

## STALLION ANALYSIS MIDNIGHT STORM

**PREPARED BY: ALAN PORTER** 

**PREPARED FOR:** TAYLOR MADE STALLIONS



## **MIDNIGHT STORM**

b./br.h. 2011 by Pioneerof the Nile - My Tina by Bertrando

A brilliant grade one winning miler, Midnight Storm captured seven graded stakes, proving equally outstanding on dirt and turf. An earner of over \$1,700,000, Midnight Storm ran nine triple digit Beyer Speedfigures – seven consecutively – with a high of 110, defeating such as Tourist, Hard Aces, Accelerate, Ring Weekend, Imperative, Om, Ashleyluvssugar, Finnegans Wake, Heart to Heart, Flamboyant, Bal a Bali and Falco.

From the first crop of classic runner and Triple Crown sire, Pioneerof the Nile, Midnight Storm has an outcross pedigree that leaves him open to be bred to mares from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Pioneerof the Nile sired Triple Crown hero American Pharoah and Champion Two-Year-Old Classic Empire out of mares by sons of Storm Cat, a horse who has also worked well under Pioneerof the Nile's sire, Empire Maker. American Pharoah is out of a mare by **Yankee Gentleman**, a three-quarters brother to **Tribal Rule**, and Classic Empire is out of a mare by **Cat Thief**. Empire Maker has sired grade one winners Bodemeister and In Lingerie out of mares by **Storm Cat** himself, and also has a graded winner out of a mare by **Forestry** (sire of **Discreet Cat**), and a stakes winner out of a mare by **Giant's Causeway** (sire of **First Samurai**, and a brother to **Freud**). **Forestry** looks good here, as his granddam is something of a reverse cross to Fappiano, and he combines well with that strain. **Forestry** son, **Discreet Cat** brings in Believe It, a three-quarters relative to the granddam of Unbridled.

Harlan's Holiday (by Harlan, also sire of Menifee) and Bernstein, are Storm Cat/Exclusive Native crosses as is the dam of American Pharoah. Harlan's Holiday is sire of Into Mischief and Shanghai Bobby (whose daughters eventually might be a good fit here). The dam of Classic Empire is a Storm Cat/Mr. Prospector cross, like Tale of the Cat (sire of Lion Heart), Pure Prize, Scat Daddy (by Johannesburg, a son of Hennessy, as is Henny Hughes), Storm Creek and Sea of Secrets. Forest Wildcat is very similar to a Storm Cat/Mr. Prospector cross as his broodmare sire is Bold Native, a close relative to Mr. Prospector). His son, Wildcat Heir, will bring in Pentelicus, a three-quarters brother to Unbridled. Other sources of Storm Cat are Stormy Atlantic, Stormin Fever, Sir Cat, Bluegrass Cat and Van Nistelrooy.

**Storm Cat** is a **Northern Dancer** line stallion, and from another branch of **Northern Dancer**, Pioneerof the Nile has graded stakes winner Levante Lion out of a mare by **Ghostzapper** (by **Awesome Again**), who gives inbreeding to Relaunch. He also has stakes winner Courtier out of a mare by **Touch Gold.** These are both from the **Deputy Minister** line, which might also be brought in through **Dehere**, **Silver Deputy** (sire of **Posse**), **Salt Lake** and **French Deputy**.



Empire Maker has sired nine stakes winners out of mares from the Danzig branch of Northern Dancer, including a grade one winner out of a mare by Danzig himself, and graded winners out of mares by Belong To Me (a Northern Dancer/Exclusive Native cross, like the dam of American Pharoah), Pine Bluff and Polish Numbers. Among other Danzig branches that could be considered including Chief's Crown (sire of Concerto; grandsire of Bellamy Road), Hard Spun, Exchange Rate, Dayjur, Langfuhr and War Front (who would be particularly interesting, as he gives inbreeding to Fappiano through Unbridled and Rubiano, which should work well).

Empire Maker has enjoyed considerable success with **A.P. Indy** line mares, the cross most notably producing three-time Eclipse Award winner, Royal Delta. Pioneerof the Nile has sired graded stakes winner Dark Nile out of a mare by **Bernardini** (particularly interesting, as he gives inbreeding to Fappiano through Unbridled and Quiet American) and a multiple stakes winner out of a mare by **Jump Start** (bred on a similar cross to **Sky Mesa**). Sky Mesa is by **Pulpit**, whose son, **Tapit**, is bred rather like Bernardini and would fit well here, as he has both Unbridled and a sister to Relaunch in his dam, and is sire of **Concord Point**, **Trappe Shot** and **Tapizar**. Other **A.P. Indy** line sources include, **Flatter** (broodmare sire of an Empire Maker line stakes winner), his brother, **Congrats**, and the similarly-bred **Malibu Moon** and **Mineshaft** (sire of **Discreetly Mine**), as well as **Old Trieste** (broodmare sire of a stakes winner by Empire Maker), **Stephen Got Even**, and **Golden Missile**.

Pioneerof the Nile's classic performer, Social Inclusion, is out of a mare by Saint Ballado, from the Halo line. Saint Ballado is sire of Saint Liam, Yankee Victor, Captain Bodgit, Sweetsouthernsaint, Straight Man and Flame Thrower. Saint Ballado is also a brother to Devil's Bag, and introducing him through such as Diablo, Devil His Due or Twilight Agenda From another branch of Halo, Pioneerof the Nile is sire of graded stakes winner Vinceramos out of a mare by More Than Ready.

Pioneerof the Nile has multiple graded stakes winner Cash Control out of a mare by **Blushing Groom** son, **Mt. Livermore**, a horse who frequently does well with Fappiano, the sire of **Housebuster**, **Orientate** and **Peaks and Valleys**. From the **Blushing Groom** line also, there is also a stakes winner out of a mare by **Yonaguska**, a son of **Cherokee Run** – himself broodmare sire of a graded stakes winner by a son of Empire Maker – and also sire of **Kafwain** and **War Pass**. Another **Blushing Groom** son, **Rahy**, is out of a sister to Saint Ballado and Devil's Bag, and might work well here.

Pioneerof the Nile's multiple graded stakes winner, Cairo Prince, is out of a mare by **Holy Bull** (a horse with a Rough'Tumble/Intentionally/Aspidistra background similar to that of Unbridled), and it could be well worth consider mares by his sons, **Macho Uno** (a half-



brother to Awesome Again, whose son, Ghostzapper is the broodmare sire of a Pioneerof the Nile graded stakes winner) and **Flashy Bull** (who should be good, as he is out of a mare by **Mt. Livermore**).

In general, neither Pioneerof the Nile, nor Empire Maker, have responded particularly well to Mr. Prospector line mares. Pioneerof the Nile has two stakes winners from 20 starters out of mares by sons of Mr. Prospector, and 0 stakes winners from 29 starters out of mares by grandsons of Mr. Prospector).

Pioneerof the Nile does have graded stakes winning and grade one placed Jojo Warrior out of a mare by Carson City, who would appeal through City Zip (out of a Relaunch mare, and a half-brother to Ghostzapper, the broodmare sire of a Pioneerof the Nile stakes winner). Carson City is also sire of Boone's Mill, Cuvee, Five Star Day, Flying Chevron, Good And Tough, Hear No Evil, Pollard's Vision and Lord Carson. Empire Maker has also for stakes winners, one grade one, from mares the Seeking the Gold branch of Mr. Prospector, which would suggest trying daughters of Mutakddim, Petionville and Cape Town. Pioneerof the Nile also has a stakes winner out of a mare by Pioneering, a Mr. Prospector half-brother to Storm Cat, and Empire Maker also has a stakes winner out of a mare by Mr. Prospector son, Kingmambo, sire of Lemon Drop Kid.

Midnight Storm is out of a mare by **Bertrando**, a son of **Skywalker**, from the **Relaunch** branch of **In Reality**. There are 11 stakes winners with inbreeding to **Relaunch** where **Skywalker** supplies a strain, and this suggests trying mares by **Tiznow** and sons such as **Tiz Wonderful** and **Colonel John**, and **Honour and Glory**, sire of **Put It Back**. Empire Maker has a stakes winner out of a mare by another **In Reality** son, **Known Fact**, and it could also be worth considering introducing **In Reality** through **Valid Appeal**, sire of **Successful Appeal**, **Valid Wager** and **Valid Expectations**.

Unbridled did well when crossed over Caro mares, and there is a suggestion that an extended version of that cross is working for the Empire Maker line. Kentucky Derby winner Always Dreaming is by a son of Empire Maker out of a mare by In Excess (sire of Indian Charlie; grandsire of Uncle Mo) and there are two Empire Maker line stakes winners out of mares by Alphabet Soup, by Cozzene, also sire of Mizzen Mast.



## **MIDNIGHT STORM - Target Strains**

Forestry
Discreet Cat
Harlan's Holiday
Into Mischief
Shanghai Bobby
Bernstein

Tale of the Cat Lion Heart Storm Boot Pure Prize Ghostzapper Belong to Me War Front

Bernardini Jump Start Tapit

Concord Point
Trappe Shot

Tapizar Flatter

More Than Ready Mt. Livermore Housebuster Orientate Cherokee Run Yonaguska Kafwain Rahy War Pass Holy Bull Macho Uno Carson City

City Zip Seeking the Gold Mutakddim Petionville Cape Town

Tiznow

Tiz Wonderful Colonel John Successful Appeal

In Excess Indian Charlie Uncle Mo Cozzene Alphabet Soup Mizzen Mast



## **MIDNIGHT STORM – Stallion Synopsis**

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