

NEW SIRES by David Bay

NEOREALISM

Joins Oaklands roster

JAPANESE racehorses have little incentive to venture offshore as the prize money there is so huge, but when they do their results are outstanding. Two notable examples are international Gr.1 winners Neorealism (JPN), who will stand at Oaklands Stud in Queensland in 2019 on \$9900, and his three-quarter brother Real Impact, who began stud duties at Arrowfield in 2016.

Both are grandsons of Kentucky Derby winner and champion sire Sunday Silence (Halo) and both carry a Rassmussen Factor (RF) cross (5mx5f) of the Acorn Stakes winner Nothirdchance, via her son Hail to Reason and daughter Be Suspicious.

Real Impact (Deep Impact) won the Yasuda Kinen-Gr.1 in Japan and ventured to Australia where he won the George Ryder Stakes-Gr.1 and was runner-up to Kermadec in the Doncaster-Gr.1. Neorealism (Neo Universe) won at Gr.2 level in Japan before heading to Hong Kong to claim one of the jewels of the racing season, the Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup-Gr.1, beating the local champions Pakistan Star and Werther after a great ride by Joao Moreira. Trained by Noriyuki Hori, Neorealism won eight of his 23 starts (1800m-2000m), was once second, three times third and twice fourth for earnings topping \$5.15m.

Neorealism broke his maiden at his fourth start over 2000m at Tokyo and then won again next time out over the same distance, running 2:00.4, in April and May 2014. Placed fourth in two runs the following February and March, he wasn't seen out again until August when he won an 1800m Allowance at Sapporo and then won again at Sapporo (2000m) the following month, before a sixth at Tokyo and a win there in the 1800m Welcome Stakes on November 29, 2015.

His second run of the new year saw him gain a Gr.3 third on February 21 before a break. His second run back on August 21 netted him his first major win in the Sapporo Kinen-Gr.2 (2000m, 2:01.7) and he held that form with a fine third of 18 for jockey Ryan Moore in the Kyoto Mile Championship-Gr.1 behind Mikki Isle. He ended the year with ninth in the HK Mile-Gr.1 on December 11, his first venture abroad.

The start of 2017 saw successive wins, firstly in the Nakayama Kinen-Gr.2 (1800m in 1:47.6) and then back in Hong Kong for the Queen Elizabeth II Cup-Gr.1 (2000m) on April 30. Unplaced first up on a soft track in the Tenno Sho (Autumn)-Gr.1 on October 29, he again ventured to Hong Kong to finish third behind Time Warp and Werther in the HK Cup-Gr.1. He headed further afield in March 2018 when unplaced in the Dubai Turf-Gr.1 at Meydan and retired after another unplaced effort in the Sapporo Kinen-Gr.2 on August 19, 2018. He was given World Thoroughbred Rankings of 117 (2017) and 119 (2018).

His stakes-winning sire Neo Universe (Sunday Silence-Pointed Path by Kris) won seven races, one at two, from 1400m-2400m including the Listed Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby-JPNGr.1), Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas-JPN-Gr.1) and the Spring Stakes-JPNGr.2 and won accolades from the JRA as the nation's Champion Three Year-Old Colt. He won the Sankei Osaka Hei-JPNGr.2 (2000m) at four and was also fourth in a Japan Cup-Gr.1 and retired to Shadai Stallion Station, Hokkaido, in 2005.

Neo Universe is among 171 stakes winners left by Sunday Silence (Halo-Wishing Well by Understanding) who was Champion Sire in Japan 13 times. His son Deep Impact, Horse of the Year in 2005 and 2006 and winner of the Japan Cup-Gr.1 is a seven-time Champion Sire.



Neorealism (JPN)
(Neo Universe-Tokio Reality by Meadowlake)

Neo Universe has already left more than 800 winners (29SW) and more than 30SW including the international star Victoire Pisa (ex Whitewater Affair by Machiavellian), winner of the Dubai World Cup-Gr.1. Neo Universe's dam Pointed Path is by Gr.1 winner and Champion UK Sire Kris (Sharpen Up) and her seven winners include French Gr.3 heroine Fairy Path (Irish River). Her descendants also include Australian Group winner Dubious (Not a Single Doubt).

Neorealism's dam Tokio Reality won three races (1200m-1400m), including one at two and is by Gr.1 winner and successful sire Meadowlake (Hold Your Peace-Suspicious Native by Raise a Native) a horse who had just three starts, all wins, including breaking his maiden (6f) at Hawthorn at two by 22 lengths, before winning the Arlington-Washington Futurity-Gr.1 (6.5f) by 8.75 lengths in 1:16.80. At three he won an Allowance at Belmont by 3.75 lengths. Meadowlake's third dam is Nothirdchance and his runners include champion Meadow Star. He is by the same sire as Success Express (USA), who did so well as a sire in Australasia getting the likes of Gr.1 winners and sires Mossman and Al Akbar (dam sire of Winx) and he is broodmare sire of Savabeel, Shamus Award and flying Gold Edition. Mares with Success Express blood could be a really interesting cross with Neorealism.

Tokio Reality is a rare broodmare gem in producing two Gr.1 winners in Neorealism and Real Impact and she also left the Listed winner and Gr.1 placed I'll Love Again (El Condor Pasa) and stakes placed Reaslista (by Sunday Silence son Stay Gold), while her winning daughter Will Power (King Kamehamea) left Gr.1 winner Indy Champ (Stay Gold). Neorealism's second dam What A Reality won three times in the US and is by multiple Gr.1 winner and successful sire In Reality (3mx3f to War Relic) and from tough stakes winner What Will Be (by My Babu son Crozier), dam of stakes winner Will be Dancing (Sovereign Dancer), winner of 18 races. Her stakes-winning dam Solabar (by Alibhai son Bar le

Duc-Solita by Espino) left five winners including Gr.3 winner Starsweet (Pia Star). This is family 3l.

Neorealism is a rare sire these days in that he is free of Northern Dancer but has a line of that horse's second dam Almahmoud, as that mare's daughter Cosmah is dam of Halo, sire of Sunday Silence. Mares carrying Machiavellian (perhaps through Street Cry, Vettori, Lope de Vega), whose dam features the half-sisters Cosmah and Natalma (dam of Northern Dancer and third dam of Danehill), look good for Neorealism, especially as he has already worked with Neo Universe.

There's an interesting connection between Danzig and Nothirdchance, the tough mare who appears 5mx5f in Neorealism's pedigree, as Admiral's Voyage, dam sire of Danzig is a close relation, both trace to Baton Rouge (Man o'War). That aside, the Danehill line has already worked with Sharpen Up (Danehill Dancer) and it should be remembered great mare More Joyous features a double of Halo through More Than Ready and Sunday Silence and has a second dam by Danehill. There are plenty of mares bred on the successful More Than Ready/Danehill cross and they should also suit here, especially as Neorealism has a daughter of Raise a Native to sex balance mares carrying Mr. Prospector (Raise a Native). Daughters of Wicked Style, who also stands at Oaklands, look a good match as his pedigree features a daughter of Mr. Prospector, a son of Sharpen Up, a son of Halo and a daughter of Danzig.

"We are thrilled to be able to stand a horse as well bred and internationally performed as Neorealism," Oaklands Stud's Neville Stewart said. "He has the attributes to develop into a successful sire and he is a great addition to the sire ranks in Queensland."

"The horse is a wonderful individual, very strong, perfectly put together and has a great temperament. Neorealism will not only be supported by Oaklands, but a syndicate of Japanese breeders will also retain interests in the entire and he will get every chance at stud." ■