

2/8/12

To Whom It May Concern:

I have an 18 yo Hanoverian gelding who was in professional training at Prix St George when I moved interstate with him 4 years ago. I was only riding at about 3rd level when I purchased him with the goal of one day riding Grand Prix. If Shayan had not shown up at my barn to give lessons to somebody else, I seriously doubt I would ever have achieved that goal. I started working with Shayan about 6 months ago and he has given me hope that riding a Grand Prix test is actually an attainable goal and not just a dream. I knew my horse had the potential to reach Grand Prix but I needed serious help. We couldn't do piaffe, passage, good canter pirouettes, consistent 1-tempis or decent half-passes. He could be very heavy in the bridle and liked to motor around like a tow truck with bad brakes. I rode with too much tension in my body, too much speed, unsteady hands, unsteady legs and bad posture. Under Shayan's tuition, all those bad habits have almost gone ☺

"Pookey" has regained the topline he had when he was in full professional training. He now feels light in the bridle and moves in self-carriage, even in passage, with far more lateral suppleness than I ever thought possible. Having been originally trained for 7 years in Germany, this is no mean feat! Pookey has developed a great passage in just 3 months. His piaffe looks truly classical, and amazingly Shayan promises it will get even better! Pookey is very relaxed in his lessons with Shayan, despite having to work hard, repeatedly performing piaffe and passage until it's good enough. Shayan has improved his canter half-pass to the point where it's almost easy for him, rather than the huge struggle it used to be. Shayan is truly a 'horse whisperer' and his instinctive understanding of horse behavior makes the training process move so much faster as there is no guesswork about what the behavior means.

One major factor that is contributing to Shayan's success in training my horse and myself is his unswerving commitment to our improvement. One night he lost sleep trying to work out why I could not ride the piaffe, and the very next day, under his instruction, I was able for the first time to ride a good piaffe on the spot for more than 10 strides. I was so happy I cried!



I can highly recommend Shayan to anybody who is serious about improving their riding and anyone who wants their horse trained into a beautiful creation that is an absolute pleasure to ride.

Sincerely,

Josephine F Trott

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