

Adagio Warmbloods

An accidental purchase becomes a dream job.



Totally Splendid
(Totilas x Sandro Hit)

My life in horses started when I was very young riding shaggy ponies bareback up and down the dirt roads. Pony clubs, hacking and showing dominated my early teens. After a 10+ year career break I purchased an OTTB. I named him Robert and he became my lifelong heart horse. We swam in rivers, hacked the fields, and started our love of dressage. I showed under the name of 'Adagio' which is where my business name started. His personality was as big as the world and my world was all about him.

One day a friend asked me to go to an auction where we intended to prevent the meat buyers from purchasing any of the horses. I was enthusiastically discussing something to my friend with my arms animated and heard 'SOLD!' I had just bought a horse. I tried to explain my mistake to no avail and no idea what I had just purchased. I knew only that I already had 2 horses so there was no way I could afford another one! Walking through the sales barn I came upon the horse I had 'purchased'. She was a beautiful mare with grey painful eyes streaming with tears from the bright sunshine. I went up to her and she promptly placed her head into my chest.

'She was 7 years old and feral, could hardly lead and completely unhandled. What was I going to do with this horse? First and foremost, I undertook the task of healing her eyes. My vet wasn't even sure they would heal. It took me six months with 3 different kinds of ointments, but they healed! Now what? I traced back who owned her through the auction. The former owner told me who her sire and dam was and I proceeded to DNA to confirm. Yup, she was by Rio V/Rio Grande. My friend, Andrea Volasko suggested that I should perhaps look into breeding her (enabler!). We proceeded to have her inspected and she won Premium! Andrea and I bred her to her stallion Panoramix Amaire and her first foal 'Redford Park JEM' was born. By this time I had fallen madly in love with her and she became 'Selena V'. All her offspring have won and/or placed at the major breed shows and RAWF. That little red mare with the weeping grey eyes who I bought 'by mistake', became my heart mare and my love of breeding began. 'Andrea taught me so much and inspired me to continue. I began studying pedigrees and found that I had a huge thirst to learn.'

Today, I have 5 broodmares and each mare has a 'story'. I try everyday to be better and improve and a big part of my success is my feeding program. My mares and foals flourish because of their excellent nutrition and well-balanced feeding program supported by Brooks Feeds. Brooks Feeds and the support offered by Laurie Bishop is second to none. Nutrition and knowledgeable guidance are at the very root of any success and my horses reflect that in abundance.

Janet Mackenzie



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