them up, I'd never think twice to do it.

In your point of view, what makes you unique as a photographer?

As I explained earlier, maybe being aware of horses' techniques and styles helped me know how and when to capture the perfect moment.

What's your ultimate dream?

Just be happy, me and my little family. I hope I could do whatever makes each one of us happy.

What do you wish for your kids?

I only wish that both my kids would experience whatever makes them happy. I give them the whole freedom to choose what suits them best, of course under my supervision along with their mom's. But again, each one of them is unique in a way and I just pray to God they grow feeling how much love I have for them

What's your advice to amateurs that are thinking in following the same career?

Don't think of it as a career, have the passion to what you do. As the well-known proverb says "love what you do, so you end up doing what you love" 🐾

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