

# QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE

AT HOME\*

\* ÉVÈNEMENT SANS GRAND PUBLIC



3 & 4 OCTOBRE  
PARISLONGCHAMP

#QPAT



## French victory in the world's best horse race

PARISLONGCHAMP - SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2020

**QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE**

(Group 1 – 3 yrs & over – 2.400 metres – 3.000.000 €)

To access the press conferences via Zoom, click the link: <https://urlz.fr/dWFe>

Download photos free of rights of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe race here

<https://wetransfer.com/downloads/d5b684e3ffae6875fced38faa01c987520201004151138/b85ee0e5bbabcfbcfbf76f2cf910d9120201004151155/e105d4>

Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe Jockey Camera

<https://we.tl/t-ZvzuWwnKOa>

YouTube link to video taken with the jockey camera carried by Stephane Pasquier on board Gold Trip in the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

[https://youtu.be/r1YkaLXH\\_64](https://youtu.be/r1YkaLXH_64)

### Sottsass champion of the world !

The French-trained **Sottsass** (Siyouni) takes the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, the world championship race for thoroughbreds. He finished ahead of four other French-trained horses : **In Swoop** (Adlerflug), **Persian King** (Kingman), **Gold Trip** (Outstrip) et **Raabihah** (Sea The Stars).

Sottsass is 100 % French, he is trained in Deauville by Jean-Claude Rouget, ridden by Cristian Demuro, who lives in Chantilly, is by Siyouni who stands in Normandy for HH The Aga Khan and was also bred in Normandy by Écurie des Monceaux (Henri Bozo). It is only his owner that comes from overseas: American Peter Brant (White Birch Farm), an industrialist and art collector (Jean-Michel Basquiat and pop art artists), with a huge love for France.

To achieve this success, Sottsass was ridden close-up and took a leader from Persian King, who set the fractions. Turning into the home straight he only had Persian King to pass – with the two horses veering across to their left inside the final three hundred metres.

In Swoop came home strongly in the straight and closed all the way to the line, but too late to get to Sottsass.

Persian King, who was trying 2,400 metres for the first time, looked the winner for a moment, having made most of the running.

Race favourite **Enable** (Nathaniel), who was bidding for a third Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe could only manage sixth, and looked slightly uncomfortable throughout the race. She also suffered some interference in the closing stages and was victim of a wave of rivals hanging across her.

There was a stewards enquiry held in the aftermath of the race, but the result was left unaltered.

## **The reactions**

### **Jean-Claude Rouget (trainer of Sottsass, 1<sup>st</sup>) :**

*“The closer the race was getting the more confident I was. With all the O’Brien runners I was a bit worried that he may have a strangely run race, but I knew my horse was well. For the sport, I would have preferred that the O’Brien runners were there. You know, I am a sporting person and I have spared a thought for them today. Sottsass had a good draw and had a superb run throughout the race, I had to Cristian to wait and be patient because last year he was there a shade too early, today it was perfect. I am happy for the horse but also for the owner Peter Brant. It has been a difficult year for everyone, Sottsass in particular. It’s not easy to win a race like this. Enable was never really in it and concerning Raabibah (5<sup>th</sup>, also trained by Jean-Claude Rouget) I thought she didn’t get a great run through. Even with her good draw, she found herself a bit crowded in the middle. Despite this she finished off the race well.”*

### **Cristian Demuro (jockey of Sottsass, 1<sup>st</sup>)**

*“I would have never believed it if you told me I would win the Arc! But I had a good feeling about today, I don’t know why! Since Tuesday Sottsass has been really well in himself, it was clear in the mornings. I wanted to be close up to try and avoid falling victim to a slow pace. I galloped in behind Persian King and only had to pull out Sottsass to challenge. He’s a real champion”*

### **Michel Zerolo (representative of Peter Brant, owner of Sottsass, 1<sup>st</sup>)**

*“Peter Brant is delighted! Unfortunately he couldn’t be here due to Covid. He has stayed in the States. He is a beautiful horse with great bloodlines, when we bought him he really blew us away! The owner and trainer will make the decision if we are going to run in the Breeders’ Cup”*

### **Henri Bozo (breeder of Sottsass, 1<sup>st</sup>) :**

*“It’s a dream come true, it’s my dream come true ! It’s the compensation for a lifetime of work, I am delighted for everyone connected with the horse, for those who work at the stud and for those who have put their faith in us. It’s an incredible sensation, I am happy as well as emotional. It really boosts the moral and makes you proud. Peter Brant is a great sportsman, he spends huge sums to have these horses of the highest level.. Sottsass won the Jockey Club over 2.100m and it has proved a great decision to change the distance of this classic. We see that with the quality of stallion that comes off the track nowadays”*

### **Franci-Henri Graffard (trainer of In Swoop, 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

*“I am both very proud to have been second in the Arc but at the same time disappointed. The horse travelled well and had the perfect run in behind the winner. Once he got the opening = he accelerated very well and just like the last time was very strong inside the final 200m. He is a super horse who has really come on with every race. He has had a magnificent season and we are delighted with him. We have always thought that he will be even better at four. That was perfect, he has really paid us back there and all the hard work has been worth it. He is still a bit round and will develop further. He is a lovely horse, it’s incredibly difficult to be competitive in the best race in the world, I am delighted for his owners”*

### **Lisa-Jane Graffard (representative for Godolphin, co-owner of Persian King, 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

*“We are very proud of Persian King. He ran a really great race. He is a horse we have had much fun with. Today he gave his all. Well done to Mr. Fabre who has done an exceptional job with the horse. It is great also that he has proved his versatility over multiple distances for his future stallion career”*

**Nicolas de Chambure (owner of Haras d'Étreham, where Persian King, 3<sup>rd</sup>, will stand in 2021) :**

*“We are extremely happy with the performance of Persian King. He showed tremendous courage and never gave up. That is a trait that we love in a future stallion. He has finished his racing career with a top performance. To run a horse that was so effective over a mile over 2,400m here today, especially with those conditions was a real challenge and I don't think many people would have attempted it. It needs to be acknowledged in this case and the trainer has done a great job in getting the horse to adapt to this new distance”*

**Fabrice Chappet (trainer of Gold Trip, 4<sup>th</sup>)**

*“The horse has run magnificently well. The form from the Grand Prix de Paris has held up. On this ground the 2.400 mètres is very testing for him.. He will be back at four and over 2.400 metres on good ground he will be better”*

### **QATAR PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE**

1<sup>st</sup> SOTTASS (Siyouni & Starlet's Sister)

J. : C. Demuro

Ow. : White Birch Farm

Tr. : J.-C. Rouget

Br. : Écurie des Monceaux

2<sup>nd</sup> IN SWOOP (Adlerflug & Iota)

J. : R. Thomas

Ow : Gestut Schlenderhan

Tr. : F.-H. Graffard

Br. : Stall Ullmann

3<sup>rd</sup> PERSIAN KING (Kingman & Pretty Please)

J. : P.-C. Boudot

Ow : Ballymore/Godolphin

Tr. : A. Fabre

Br. : Dayton Investments

Distances : Neck. - 7/4 – Head

Time of the race : 2'39''30