



The 36th Japan Cup

November 27, 2016

Profile of Invited Horses



Erupt

Age (Date of Foaling)	: 4 (February 13, 2012)	
Origin	: Ireland	
Sex / Color	: Colt / Bay	
Sire / Dam (Sire of Dam)	: Dubawi / Mare Nostrum (Caerleon)	
Breeder	: Niarchos Family	
Owner	: Niarchos Family	
Trainer	: Francis-Henri Graffard	
Jockey	: Pierre-Charles Boudot	
Career Record	: 12 starts, 5 wins, 1 second, 1 third	
Career Earnings	: approx. € 1,124,264	
'15 Season Record	: 5 starts, 1 win, 1 second, 1 third	
Principal Race Performances	: '16 Canadian International Stakes (G1)	1st
	: '15 Grand Prix de Paris (G1)	1st
	: '15 Prix du Lys (G3)	1st
	: '16 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud (G1)	2nd
Past Japan Cup Performances	: '15 (6th)	

Erupt makes his second challenge for the Japan Cup title this year, coming off his second career G1 title at Woodbine Canada in the Canadian International Stakes in which he drew clear in the last 300 meters from traveling in fourth position and won comfortably by a length margin. He had struggled to perform to his best in the earlier part of his four-year-old season but appears to have found his true form in Canada and is hopeful towards improving on his sixth-place finish last year in the 2015 edition of the 2,400-meter G1 in Japan, where he proved well suited to the Tokyo surface and closed in impressively after escaping traffic at the stretch, crossing the wire just 0.3 seconds behind the winner.

Unraced as a two-year-old, the Dubawi colt was an immediate winner in a maiden over 2,200 meters at Lyon Parilly and proceeded to score his second win in a listed race there before landing his first group-race victory in the Prix du Lys at Chantilly, in which he ran close to the leaders and held off his rivals after taking the lead about 2-1/2 furlongs out and prevailed by a neck. The three-year-old colt was recognized as an emerging Arc prospect after his group-one victory in the 2,400-meter Grand Prix de Paris at Longchamp. He experienced his first defeat in the Prix Niel following a two-month layoff and over an extremely soft going, finishing fourth in a seven-horse field, but the Niarchos Family-owned colt did not disgrace in his fifth-place finish in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe behind the victor and multiple-G1 winner Golden Horn and other proven G1 winners such as Flintshire and Treve.

Although he did not click into form in his comeback start over heavy ground after a six-month



break in the Prix d'Ispahan, the four-year-old colt demonstrated a good turn of speed in his next start, the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud, and charged past his rivals along the outside while unable to reach the leader for a 1-1/4-length second. He was found tracking a slow early pace in his following two starts, the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes and the Grand Prix de Deauville, and was unable to show his eye-catching charge in both, but won easily after a perfect trip that worked his way in the Canadian International Stakes.



2016 Canadian International Stakes
(Photo: WEG/Michael Burns Photography)

Career Performances of Erupt

Date	Name of Race	Racecourse	Dist. (m) Going	Jockey (Wgt (kg))	Placed / Field Winner (2nd)	Winning Time (Margin*)
'16 10.16	Canadian International Stakes (G1)	Woodbine (CAN)	2400 Firm	S. Pasquier (57.0)	1 / 9 (Dartmouth)	2:30.8 (1)
08.28	Grand Prix de Deauville (G2)	Deauville (FR)	2500 Good	S. Pasquier (58.5)	3 / 4 Savoir Vivre	2:51.7 (1-3/4)
07.23	King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes (G1)	Ascot (GB)	2400 Good to Firm	S. Pasquier (60.0)	5 / 7 Highland Reel	2:28.9 (4-3/4)
07.03	Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud (G1)	Saint-Cloud (FR)	2400 Good	S. Pasquier (58.0)	2 / 11 Silverwave	2:29.2 (1-1/4)
05.24	Prix d'Ispahan (G1)	Chantilly (FR)	1800 Soft	S. Pasquier (58.0)	9 / 9 A Shin Hikari	1:53.2 (43)
'15 11.29	Japan Cup (G1)	Tokyo (JPN)	2400 Firm	S. Pasquier (55.0)	6 / 18 Shonan Pandora	2:24.7 (2)
10.04	Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1)	Longchamp (FR)	2400 Good	S. Pasquier (56.0)	5 / 17 Golden Horn	2:27.2 (4)
09.13	Prix Niel (G2)	Longchamp (FR)	2400 Very Soft	S. Pasquier (58.0)	4 / 7 New Bay	2:35.1 (11-1/4)
07.14	Grand Prix de Paris (G1)	Longchamp (FR)	2400 Good	S. Pasquier (58.0)	1 / 6 (Ampere)	2:31.0 (2)
06.14	Prix du Lys (G3)	Chantilly (FR)	2400 Good	S. Pasquier (56.0)	1 / 7 (Sarrasin)	2:30.0 (Neck)
05.07	Coupe des Trois Ans (Listed)	Lyon Parilly (FR)	2400 Good to Soft	S. Pasquier (58.0)	1 / 5 (Big Blue)	2:36.4 (3/4)
04.23	Prix Munet	Lyon Parilly (FR)	2200 Good	P. Boudot (55.5)	1 / 12 (Emperador)	2:18.6 (1-1/4)

[Note] *Approximate margin



Iquitos

Age (Date of Foaling)	: 4 (May 22, 2012)	
Origin	: Germany	
Sex / Color	: Colt / Bay	
Sire / Dam (Sire of Dam)	: Adlerflug / Irika (Areion)	
Breeder	: Frau Dr. Erika Buhmann	
Owner	: Stall Mulligan	
Trainer	: Hans-Jurgen Groschel	
Jockey	: Ian Ferguson	
Career Record	: 12 starts, 5 wins, 2 seconds	
Career Earnings	: € 251,250	
'16 Season Record	: 7 starts, 2 wins, 1 second	
Principal Race Performances	: '16 Grosser Preis von Baden (G1)	1st
	: '16 Grosser Preis der Badischen Wirtschaft (G2)	1st
	: '16 Grosser Hansa-Preis (G2)	2nd
	: '15 Grosser Preis der Sparkasse Krefeld (G3)	2nd
Past Japan Cup Performances	: None	

German raider **Iquitos** claimed his first group-race title in the G2 Grosser Preis der Badischen Wirtschaft earlier this year before capturing his first G1 title in September in the Grosser Preis von Baden by sweeping past runner-up Nightflower from the far rear for a last-to-first victory. He was incapable of demonstrating his trademark late charge in his following two G1 races, in which he marked a fifth and a fourth, but has always been consistent, finishing within the money in all 12 career-starts, and is traveling overseas for the first time to make use of his strong finishing speed to his best advantage.

The son of Adlerflug began his career as a three-year-old last year, marking a fifth in his debut race in April, and broke his maiden in the following Reifenprofi Cup where he held off his fast closing opponents to win by a nose. The colt showed an extraordinary turn of foot when claiming the Pferderennbahn von Strasbourg Hoerdts that followed in which he accelerated on the outer rails from near the rear and swept away to an overwhelming 11-length victory. He notched another consecutive win in the Vernel Rennen and was sent to his first group-race start, the Grosser Preis der Sparkasse Krefeld, where he showed a good late charge from traveling last but was a head short in second.

Iquitos kicked off the present season with a fourth in a listed race before his first group-race win in the Grosser Preis der Badischen Wirtschaft where he dashed from the rear to overtake the front runner 300 meters out and stretched well to a two-length victory. In the Grosser Hansa Preis, he closed in on Protectionist from racing last earlier but was unable to catch the 2014 Melbourne Cup



winner for a 3-1/4-length second, and the bay colt also succumbed to fourth in his first G1 challenge in the Grosser Dallmayr Preis. But he promptly claimed his first G1 triumph in the Grosser Preis von Baden in which he came from his usual far back position with a tremendous burst of speed and gained on Nightflower, who emerged to the front rounding the last turn, pinning her 300 meters out over the soft going to win comfortably by a 2-3/4 length margin.



2016 Grosser Preis von Baden
(Photo: Kennosuke Sasaki)

Career Performances of Iquitos

Date	Name of Race	Racecourse	Dist. (m) Going	Jockey (Wgt (kg))	Placed / Field Winner (2nd)	Winning Time (Margin*)
'16 11.01	Grosser Preis von Bayern (G1)	Munich (GER)	2400 Soft	I. Ferguson (60.0)	4 / 9 Guignol	2:37.4 (4-1/4)
09.25	Preis von Europa (G1)	Cologne (GER)	2400 Good	I. Ferguson (60.0)	5 / 8 Nightflower	2:29.3 (3-1/2)
09.04	Grosser Preis von Baden (G1)	Baden-Baden (GER)	2400 Soft	I. Ferguson (60.0)	1 / 10 (Nightflower)	2:33.7 (2-3/4)
07.31	Grosser Dallmayr Preis (G1)	Munich (GER)	2000 Good	I. Ferguson (60.0)	4 / 12 Elliptique	2:07.8 (1)
07.03	Grosser Hansa Preis (G2)	Hamburg (GER)	2400 Heavy	I. Ferguson (60.0)	2 / 8 Protectionist	2:47.2 (3-1/4)
05.29	Grosser Preis der Badischen Wirtschaft (G2)	Baden-Baden (GER)	2200 Good	N. Richter (57.0)	1 / 8 (Articus)	2:17.3 (2)
04.24	Preis von Dahlwitz (Listed)	Hoppegarten (GER)	2000 Good	N. Richter (57.0)	4 / 11 Articus	2:02.4 (3)
'15 08.16	Grosser Preis der Sparkasse Krefeld (G3)	Krefeld (GER)	2050 Soft	W. Panov (57.0)	2 / 7 Palace Prince	2:07.6 (Head)
08.02	Vernel Rennen	Dusseldorf (GER)	1700 Good	N. Richter (57.5)	1 / 7 (Giolino)	1:42.1 (Neck)
06.08	Preis der Rennbahn Strasbourg Hoerdts	Baden-Baden (GER)	2000 Good	W. Panov (55.5)	1 / 10 (Daktani)	2:06.2 (11)
05.17	Reifenprofi Cup	Hannover (GER)	1600 Good	W. Panov (57.5)	1 / 6 (Miss Sommerroh)	1:40.9 (Nose)
04.26	Preis der Fruhlingsboten	Hoppegarten (GER)	1800 Good	W. Panov (58.0)	5 / 8 Turfdonna	1:52.2 (8-1/4)

[Note] *Approximate margin

Nightflower

Age (Date of Foaling)	: 4 (February 17, 2012)	
Origin	: Ireland	
Sex / Color	: Filly / Chestnut	
Sire / Dam (Sire of Dam)	: Dylan Thomas / Night Of Magic (Peintre Celebre)	
Breeder	: Jurgen Imm	
Owner	: Stall Nizza	
Trainer	: Peter Schiergen	
Jockey	: Andrasch Starke	
Career Record	: 14 starts, 3 wins, 7 seconds	
Career Earnings	: approx. € 518,792	
'16 Season Record	: 5 starts, 1 win, 2 seconds	
Principal Race Performances	: '16 & '15 Preis von Europa (G1)	1st
	: '16 & '15 Grosser Preis von Baden (G1)	2nd
	: '16 Grosser Preis von Berlin (G1)	2nd
	: '15 Preis der Diana (G1)	2nd
Past Japan Cup Performances	: '15 (11th)	

Nightflower is bound to display her true strength over the Tokyo course in her second Japan Cup challenge, this time a more confident filly coming off a well-earned second successive Preis von Europa victory in September as well as two runner-up finishes at the highest level. She will be ridden by Andrasch Starke who is currently racing under a short-term license in Japan from the end of October and has partnered the Dylan Thomas filly in most of her starts since her debut.

Nightflower made her debut as a two-year-old and registered a 3/4-length second in her first and only start that year. The German filly kicked off her three-year-old campaign in France with two runner-up efforts and was shipped home to Hoppegarten where she claimed her first win in her fourth career start in the G2 Diana-Trial. Sent off as favorite, she took over the lead at the furlong marker after chasing the leaders in third to land a comfortable 2-1/2-length victory. Her first G1 attempt followed in the Prix de Diane in France where she finished a disappointing eighth.

Following a 3/4-length second in the Preis der Diana in August, **Nightflower** headed for the Grosser Preis von Baden where she tracked the leader and assumed the lead two furlongs out but was caught by Prince Gibraltar in the last 100 meters for a 1-3/4-length second. In the Preis von Europa three weeks later, the filly traveled wide throughout the 2,400-meter trip in around sixth and advanced well to grasp the lead a furlong out to best the field of older G1 runners in a perfect two-length G1 win. Her last start of 2015 was the Japan Cup in which she saved ground near the rear and improved position from entering the stretch but met traffic in the last 100 meters to finish 11th.



She kicked off the 2016 season with two G2 starts in which she finished seventh and fourth, the latter being her first challenge on British turf. The chestnut filly turned in two runner-up efforts—the Grosser Preis von Berlin where she lacked the power to close in on Protectionist, clearing the wire 2-1/2 lengths behind the winner, and the Grosser Preis von Baden in which she struggled to keep up with Iquitos and was beaten by a 2-3/4-length margin—before capturing her second group-one victory, defending her Preis von Europa title by displaying a sustained rally in the final furlong to take the lead in the last 50 meters for a 3/4-length win.



2015 Preis von Europa
(Photo: Kennosuke Sasaki)

Career Performances of Nightflower

Date	Name of Race	Racecourse	Dist. (m) Going	Jockey (Wgt (kg))	Placed / Field Winner (2nd)	Winning Time (Margin*)
'16 09.25	Preis von Europa (G1)	Cologne (GER)	2400 Good	A. Starke (58.5)	1 / 8 (Red Cardinal)	2:29.3 (3/4)
09.04	Grosser Preis von Baden (G1)	Baden-Baden (GER)	2400 Soft	A. Starke (58.5)	2 / 10 Iquitos	2:33.7 (2-3/4)
08.14	Grosser Preis von Berlin (G1)	Hoppegarten (GER)	2400 Good	A. Starke (58.5)	2 / 6 Protectionist	2:41.1 (2-1/2)
07.02	Lancashire Oaks (G2)	Haydock (GB)	2380 Soft	F. Tylicki (59.5)	4 / 6 Endless Time	2:40.2 (1-3/4)
05.29	Grosser Preis der Badischen Wirtschaft (G2)	Baden-Baden (GER)	2200 Good	D. Schiergen (58.5)	7 / 8 Iquitos	2:17.3 (10-1/2)
'15 11.29	Japan Cup (G1)	Tokyo (JPN)	2400 Firm	A. Starke (53.0)	11 / 18 Shonan Pandora	2:24.7 (3)
09.27	Preis von Europa (G1)	Cologne (GER)	2400 Soft	A. Starke (55.0)	1 / 9 (Sirius)	2:31.5 (2)
09.06	Grosser Preis von Baden (G1)	Baden-Baden (GER)	2400 Good	A. Starke (54.5)	2 / 7 Prince Gibraltar	2:31.4 (1-3/4)
08.02	Preis der Diana (G1)	Dusseldorf (GER)	2200 Good	A. Starke (58.0)	2 / 13 Turfdonna	2:13.9 (3/4)
06.14	Prix de Diane (G1)	Chantilly (FR)	2100 Good	A. Starke (57.0)	8 / 17 Star of Seville	2:05.6 (4-1/4)
05.24	Diana-Trial (G2)	Hoppegarten (GER)	2000 Good	A. Starke (58.0)	1 / 10 (Arles)	2:03.2 (2-1/2)
04.27	Prix de Brunehaut	Chantilly (FR)	2100 Good to Soft	A. Starke (56.0)	2 / 8 Desiree Clary	2:11.3 (1-1/2)
04.02	Prix Nobiliary	Maisons-Laffitte (FR)	2000 Very Soft	A. Starke (57.0)	2 / 14 Little Nightingale	2:11.0 (4)
'14 10.12	Preis der Hufbeschlagschmiede Thomas Schmidt	Cologne (GER)	1600 Soft	A. Starke (56.0)	2 / 8 Palang	1:44.5 (3/4)

[Note] *Approximate margin

