

# American Guru

American Guru Own: Stronach Stables	BREEDERS' Dam: Camargue (1 Br: Adena Sprin			2019 2	S 1970	0 \$150,600 10	7 Wet(417) 0 0 Synth 0 0 3 Turf(309) 6 4	0 0 \$0 - 0 0 \$0 - 1 0 \$196,350 103
11Aug19+0W0 fm 1	w 105025Nc 84 5/6	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	M L121 *1.60 M L119 2.85	88-13 S	merican G ilent Poet	uru <sup>2</sup> Black Sea El Tormentano	ał Woodbridgeł Call Me Wally1	Held sway,driving No response in stretch
	62k/n2x-N 975/7 n 75000n1x 1033/7 d Sp Wt 49k 86 2/7	7 2 32° 31 <sup>f</sup> 21 <sup>1</sup> 12 <sup>1</sup> Saez L	L124 *.65 L124 *.85 L124 4.60	94-06 V 96-09 A 86-08 A	oodoo Soi mericanGu merican G	ngno American ru6 YummyBer uru21 Scribeno		Split foes1/8, handily
WORKS: Sep7W0   5f fst 1:022 B 31/35 Aug31W0			5f fst :592 B 4/39 JI	y 13 WO 🔇	▷ 5f fst 1:00	02 B 5/31 Jly6 W	0    5f fst 1:02 <sup>3</sup> B 28/	41

TRAINER: WonLastStart(25.08 \$0.54) Turf(53.13 \$1.46) Routes(90.14 \$1.28) Stakes(28.07 \$0.29)

• American Guru will be facing a major test when he not only makes his stakes debut but tries Grade 1 company to boot in the Ricoh Woodbine Mile. But, the lightly-raced Stronach Stable homebred has shown enough ability to give his connections reason to believe.

• "I think he's a very talented horse," said Michael Doyle, who is the trainer of record for American Guru and also acts as a racing consultant for the Stronach operation. "Jimmy always thought the world of him."

• "Jimmy," as in New York-based trainer James Jerkins, launched American Guru's career in March of 2018 and saw him finish just a nose shy of being undefeated in that four-start turf campaign. But the now five-year-old son of Unbridled's Song suffered a condylar fracture that summer and wound up being away from the races for more than a year.

• "We thought maybe it would be good for him to train here, on the synthetic," said Doyle, who had welcomed American Guru into his barn in early June with a long-term eye toward the Ricoh Woodbine Mile. "He had been ready to run, and the only place I could find to run him was the Play the King prep."

• American Guru tried the E.P. Taylor Turf Course in that 6 ½-furlong allowance race on July 21. Prominent early, American Guru weakened to finish fifth behind Silent Poet, a Stronach Stable runner trained by Nick Gonzalez who went on to win the Play the King Stakes and is also in the Woodbine Mile lineup. "He got a little tired," said Doyle. "But I thought that the race would have to help him, and if he was going to make the Mile, he needed maybe to run a mile."

• That opportunity knocked three weeks later, and American Guru made all the running to score convincingly in an inner turf course allowance race. Now comes the \$1 million question. "I'm just hoping he moves forward," said Doyle. "I think with a bit of luck he'd have a chance."

# **Owner – Stronach Stables**

Frank Stronach, recipient of an Eclipse Award of Merit at his Gulfstream Park in January 2018, was born September 6, 1932, in Austria and has gone on to become one of Thoroughbred racing's most influential participants on both the racing and business fronts. Individual honours include eight Eclipse Awards as Outstanding Breeder and four as Outstanding Owner plus 12 Sovereign Awards as Outstanding Breeder, eight as Outstanding Owner, and a special Sovereign Award with Awesome Again, winner of the 1997 Queen's Plate and 1998 Breeders' Cup Classic. He was inducted into Canada's Horse Racing Hall of Fame in 2002. Numerous champions have raced in Frank Stronach's silks, including 1980 Canadian Horse of the Year Glorious Song (the first Canadian horse to earn \$1 million) and four Plate winners: Basqueian, Awesome Again, Shaman Ghost and Holy Helena. This year's success stories include Delta Prince in the Grade 1 Makers Mark, Holy Helena here in the Grade 2 Dance Smartly, and the highly regarded juvenile Green Light Go in the Grade 2 Saratoga Special.

# Trainer - Michael Doyle

Michael Doyle, born in Dublin, Ireland on October 23, 1951, has been a fixture at the racetrack since the early 197Os and has enjoyed success in five different decades. Since winning his first race as a trainer in June 1978, he has gone on the manage equine stars including 1989 Canadian Oaks winner Blondeinamotel, Sovereign Award winners Wavering Girl (1989 two-year-old filly, millionairesse Bessarabian (1986 older filly or mare), and Zoftig, winner of the Grade 1 Selene Stakes here in 2000. He also campaigned Wild Gale, third in both the 1993 Kentucky Derby and Belmont Stakes, and took home a Sovereign Award as Canada's outstanding conditioner in 1984. Doyle served as racing manager for Stronach Stables for three years in the mid-199Os, overseeing successes which included a 1994 Queen's Plate win with Basqueian and a Sovereign Award as top owner. He rejoined Team Stronach as a racing consultant in 2016 while continuing to maintain his own outfit here at Woodbine.

# Jockey - Rafael Hernandez

Rafael Hernandez was born in Puerto Rico and began his riding career at Tampa Bay Downs in 2004. He's competed at a number of racetracks throughout the United States, but firmly established himself at Fairmount Park in Collinsville, Illinois, where he was the leading rider nine times, winning four straight riding titles between 2005 and 2008, and five straight riding titles between 2010 and 2014. During the 2015 campaign, he bounced around to several different tracks

including Churchill Downs, Saratoga and Gulfstream Park, before moving to Woodbine full-time during the summer of the 2016 season. He's found immediate success since moving to Woodbine, winning 99 races in 2016 in an abbreviated campaign before finishing third in the jockey standings with 154 wins in 2017, and second in 2018 with 168 wins. Hernandez also won the 2015 Queen's Plate with Shaman Ghost, and has won the Breeders' Stakes, the third jewel of the Canadian Triple Crown, on three different occasions with Camp Creek (2016), Channel Maker (2017) and Tone Broke this year.

# Previous Ricoh Woodbine Mile Starters

Stronach Stables	Michael Doyle	Rafael Hernandez
Stronach Stables 2018 – 4 <sup>th</sup> – Delta Prince 2012 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Hunters Bay 2005 – 9 <sup>th</sup> – Royal Regalia 2004 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Royal Regalia 2002 – 8 <sup>th</sup> – Krieger	2001 – 7 <sup>th</sup> – Dawson's Legacy 2000 – 13 <sup>th</sup> – Dawson's Legacy	2017 – 10 <sup>th</sup> – Best Bard
Frank H. Stronach 1997 – 12 <sup>th</sup> – All Firmed Up		
Frank Stronach and Horizon Stable 1997 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Helmsman		

