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THOROUGHBRED CONSULTANCY & MANAGEMENT

HAVRE DE GRACE

B.m. 2007 by Saint Liam – Easter Bunnette by Carson City

Havre de Grace represents what might well be a once in a lifetime opportunity.

The Champion Older Filly and Mare of 2011, Havre de Grace also garnered the Eclipse Award as Horse of the Year. In achieving this highest accolade, Havre de Grace joined a remarkably select group, as in the last quarter century, Azeri, Rachel Alexandra and Zenyatta are the only other distaffers to be so honored.

It was at four that Havre de Grace captured her Eclipse Awards, but she demonstrated championship caliber from much earlier in her career. In fact her series of duels with the eventual Champion Three-Year-Old Filly presented some of the defining moments of the 2010 season. Blind Luck held sway in the first two encounters, scoring by a neck in the Delaware Oaks (gr. II) and Alabama Sakes (gr. I), but Havre de Grace was to deliver the final winning performance of the year in a battle between the pair, accounting for not only Blind Luck, but also the formidable Awesome Maria, in the Fitz Dixon Cotillion Stakes (gr. II), a race in which she equaled the 8½ furlong track record.

Havre de Grace began her Championship season the with a 3½ lengths victory over Blind Luck in the Azeri Stakes (gr. III), then underlined her standing among the older mares by adding triumphs in the Obeah Stakes (gr. III) and Apple Blossom Handicap (gr. I). The younger division would fare no better against a clash of generations in the Beldame Stakes (gr. I) saw Havre de Grace comprehensively defeat eventual Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic (gr. I) heroine, and Champion Three-Year-Old Filly Royal Delta, powering away to score by 8¼ lengths. While those achievements conclusive established Havre de Grace as the outstanding filly or mare of the year, her performance in the Woodward Stakes (gr. I) at Saratoga took her well beyond those confines. Rare indeed are the fillies and mares that have defeated top-class males over a route in U.S. dirt completion, but Havre de Grace proved herself to be more than equal to the challenge, repelling the assault of subsequent Jockey Club Gold Cup (gr. I) hero, Flat Out, to become only the second filly or mare to win the historic race.

Havre de Grace's racing career is a fitting tribute to her sire, Saint Liam. Himself a Horse of the Year, Saint Liam, tragically died after siring just one crop, but clearly demonstrated what might have been leaving Havre de Grace and eight other stakes winners, for a figure of better than 10% stakes winners to starters. A royally bred horse, being by leading sire Saint

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Ballado out of the outstanding mare Quiet Dance, there is every reason to suggest that Saint Liam could be a significant broodmare sire, even with his small numbers.

On the distaff side of her pedigree, Havre de Grace hails from a distinguished branch of one of the world's most renowned tap-root families. Her dam is a three-parts-sister to The Bink – dam of Riskaverse, a multiple grade one winner of over \$2,000,000 – and half-sister to two other mares who have produced graded stakes winners. The second dam is Toll Fee, a stakes winner and multiple graded stakes performer who is out of the remarkable producer Toll Booth, dam of not only Toll Fee, but also of six other stakes winners, including Eclipse Award winning Champion Plugged Nickle, and grade one winner Christiecat. The fourth dam of Havre de Grace is the famed tap-root mare Missy Baba, who through her stakes winning daughter and granddaughter, Gay Missile and Lassie Dear – a three-quarter-sister to Toll Booth – is ancestress of such as A.P. Indy, Summer Squall, Lemon Drop Kid, Duke of Marmalade and Court Vision.

As a daughter of Saint Liam, Havre de Grace is from the broodmare sire producing male line of Halo. Her foals will be free of Northern Dancer in the first four generations, and will have only one cross of Mr. Prospector at that distance. She is free of Seattle Slew and A.P. Indy, whom of course is from her own female line, and is open to Northern Dancer through such as Storm Cat, Sadler's Wells and Danzig, and to most virtually any branch of Mr. Prospector.

Given her race record and her pedigree structure, she may well prove a foundation mare for a breeding program.

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