



PROFILES AND INTERVIEWS

HORSETIMES MEETS THE PROMISING CHAMPION HAYA ELBORAIE

By Nermin Marwan

WHAT DOES IT REALLY TAKE TO DEVELOP A YOUNG RIDER INTO BEING A STAR?

INITIALLY, STRUCTURE AND TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE ARE ESSENTIAL. FOLLOWED BY RING CRAFT, WHERE THE NUMBER OF SHOWS STRUCTURES YOUR BACKBONE, THAT HELPS YOU CONTROL YOUR PERFORMANCE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY YOUR CHARACTER. ALL OF THAT FINALLY ENABLES YOU TO TRAIN YOURSELF TO DEAL WITH FEAR, DOUBT, AND STRESS.

OUR GUEST TODAY IS THE PROMISING YOUNG RIDER HAYA ELBORAIE, THE DAUGHTER OF THE RENOWNED EGYPTIAN RIDER MOHAMED OSAMA ELBORAIE, WHO RECENTLY REPRESENTED EGYPT IN THE **YOUTH EQUESTRIAN GAMES 2022 IN AACHEN.**

COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF?

My name is Haya Elboraie and I'm 16 years old. I started riding at a really young age and I competed in my first full season at 9 years of age.

HOW DID YOUR PASSION FOR HORSES START?

My passion for horses started at a very young age because I was always present around horses and always watched my parents ride.

BORAIE BEING YOUR COACH, WHO ELSE ADDED TO YOU?

There are many people who have helped me develop and learn more including, Alice Debany as her clinics were extremely beneficial and full of new things to learn.



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Congratulations for your great performance in the Youth Olympics in AACHEN, let's talk About it

HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR SUCH A GREAT EVENT LIKE THE YOUTH OLYMPICS?

When I knew about the games, I started preparing by riding different horses that I haven't ridden before just practice the feeling as the horse I was going to ride there was a horse that I haven't ridden before.

TELL US ABOUT THE MOMENT, WHEN YOU KNEW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO RIDE AT THE YOUTH EQUESTRIAN GAMES IN AACHEN.

It was definitely surreal!

As Aachen is one of the biggest shows in the world and it's an amazing opportunity to ride there.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR WHOLE EXPERIENCE IN AACHEN, HOW WAS IT?

My experience in Aachen was truly amazing, it was such a great experience. I was surrounded by so many world-class riders and I got to meet new people and make new friends. It is a life-changing experience that I will never forget.

TELL US ABOUT THIS WIN, AND HOW DID YOU FEEL?

To win a bronze medal in such a show was just truly amazing and I'm really grateful that I was lucky enough to come home with a medal.



AMONG THE HORSES YOU'VE PARTNERED WITH, WHO WAS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL HORSE?

That's a really difficult question; each horse was a different experience for me and each one definitely taught me something new.

HOW DO YOU BOND WITH YOUR HORSES?

For me getting to know the horses is extremely important so it always takes a little bit of time until you know the horse you're riding by heart.

TELL US ABOUT THE MOST CHALLENGING TIME IN YOUR CAREER, AND HOW DID YOU GET THROUGH IT?

The most challenging time for me was when my horse broke his leg in the arena. I just didn't understand what was happening and I was extremely confused. This horse taught me so many things, so when he broke his leg I was heartbroken, because I knew I had lost him.

WHAT WAS THE BEST ADVICE YOU WERE GIVEN?

That fear is just an illusion and it really helped, as it allowed me to teach myself how to control my nerves during a show and in the arena.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU DO BESIDES HORSE RIDING?

I enjoy playing sports like Padel and Football.

WHO WAS HAYA'S IDOL AS A YOUNG RIDER?

My idol as a young rider was and will always be my father because I love to watch the way he handles things, and everything I know I got from him. My father is my biggest inspiration in this sport and it's an honor to be his daughter and student.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND FOR THE FUTURE?

I really want to focus on riding more international shows and to jump U25 classes.

DO YOU HAVE SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR YOUR FATHER?

"Thank you very much for believing in me and giving me so many opportunities that no one else could've given me. I'm truly thankful for all the work you put towards my education and I hope that I could make you proud one day." 🙏