

CHRISTELLE MÉLINE

[BREEDER PORTRAIT]

B Based in Noé near Sens (Yonne), Christelle Méline grew up with horses.

Owner for many years, it is only in 2018 that she starts her breeding activity as an amateur on a surface of 12 hectares: "I always had horses but had never bred any, it was a dream...".

The breeding is a family affair, each one puts his hand to the work: "My husband, who is not a professional, invests a lot, he created everything with his hands, I owe him a lot. The girls are also courageous, they do the work in the stables and ride the horses. As for me, in addition to the daily chores, I take care of the youngsters and their education".



Figure 1

Christelle and her daughter, Chloé & Heyla Nallière, at the prize-giving ceremony of the 5 year olds' final.

Figure 2

Chloé & Heyla Nallière

Christelle acquired her first brood mare, Rêveuse des prés (Djalisco du Guet x Nadjan), born at Roland and Arnaud Bazire's in the Manche and followed by a filly by Unesco de feu. She's the twin sister of Ravie des prés (dam of Beryl des prés, CSI 150 with Antoine Ermann). Accidented young, she never competed. The maternal line is rated at 7/10 and her mother, Sirène du Lys, has regularly sired excellent horses: out of 16 descendants, 12 are rated, including 6 above 120, such as Dauphin des prés (ISO 141) or Nectar des prés (ISO 137). Rêveuse is not very tall because of her twin status but she always produces beautiful foals in the image of their fathers, of normal size, in the blood, nice and easy with good means. For the choice of stallions, Christelle has "free rein" at the genetic level: "Rêveuse is a "Selle Français Originel", his paper is free of Uriel and Grand Veneur blood. You just need to bring back a little bit of size, means, a good locomotion and Rêveuse does the rest !"

The stallions used are Asti Spumante, Argento, Cartani or even Cicave du talus. "The foals are born at home and grow up in our fields. We then ensure all their education until the competition", says the breeder. For the moment, all the products are destined to her two daughters, Chloé and Gaëlle, who value them in free cycle.





Figure 3
Chloé, Gaëlle & Miss Cartani, 1st older female foal of the Ile-de-France region.

In September 2022, one of her fillies, Miss Cartani, was rewarded at the regional foal finals in Fontainebleau, it was a very nice surprise for this passionate woman: " I'm very happy, it's encouraging, I didn't expect it at all ! "

Figure 4
Gaëlle & In Asti during the final of the 3 years old sport at Equitalyon (2021).

"Gaëlle followed the Young Breeders training given by the Stud-Book Selle Français in order to acquire precious knowledge and better presentation of the foals. The SF team is very dynamic, benevolent and the training excellent, I thank them infinitely. Gaëlle had the chance to see her horse In Asti selected for the final of the 3 years old sport at Equitalyon, it was a privilege to be able to represent ADECSIF."



Figure 5
Gaëlle with Rêveuse des prés & Kylie M "at home".

Rêveuse is 18 years old and will probably produce her last foal next year but the succession is assured: "I will keep one of her daughters for breeding.

We will then be able to continue to follow the beautiful adventures of this small breeding. We warmly thank Christelle Méline for her kindness and for sharing her story with us. Christelle particularly wishes to thank the other breeders, for their example and their precious advices: "When you start breeding, you have to be very humble and be well aware that you inherit the work done by generations of passionate people before you".