



Alounak (FR)

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Owner: Darius Racing
Trainer: Waldemar Hickst

B.c.4 Camelot (GB)-Awe Struck (GB) by Rail Link (GB)

Bred in France by 10 East Bloodstock Ltd & 10s.C.E.A. Des Prairies (Jan 15, 2015)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------------|----|----|-----------------------|--|---|-----------------|-------------|-----|-------|--|
| 24Aug19 | Badigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:01 ⁶⁷ 3f | Stk - P der Sparkassn Finanzgruppe G3 - 61k | 7 | 1 ^{hd} | Lecoeuvre C | 123 | 13.90 | Alounak123 ^{hd} Be My Sheriff126 ^{1j} Royal Youmzain126 ^{ns} chasd leader, led post |
| 11Aug19 | Hopigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:35 ¹⁶ 3f | Stk - Longines GP von Berlin G1 - 174k | 5 | 5 ⁴ | Casamento M | 132 | 32.50 | French King132 ¹ Communique132 nd Old Persian132 ^{1j} no gain from 2f out |
| 28Jul19 | Mchigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:14 ⁹⁶ 3f | Stk - G Dallmayr Bayerisches Zchrh G1 - 172k | 6 | 4 ^{7j} | Lecoeuvre C | 132 | 23.90 | Danceteria132 ^{1j} Wai Key Star132 ² Quest the Moon123 ⁴ dropped away fml f |
| 30Jun19 | Hbgigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:29 ⁶¹ 3f | Stk - G Hansa Preis G2 - 80k | 2 | 6 ⁸ | Cadeddu M | 132 | 11.30 | French King132 ^{2j} Royal Youmzain132 ¹ Colomano132 ^{2j} never involved |
| 02Jun19 | Badigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:17 ²⁵ 4f | Stk - GP der Badischen Wirtschaft G2 - 78k | 7 | 4 ^{2j} | Hamelin A | 128 | 7.90 | Itobo128 ^{2j} Royal Youmzain128 ^{2j} Windstoss128 ^{1j} led, headed, no extra |
| 05May19 | Koigeri gd | 1% | -- | 2:31 ⁶² 4f | Stk - Carl Jaspers Preis G2 - 78k | 4 | 4 ^{3j} | Hamelin A | 126 | 3.50 | French King126 ^{2j} Be My Sheriff126 ^{2j} Windstoss128 ^{1j} faded fml 125yds |
| 21Apr19 | Hopigeri gd | 1% | -- | 3:02 ³⁶ 4f | Stk - Altano Rennen - 28k | 4 | 2 ¹ | Hamelin A | 126 | *1.80 | Ernesto129 ¹ Alounak126 ^{2j} Moonshiner129 ^{nk} |
| 08May18 | Stcfrn fm | 1% | -- | 2:19 ²⁹ 3 | Stk - P Greffulhe G2 - 150k | 2 | 2 ^{3j} | Cadeddu M | 128 | 3.10 | Study of Man128 ^{2j} Alounak128 ^{2j} Alhadab128 ^{2j} no chance with winner |
| 08Apr18 | Dusigeri yl | 1% | -- | 2:21 ⁵⁰ 3 | Stk - P Kalkmann Derby Trial - 31k | 3 | 1 ⁶ | Cadeddu M | 128 | *.80 | Alounak128 ⁶ Valajani128 ^{nk} Aronius128 ^{nk} |
| 10Sep17 | Dusigeri yl | 1m | -- | 1:39 ⁵² 2 | Stk - Junioren Preis - 30k | 4 | 1 ^{hd} | Lerner M | 128 | 1.80 | Alounak128 ^{hd} Royal Youmzain126 ^{2j} Dina122 ^{nk} kept on, led on line |

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|-------|----|---|---|---|-----------|------------|----|---|---|---|-----------|
| 2019: | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | \$63,072 | Turf: | 12 | 4 | 2 | 0 | \$149,038 |
| 2018: | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | \$51,239 | Off Track: | 11 | 4 | 1 | 0 | \$114,938 |
| Life: | 12 | 4 | 2 | 0 | \$149,038 | Distance: | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | \$7,841 |
| WO: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | \$0 | Course: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | \$0 |

- Germany has yet to field a winner of the Grade 1 Pattison Canadian International, with Paolini coming closest as the half-length runner-up behind Mutamam in 2001. On Saturday, the French-bred but German-owned and trained Alounak will be looking to make the breakthrough for his adoptive homeland when he goes postward in search of his most important victory to date in the \$800,000, 1 ½-mile turf race for three-year-olds and upward.
- “We do like this race at the end of the European season,” said trainer Waldemar Hickst, in remarks translated by Darius Racing manager Holger Faust. “So yes, Alounak was always scheduled to run this race. He could run once more after Sunday, but we will decide that afterwards.”
- A four-year-old by Camelot, Alounak comes into the Canadian International off his first Group level stakes win, a head score in a Group 3 at Baden-Baden. The colt was cutting back to 1 ¼ miles that day. “He ran good on every distance, 1 ¼ miles up to 1 ¾ miles,” said Hickst.
- Two weeks earlier, Alounak had tackled Group 1 company in the Longines Grosses Preis von Berlin, where he finished fifth but was beaten just four lengths. Group 1 stakes winner Old Persian, who ran third there, came to Woodbine to score impressively in the Grade 1 Northern Dancer and is Breeders’ Cup Turf-bound. “We were not so happy with the tactic that day, with a better trip he might have even finished closer to Old Persian,” said Hickst.
- The trainer believes the spacious E.P. Taylor Turf Course will suit Alounak’s style of running. “He likes to be with the lead but also has some turn of foot,” said Hickst, adding that his charge is versatile in terms of footing. “Alounak likes firm ground as you could see in Baden-Baden when winning the Group 3 in August, but he can also handle soft ground.”
- Hickst also thinks that Alounak’s disposition will help him cope with the demands of his first international journey. “He is an easy fellow, a lovely horse and we are very happy that he is back for the big races,” said Hickst. “He was injured last year, and it took him some time to get his confidence back, so we are very excited about his appearance in Toronto.”

Owner – Darius Racing

Darius Racing (nom de course of Dr. Stefan Oschmann, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of pharmaceutical company Merck) has some 20 horses in training. The stable has seen success with Isfahan, who won the 2015 Group 3 Preis des Winterfavoriten and 2016 Bavarian Classic; as well as Parvaneh, winner of the 2016 Karin Baronin von Ullmann – Schwarzgold-Rennen; and Wasir, who took the 2016 Comer Group International Oleander-Rennen. In 2016, Darius Racing achieved a career-best mark in earnings, with €526,117. The outfit’s only previous Canadian International starter, Khan, finished 10th last year.

Trainer – Waldemar Hickst

Born in Kyrgyzstan on December 11, 1963, Waldemar Hickst worked for many years as a jockey and employee for the stable of trainer Harro Remmert. Switching careers in 2004 after riding 237 winners, Hickst joined the training ranks and has gone on to send out stars such as Almerita (Group 1 Prix de Diane, 2006) and Salve Germania (his first North American starter, Saratoga’s Grade 2 Ballston Spa, 2009). Alounak will be the ninth Woodbine runner for Hickst, his most recent being eighth-place finisher Parvaneh in the 2016 edition of the E.P. Taylor Stakes.

Jockey – Clement Lecoeuvre

At just 21 years old, Clement Lecoeuvre has made his mark while riding mostly in France and Germany. The Preis Von Europa triumph aboard Khan in Cologne, Germany is his most notable to date and it represented his first Group victory. He is the son of a former soldier and a former accountant, both reconverted tobacconists in Villers-Cotterêts (Aisne). His first victory came on April 18, 2016 aboard Flexibility. In 2017, he went to the U.S. and worked for high-profile trainer Graham Motion. His 10th-place finish aboard Khan in last year’s Canadian International was his only previous North American appearance.

Previous Pattison Canadian International Starters

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| Darius Racing 2018 – 10 th – Khan (GER) | Waldemar Hickst N/A | Clement Lecoeuve 2018 – 10 th – Khan (GER) |
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