



Italian Racing & Bloodstock News

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BREEDER SPOTLIGHT

FLC PUROSANGUE

Voila Ici, gallant runner up in the Gran Premio di Milano, is wonderful advertising for FLC Purosangue, a breeding operation which has been rapidly climbing the Italian ranks. FLC is the acronym of Finanza Locale Consulting, a company which advises and manages local governments and councils all over Italy, and Cesare Cava is the man in charge: *"I began this project four years ago with my associates Annalisa Antonini and Silvia Fossati, then another friend, Gianfranco Grassini, came on board. We decided to build a breeding operation as an investment – much more entertaining than real estate or the stock market."*

Cava and his associates are from Barbaricina, a village near Pisa's training centre, the pulsating heart of Italian racing. *"We have three rules: skill, humility and reliability. We are commercial breeders, we don't want to run horses and our goal is not just looking for a quick buck. With the Italian system of breeders' prizes, it is much more interesting to have a horse with a good trainer than pick up a few thousand euro, selling it to a lesser one. Last but not least, in this phase of our operation, all the gains will be reinvested."*

FLC Purosangue have created a strong band of 16 broodmares, with a guarantee of around a dozen foals each year. *"All our mares are in Ireland at the Kilmaglish Stud and the foals move to Italy in December, to Allevamento del Velino. All the yearlings are for sale, privately or in the auction ring. We are particularly proud that some of the top Italian trainers look at our horses. The broodmare band is good enough but we want to increase the quality and the quantity – the latest addition is **Muccia**, a good looking daughter of **Fasliyev**, who won a Listed raced at two. She is in foal to **Dubawi**. We are*

looking at investment in the USA, where we can find some "fresh blood" and exploit the weakness of the dollar, but our advisor Federico Barberini has yet to find the right material".

Voila Ici is by far the best horse bred by FLC but Cesare Cava is especially proud of their overall results: *"All 12 foals of our 2005 crop have won at least one race. Voila Ici is the star but we also have **Parfaite**, Gr.3-fourth at two, and the filly **Ecoute Moi**, who has been Listed-placed"*. The first FLC-bred ran in 2005 and the first win came in May 2006 at Siracusa with **Eretz**. The "stats" speak volumes: FLC has registered 66 victories with 27 runners and 20 individual winners. The horses bred by Cesare Cava have earned €493,333, with an average of €18,271 per runner.

Even if the Italian breeding industry appears to be in the doldrums, Cesare Cava is positive: *"We have to go one way: increase the quality of our horses. Italian breeders have strong financial support from UNIRE [the ruling board] and the Minister of Agriculture. We can book the best sires with a substantial contribution from the State. From my point of view, the breeding industry has two crucial factors to face. The first one is overproduction and the second, that is closely related, is the critical situation of owners. A lot of owners went into the breeding industry because there was a lot of money involved. I understand how they were thinking: with the contribution of the State they can keep their mares, send them to very good sires and breed a yearling with a €150,000 pedigree and pay less for it. But this is too good to be true. I think that everybody has a part to play: a good owner can become a bad breeder and a good breeder is often a bad owner. This is why we don't want to own a horse"*.

Autre Gemme (Masterful) gamely won a conditions race and looks as if he has further improvement in him. He looks the most precocious of the juveniles bred by FLC and could step up in class. *"We are happy because we also have some shares in his sire, a young and promising son of **Danzig**,"* said Cava.

FLC's policy is straight forward and simple, as Cesare Cava underlines: *"A good horse needs a breeder, an owner and a trainer sharing the same passion. We want to develop the involvement of and friendship with our clients. They can follow all FLC's horses, including videos of the races, on our website www.flcpurosangue.com."*

FLC PUROSANGUE

Broodmare	Age	Sire	Dam	Yearling	Covering 2008
FAR HOPE	9	Barathea	Finger of Light	c Rock of Gibraltar	Oratorio
MIDFIX	12	Night Shift	Malafirst	f Oratorio	Hurricane Run
LADY MACHIAVELLIAN	8	Machiavellian	Rafif		Soviet Star
SWINGING SECRET	15	Classic Secret	Yenellik		Celtic Swing
ENTRAQUE	9	Linamix	Kamakha		Ad Valorem
SKINNY BONE	11	Unzipped	Koo	f Key of Luck	Kheleyf
KOMLEVA	9	Green Desert	Karlaska	f Masterful	Celtic Swing
LIFE AT NIGHT	10	Night Shift	Loveskate	c Xaar	Shirocco
AILLEAHT NADURTHA	11	Barathea	Littlefield	c Masterful	Aussie Rules
ACE IN THE HOLE	8	So Factual	Timely Raise	c One Cool Cat	Compton Place
ROCA AZUL	6	Cape Cross	Rumba Azul	f Intikhab	One Cool Cat
RIBBLESDALE	13	Northern Park	Tarib	f Rock of Gibraltar	Maduro
ELLEDELLENDOD	17	Ela Mana Mou	Rosy Dew	c Celtic Swing	Librettist
MUCCIA	4	Fasliyev	Mesenzana		Dubawi
GREEN MONEY	6	Danehill Dancer	Ellendellendoo	c Dr Devious	Blu Air Force
ROCK OF ANGELS	7	Bahamian Bounty	Rock of Gold		Act One