

Tribute to Pianissima by Ernest Massuet

“Ernest has captured flawlessly the essence and beauty of Pianissima. I feel thrilled everytime I look at her. It's an idyllic piece”

Marek Trela





Ernest Massuet, Marek Trela and Yumna Alsawi with Pianissima at Janow Podlaski, August 2014.

PIANISSIMA BECOMES SCULPTURE

Pianissima is probably one of the most recognised and special Pure Arabian horses in the world. Sadly, she left us this year, which only makes her legend stronger. I had the privilege to meet her in Paris where she was crowned champion twice. I was truly impressed by her natural and elegant beauty.

Having modelled many commissioned portraits of magnificent horses (English Pure Blood, Quarter Horse or Pure Spanish), I had always been fascinated by the challenge of modelling a Pure Arabian Horse, so I felt specially excited when the opportunity of modelling Pianissima became a reality.

I arrived at Janow Podlaski a few days after the Polish Days in the summer of 2014. I followed Marek Trela in awe and walked excited towards Pianissima's box: There she was, the unique and superb Pianissima: no make-up, no hairstyle, yet still the same beauty, her intense gaze with her long eyelashes. At the time, she was pregnant of Pamina and that probably added a magical touch to her appearance.

There are horses that are perfect for the shows, some at the standing and others excel at their movements. Pianissima was always charming and beautiful, in every moment and in any situation.

I enjoyed life modelling her head, measuring every part of her perfectly balanced body, taking pictures and videos so that I could make Pianissima's portrait in the most honest and true possible way. We also discussed with Marek, which would be the best posture to reflect her pure soul and essence: Moving? Calmed? Challenging? We soon agreed that Pianissima deserved a portrait that would be loyal to her sweet and natural beauty: without any artifice or forced gestures.



Pianissima deserved a portrait that would be loyal to her sweet and natural beauty.



Pianissima's bronze sculptures measure 55.6 x 57 x 17.4 cm (21.9 x 22.4 x 6.8 in)



Once in a lifetime privilege: being in front of her and live modelling her head.

After months of work, I can proudly present an honest and true sculpture that captures the essence of Pianissima.

Marek Trela is probably the person who better knew Pianissima in life, so I felt really proud when he glanced at the final piece and observed: **"Ernest has captured flawlessly her essence and beauty. I feel thrilled every time I look at her, it's an idyllic piece"**.

What is the process that allows that a real horse becomes an identical sculpture that can evoke the same feelings of love and admiration?

First, a laborious process of measuring, photographing, filming and observing the horse attentively, both, live and after, with the resulting materials. Second I never lose my purpose of trying to be truly objective with the observation of the real animal, I'm never tempted by idealisations, fantasies or caricatures. Finally, I follow a rigorous technical process, which is accurate and secure. I come from the strong tradition of the Lladró School, where technical perfection is key to achieve an optimal result. In the case of bronze sculpturing, one should take into account not only our own work as artists, but also the know-how of the foundry. Therefore, I chose Pangolin Editions, to produce the series. In my opinion, it is definitively one of the most skilled foundries in the world. They work with one the largest patinas range and they still use the traditional lost-wax technology: this ensures that every single sculpture is unique, exclusive, and this is the reason for which they can certify the number of available copies of each sculpture. In the case of Pianissima, there are 7 copies available. Each one comes in two finishes: a realistic bay coat patina or a black patina, and 4 artists' proofs. All sculptures are numbered, signed and authenticated by Pangolin Editions.

ABOUT ERNEST MASSUET, SCULPTOR

Ernest's love story with sculpting horses began early in his life, along with his passion for riding his first horse Daina at the age of 7, growing all along with his vocation for creating sculptures of all kinds of animals, yet most specially horses with any available material he could get a hold of. In his own words "horses are the most noble and beautiful animals in the world".

Through the years, Ernest has developed a tenacious, delicate and strong technique, thanks to his formal education and his 19 years of experience at Lladró, known as one of the best and sought after porcelain companies worldwide.

Ernest's pieces are represented in museums and in prestigious art collections, such as the ones of Queen Sofia of Spain, Queen Elizabeth II or renowned breeders as Marieta Salas. While Ernest is devoted to his personal practice in sculpting commissioned bronze horses, he continues to grow as one of the most experienced sculptors at Lladró. Lives and works in Valencia, Spain.





Modelling Deep Impact, considered the best Japanese racehorse. Sapporo, February 2014.



Marieta Salas with Lladró porcelain "Arabian Pure Breed", sculpted by Ernest.



Ernest approach is to be truly objective with the essence of the real horse

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In case you are interested in purchasing one of our limited edition works please contact us at office@ernestmassuet.com or + 34 00 619 015 287

Ernest Massuet
Art perfection in horse sculpture
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