

September 20, 2011

**STORMY ATLANTIC YEARLING COLT IS OFFERED BY TEAM VALOR STABLE
BARRY IRWIN DESCRIBES HIM AS AN “EXTRAORDINARILY EASY MOVER”
NAMED ASUNDER, HIS 2YO HALF-SISTER RUNS NEXT IN G1 GOING A ROUTE**



Team Valor International today offers a yearling colt that Barry Irwin describes in glowing terms as an “extraordinarily easy mover.” Irwin says he has that “unmistakable fluidity of a born athlete.” Team Valor’s CEO said the colt reminds him of Political Ambition in his walk.



Asunder is a pure athlete, with perfect front-limb correctness and a gorgeous cameo-like profile.

Political Ambition, bought from future Kentucky Governor Brereton C. Jones (the same breeder from whom Team Valor bought its current Grade 1-winning 3-year-old filly Summer Soiree), was the first horse ever bought for syndication by Irwin back in 1987, the year the colt became the first winner, first stakes winner and first Grade 1 winner for Irwin's initial syndication enterprise.

"Horses like this, the naturally gifted athletes, move with an ease that is at once recognizable and singles them out as future stakes winners," Irwin said. "He moves like a well-oiled machine and his feet seemingly don't touch the ground when he walks. It's almost like magic watching him move."

Irwin was not the only one that admired the colt's pure athleticism, as the underbidder was a former Team Valor trainer in John Terranova, who later ran into Irwin and said "I loved it when I saw that it was you that got him, because he reminded me so much of Onthedeanslist. Looked like him and moved like him."

Onthedeanslist broke The Meadowlands' track record for 5 ½ furlongs in his racing debut, was then acquired for Team Valor, for whom he became a multiple stakes winner of more than \$400,000.

Irwin and Terranova were not the only ones that coveted the colt, as two famous pinhookers like him very much, but did not pull the trigger because they thought he lacked height.



Asunder has a big eye and an intelligent expression.

Responding to one of the pinhookers, with whom Irwin has been doing business since 1970, Team Valor's CEO responded "I am not drafting for the NBA, so I don't have to be concerned with market trends. I know you people need a horse that fits a particular mold, so this doesn't surprise me."



Irwin said the colt was perfectly balanced, which is probably what allows him to move like a hot knife through butter. "He exudes quality. He has a gorgeous head and a big, expressive eye. This is a very, very pleasing buy for us. I wish I could find some more to buy like him for this kind of money!"

Because he is a lighter-bodied colt that is just average in height and stature, Irwin was able to bid him in at \$170,000. The colt has been marked up 25 percent, as is Team Valor's policy, and is being offered today on the basis of \$212,500 into interests of 10 percent (\$212,500), 5 percent (\$10,625) and 2 ½ percent (\$5,312.50). The colt has been insured and partners will be invoice for the mortality policy on a quarterly basis.

Interested parties should contact Mary Hope Kramer (859-873-1003 or at maryhopekramer@aol.com or at teamvalor2@aol.com) to sign up, or, if anybody has any questions about the colt himself, they can contact Barry Irwin (859-621-8186 or valorific@aol.com) or Bradley Weisbord (516-297-5021 or bsweisbord@gmail.com).

The colt has been named Asunder by Kathleen Jones Irwin, who explains as follows: “When a sailing vessel is caught in a storm and goes down like the Titanic, it is said to be torn asunder. So that takes Stormy Atlantic into account. The dam’s name is Love and Marry. When a priest concludes a wedding ceremony, he uses the phrase ‘And what God has joined together, let no man put asunder.’ And that takes into account the dam. So both sire and dam are covered neatly in one tidy word—Asunder!”

Barry Irwin said “Asunder is the first Stormy Atlantic I’ve ever encountered with good front legs. Year in and year out, he ranks among the top 10 sires, yet virtually all of the offspring of him that I have seen over the last half dozen years of looking at yearlings have been crooked legged. So you can only imagine how surprised and thrilled I was to find one that met my standards.”

Stormy Atlantic has been represented by 9 stakes winners this season already, the group being headed by double Grade 1-winning turf performer Get Stormy and Grade 2 winners Stormy Lord and California Nectar.



The Kentucky-based sire currently ranks number 6 on the General Sire List for earnings of all North American stallions, behind only Giant’s Causeway, Smart Strike, Tapit, Distorted Humor and Malibu Moon. He stands for only \$30,000, while the others in that list stand for a minimum of twice that fee.



The reason Stormy Atlantic stands for such a reasonable fee, even though he has been extremely successful, is that he began his career in Florida as a private stallion for his owner-breeder. He has made it the hard way. He was installed at owner/breeder Arthur Appleton’s Bridlewood Farm in Ocala, Florida, after winning 2 Listed sprint stakes among 6 victories in 15 starts for earnings of \$148,126.

Appleton was encouraged to stand Stormy Atlantic because of his stunning pedigree, as he was by Leading Sire and sire of sires Storm Cat, who was the last stallion in North America to command that figure, and he was out of Santa Anita Oaks heroine Hail Atlantic, who hailed from Claiborne Farm’s wonder family tracing through Horse of the Year Moccasin to the mares that are responsible for the likes of leading sires Sadler’s Wells and Nureyev. Stormy Atlantic sires better colts than fillies, as 7 of his top 10 runners have been males.

Storm Cat—incomparable sire of sires including Stormy Atlantic

Even though he was himself a sprinter, Stormy Atlantic has shown an ability to sire all types of runners, as follows:

- **GET STORMY** is a millionaire effective in Grade 1 company on grass at 8 and 10 furlongs.
- **STORMELLO** won the Grade 1 Hollywood Futurity going long on Cushion Track at 2.
- **SUPERIOR STORM** was a millionaire and multiple stakes winner going long on dirt.
- **LEONNATUS ANTEAS** was a Champion at 2 in Canada going long on Polytrack and turf.
- **STORM ALLIED** was a Champion in Puerto Rico running long on dirt.
- **TWICE AS BOLD** was a Grade 2 winner going long on dirt in Southern California.
- **GATORS N BEARS** was a multiple Graded sprint winner and earner of more than \$800,000.
- **ICY ATLANTIC** was a near millionaire that was best in Graded company over a mile on turf.
- **INDIAN OCEAN** was a Grade 2 winner going long on dirt in Southern California.



Asunder was foaled by Love and Marry, a winner of 3 races that earned \$117,140 racing for Frank Stronach, who started her out with trainer Joe Orseno, who managed one placing in 3 starts. When transferred to trainer Malcom Pierce at Woodbine, Love and Marry was an instant success, in her first 6 outings scoring 3 wins, finishing second twice and going unplaced only in a stakes race. The dam was effective between 7 and 9 furlongs on grass and ran mid 80 Beyer speed figures. She was a quality runner competing in good company at a good racetrack.

Riveting Reason ran in the Breeders' Cup as a maiden at 2

Love and Marry has produced a pair of stakes runners so far in Bang Bang Band and Riveting Reason, with the promise of a 2-year-old filly named M'Dearest on the verge of becoming a third black-type performer for the mare.

Riveting Reason is one of the most talented members of his crop. Conditioned by an unorthodox trainer that has ruined many a good horse by running maidens in Grade 1 races, this colt himself placed in both the Grade 1 Del Mar Futurity and Grade 1 Norfolk Stakes before he broke his maiden.

Riveting Reason (L) beaten nose in G2 Robert Lewis Stakes



In a lone outing this season at 3, he was beaten a scant nose going a mile and an eighth on dirt at Santa Anita in the Grade 2 Robert B. Lewis Stakes and was considered a viable Triple Crown candidate, until a hoof ailment sent him to the sidelines. The son of Fusaichi Pegasus was on Team Valor's radar last season and early this year. He has run Ragozin numbers of 8 on all-weather and an 8 ¼ on dirt. He ran both long and short.

Bang Bang Bang, an 8-time winner of more than \$220,000, placed in the Francis (Jock) LaBelle Memorial Stakes going long on dirt at Delaware Park. He ran a 6 ½ on Polytrack and a 7 ¼ on dirt.

But the best could be yet to come, as M'Dearest—the current 2-year-old filly out of Love and Marry—will make her next start in either the Grade 1 Alcibiades Stakes at Keeneland or the Grade 1 Oak Leaf Stakes at Santa Anita. A bay daughter of Macho Uno, she finished fifth beaten 4 lengths in her racing debut sprinting. Stretched out to a mile in her only other start, M'Dearest was last most of the way and was blocked inside with nowhere to go in the final half furlong. Wheeled to the outside, she finished as fast as a horse can go, to miss by half a length in utterly breathless fashion. Her connections are very high on her and she is considered a prime candidate for the Breeders' Cup after her next outing.

Love and Marry was sired by Known Fact, a rare son of In Reality that was sent abroad, where he was a Champion Miler in Great Britain at 3, the season he beat the older Champion Kris and was awarded the Group 1 English Two Thousand Guineas upon the disqualification of Nureyev. A winner of 6 of 11 starts, the U. S.-bred horse was the first horse installed at stud in America by his owner Juddmonte Farm, for whom he proved a much better sire of dirt than grass horses.



Known Fact was a Champion Miler in Great Britain at 3.

Rabiadella, the second dam of Asunder, won 7 races, earned \$263,450 and was a double Grade 3 winner on the Southern California circuit, taking the Senorita Stakes around two turns on turf at Hollywood Park and the Monrovia sprinting on grass at Santa Anita.

Rabiadella had foaled \$562,292-earner and Grade 2 Canadian Handicap heroine Diadella and the double Florida stakes winner El Kingdom, as well as the current 2-year-old filly Say a Novena, who won the Colleen Stakes at Monmouth and placed in the Grade 2 Matron Stakes at Saratoga and the Sorority Stakes at Monmouth Park. Additionally, a daughter has produced Indulgence, who has placed in four stakes for Marty Wolfson at Calder and seems likely to win one soon.

Barry Irwin said “This is one live family. There are no less than four horses currently racing that are stakes runners, the most important one of which has not even contested her first black-type race.” Rounding out the pedigree, it should be mentioned that the second dam is by Dynaformer, the best source of stamina in America today, and the third dam is by Dr. Fager, who ranks alongside Swaps and Secretariat as a sire that set more speed records than any horse to race in the last century.

Asunder is now in training with Wilhelmina McEwan at Fenwick Farm near Rembert, South Carolina and she reports the colt has arrived in splendid condition and looks like an early prospect for racing next season.

FACT SHEET

Name	ASUNDER
Sex	colt
Color	dark bay or brown
Born	April 26, 2010
Bred	Kentucky
Eligibility	Breeders' Cup
Height at Maturity	15 hands 3 inches
Trainer	Graham Motion
Sire	Stormy Atlantic
Dam	Love and Marry
Broodmare Sire	Known Fact
Sire Line	Storm Cat ... Storm Bird ... Northern Dancer
Dam Sire Line	In Reality ... Intentionally ... Intent ... War Relic ... Man o'War
Inbreeding	5 x 5 Rough n' Tumble (sire of Dr. Fager)
Family	Graded Stakes Winners Rabiadella, Diadella, Goddess Roman, Stakes Winners Say A Novena, El Kingdom, Grade 1-placed Riveting Reason, Indulgence, Nationalore, etc.
Dosage Profile	6 4 8 0 0
Dosage Index	3.50
Center of Distribution	0.89
Total Valuation	\$212,500
10 %	\$21,250
5 %	\$10,625
2.5 %	\$5,312.50

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[BROODMARE SIRE](#)

[SECOND DAM](#)

Top to bottom, Riveting Reason shown gallop prior to last year's Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Churchill Downs; same colt Finishing second this year in Grade 2 Robert Lewis Stakes at Santa Anita; El Kingdom, a half-sister to the dam of the new colt winning stakes at Calder.

