

**BABELICIOUS BECOMES BLACK-TYPE WINNER IN LISTED OLYMPIC DUEL S. JOCKEY GAVIN LERENA FASHIONS BACK-TO-BACK WINS ABOARD THE FILLY CANDICE BASS HAS TRANSFORMED THE VAR 4YO INTO CONFIDENT RUNNER YEARLING BUY IS STAKES WINNER NUMBER 192 FOR A B. IRWIN SYNTICATEE**



*With her newfound confidence on full display, Babelicious strides clear to account for the Listed Olympic Duel S. The yearling buy was winning for a fifth time and she has won both of her last two outs at Kenilworth racecourse.*

Half of the 10 fillies and mares that lined up on the Met Handicap Day undercard Listed Olympic Duel sprint were dispatched at odds shorter than the 14 to 1 price on Babelicious. And shortly after the break, as noted by the Stipendiary Stewards, Babelicious “was squeezed out when tightened for galloping room between Wild Applause and Be Merry when both horses shifted ground marginally.”



*Lerena has won 2-in-a-row aboard Babelicious*

However, such is the current confidence of the 4-year-old Var filly under the mastery of jockey Gavin Lerena that she was able to overcome the difficult beginning and score her first black-type victory in the 6-furlong sprint at Kenilworth last Saturday.

[Race Video](#)

At one point in the contest Babelicious was last but one behind a wall of horses. Lerena kept his cool, picked his way through the pack, then brought the filly towards the fence. Without being asked too much she went from being 7 lengths back to a length.

When The Babe engaged the clear leader Princess of Gaul, Lerena got busy aboard the chestnut. There was a brief but intense engagement, but Babelicious had the momentum and drove past to her rival in the final 70 yards to prevail by nearly a length while drawing away. She galloped out strongly past the wire and seemed to be just getting into her best stride after the wire. The third horse was beaten by more than 3 lengths.

Babelicious had won her previous outing stepping up to 7 ½ furlongs. Obviously a versatile filly, she now has options galore and could step back up in trip and in class to the Graded level.

Interestingly her half-brother Randolph Hearst was stepped up to 9 furlongs in a Graded race on the same card and failed to see out the trip.

The Candice Bass filly was winning her fifth race, second in a row, and first black-type race in the Listed contest. Such was her dominance over the favored Princess of Gaul that her Merit Rating was upped a significant half-dozen pounds from 100 to 106.