



SELFIE QUEEN (Muscle Hill – Lady Lakewood – Kadabra)

Riding the pylons close to the tempo-setter, Selfie Queen showed a slight late kick to finish fourth by a length in the first Hambletonian Oaks elimination.

As a 2-year-old, Selfie Queen demonstrated sharp speed when competing in the Kentucky Championship Series at The Red Mile, trotting a lifetime-best 1:51.2 in winning a \$40,000 preliminary last August. She however has struggled to stay flat on numerous occasions, breaking stride around the first turn in the Mohawk Million and in the \$600,000 Breeders Crown Final. Following a bout of sickness at the start of her 3-year-old season, she broke stride in a \$35,600 Reynolds division before giving chase to Joviality S and finishing third in a \$100,000 Del Miller Memorial division.

Breeding Info

Selfie Queen is sired by Muscle Hill, who holds a record five-win streak as a stallion in the Hambletonian Oaks after siring winners from 2016 through 2020 (All The Time, Ariana G, Manchego, When Dovescry, Sorella). One more win in the Oaks would tie Muscle Hill as the all-time winningest sire in the event next to Speedy Crown, who sired winners in 1982 (Dance Spell), 1984 (Fancy Crown), 1987 (Armbro Fling), 1990 (Working Gal), 1994 (Gleam) and 1996 (Moni Maker).

She was bred by James Wilhite, who tries for his first victory as a breeder in the Hambletonian Oaks.

Driver Bio

ORJAN KIHLLSTROM

Born: 5/13/1962 – Birthplace: Bollnas, Sweden – Resides: Bromma, Sweden

Orjan Kihlstrom has appeared in one previous Hambletonian final. He finished fifth with Evaluate in 2018.

Last October, Kihlstrom got career win 7,000 at his home track, Solvalla.

Kihlstrom is a four-time Elitloppet winner, most recently with Don Fanucci Zet in 2021. In 2016, he won the race with Nuncio, who finished second to stablemate Trixton in the 2014 Hambletonian final.

In 2014, Kihlstrom won the Prix d’Amerique with Maharajah.

Trainer Bio

NANCY TAKTER

Born: 6/23/1981 – Birthplace: Malmo, Sweden – Resides: Allentown, NJ

Dan Patch Award Trainer of the Year: 2020.

Hambletonian Oaks wins (1): 2020.

Nancy Takter has finished second in the past two editions of the Hambletonian, with 55-1 longshot Spy Booth in 2021 and with Ready For Moni in 2020.

In 2020, Takter continued something of a family tradition by winning the Hambletonian Oaks with Sorella. Her father Jimmy won the event a record eight times. Yannick Gingras drove Jimmy Takter’s final five Oaks champs, which came consecutively from 2014 to 2018, and also drove Sorella.

Sorella was Canada’s 2020 O’Brien Award winner for best 3-year-old filly trotter.

Takter was the caretaker of 2010 Hambletonian winner Muscle Massive, trained by her father. She made her Hambletonian final debut as a trainer in 2014 with Resolve, who finished fifth.

In 2020, Takter was the unanimous selection for Trainer of the Year by the chapters of the U.S. Harness Writers Association. She trained 2020 Horse of the Year Tall Dark Stranger and set career highs with 127 wins and \$8.07 million in purses. Her earnings were second in North America to perennial category leader Ron Burke.

Last year, Takter was No. 6 in purses with \$4.83 million. For her career, she has won nearly 550 races and \$27 million.

In 2013, Takter started her own training stable. In 2014, she guided 2-year-old female pacer JK She’salady to Horse of the Year honors. JK She’salady is the only 2-year-old filly pacer to be named Horse of the Year.

Takter received the Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association in 2014.

Takter was 1 when she moved with her family from Sweden to the U.S. Her father is Hall of Fame trainer Jimmy Takter, a four-time winner of the Hambletonian and record eight-time winner of the Hambletonian Oaks.

Owner Bio

Selfie Queen races for owners Robert LeBlanc, David Anderson and John Fielding. Robert LeBlanc and David Anderson are trying for their first victory in the Hambletonian Oaks while owner John Fielding has two: Wild Honey (2015) and Manchego (2018). Though LeBlanc, along with John Fielding, owns a win in the Hambletonian. LeBlanc co-owned 2020 winner Ramona Hill and John Fielding co-owned 2015 winner Pinkman.