

Funtastic

Funtastic Own: Three Chimneys Farm	Grino. c. 4 (Mar) Sire: More Than Ready (Southern Halo) \$75,000 Dam: Quiet Dance (Quiet American) Br: Besilo Stables, LLC ((V)) Tr: Brown Chad C (6 2 2 1 33) 2018:(688 187 27)		Life	10	4	2 1	\$489,943	102	D.Fst	1	8 0		\$3,750	67
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- Funtastic, yet another arrow in trainer Chad Brown's seemingly bottomless quiver of turf stakes runners, will be joining stablemate Focus Group in the Pattison Canadian International.
- But unlike Focus Group, who will be looking to win his Grade I debut here, Funtastic pulled off that feat in his initial Grade I test, leading all the way to capture Monmouth's United Nations over I 3/8 miles of turf on June 3O.
- The four-year-old Funtastic had placed in a listed stakes at Aqueduct in his first campaign last year but was coming into the United Nations after knocking out his second allowance condition in a 11/2 mile turf race at Belmont.
- Brown had four runners in the United Nations and Funtastic was the longest price of the quartet at 23-1
- "In one way, he surprised me, that he was able to step up to that level that quickly," said Brown. "But it's not a surprise that he's developed into a Grade I-calibre horse. He's another well-bred horse that always trained like he'll develop into that quality."
- Funtastic was less effective when swinging back eight weeks later for the Sword Dancer, a 11/2 mile race in which he finished seventh at Saratoga.
- "It was disappointing," said Brown. "I thought he had a good trip, saving ground, he just didn't fire that day. He got a little bit banged up in the race—some cuts, stitches here and there—so maybe that contributed to it, I'm not sure.
- "But he's back to IOO per cent health and doing well. The timing of this race works for him. I look forward to running him there."

Owner - Three Chimneys Farm

Three Chimneys Farm is based in Midway, Kentucky and was established in 1972 by Robert N. Clay and his wife, Blythe. The highly prominent outfit has been home to a number of famous horses including U.S. Triple Crown champion Seattle Slew, U.S. Filly Triple Crown champion Chris Evert, as well as Kentucky Derby winners Genuine Risk, Silver Charm, Smartly Jones and Big Brown. Brazil's Goncalo Borges Torrealba purchased a controlling interest in Three Chimneys in the fall of 2013 and the outfit has continued to thrive. The most recent Three Chimney blockbuster was reigning U.S. Horse of the Year Gun Runner, whom they campaigned in partnership and now heads their stallion roster.

Trainer - Chad Brown

(See bio for Focus Group)

Jockey - John Velazquez

Born in Carolina, Puerto Rico, John Velazquez, 46, rode his first winner in his homeland at El Commandante Racetrack early in 1990 before moving to New York in the spring, at the encouragement of Hall of Fame jockey Angel Cordero Jr. Velazquez was inducted into the U.S. Horse Racing Hall of Fame himself in 2012. He is a two-time Eclipse Award winner as North America's leading rider in 2004 and 2005 when his mounts earned more than \$20 million. Velazquez is the winningest jockey in the history of the Woodbine Mile having won five editions with World Approval (2017), two-time champion Wise Dan (2013, 2012), Leroidesanimaux (2005) and Riviera (2000). He also counts two editions of the Kentucky Derby (Always Dreaming, Animal Kingdom) and the Belmont Stakes (Union Rags, Rags to Riches), as well as the Dubai World Cup (Roses in May) and numerous Breeders' Cup titles among his many accomplishments. He is the regular rider of the filly Wonder Gadot, winner of this year's Queen's Plate and Prince of Wales Stakes.