

ILLUMINANT

A highly progressive filly, Illuminant joined the ranks of North America's top turf mares with a grade one win her most recent outing, and has surely yet to find her limit.

Illuminant broke through late last year, taking a maiden and an allowance event by a total of more than 10 lengths. She opened the 2016 campaign missing by just a length in the Monrovia Stakes (gr. II). Following a 4½ lengths victory in a Santa Anita Allowance event, Illuminant made her grade one debut in the Jenny Wiley Stakes at Keeneland, where she took third to the mighty Tepin, with those behind including the grade one winner Dacita, graded stakes winners Recepta, Tiger Ride, She's Not Here, Itsonlyactingdad and stakes winner Akatea.

Iluminant gained revenge on the Jenny Wiley runner-up Wekeela in the Gamely Stakes (gr. I), also defeating graded stakes winners Elektrum, Keri Belle, Nancy From Nairobi, Fanticola and Nashoba's Gold. In doing so, she ran a career-high Beyer Speed Figure of 100, and it is clear that she is on trajectory that might see her develop into a truly formidable performer.

Illuminant is from the first crop of her sire, Quality Road. A horse of immense natural talent, Quality Road won seven graded stakes, including the Florida Derby (gr. I), Woodward Stakes (gr. I), Metropolitan Handicap (gr. I) and Donn Stakes (gr. I) and set three track-records, from 6½ to nine furlongs. The Leading Freshman Sire of 2014, Quality Road's first crop includes not only Illuminant, but her fellow grade one winner Hootenany, and the multiple graded stakes winning Blofeld. Quality Road is currently the Leading Third Season Sire, and his 2016 two-year-olds including Klimt, winner of the Best Pal Stakes (gr. II) and Del Mar Futurity (gr. I) and leading classic prospect for 2017.

Illuminant is out of the three-time sprint stakes winner, Sparkling Number, herself a half-sister to multiple stakes winner Smart Sunny, and to the dam of stakes winner Lycurgus. The granddam, Sunny Sparkler, was another talented racemare, taking the Boiling Springs Handicap (gr. III), and is a half-sister to Honey Fox, whose successes including the Ramona Handicap (gr. II), Orchid Handicap (gr. II) and Black Helen Handicap (gr. II). Continuing the tradition of excellence in the female, Sunny Sparkler herself is a granddaughter of Champion Older Mare Blue Sparkler.

As a winner at the highest level, by an exciting young sire, from a female line of talented runners, Illuminant's future as a broodmare looks just as promising as her racing career.

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