

THOROUGHBRED

NEWS From Darley

Derby colts lead golden crop

WITH the 2021 Run for the Roses a little over two months away, all eyes are on the Derby preps as the nation's three-year-olds try to stamp their ticket to Churchill Downs. In this bunch are two colts by Medaglia d'Oro, Graded winner Risk Taking and newcomer Prevalence.

Risk Taking, trained by Chad Brown and owned by Klaravich Stables, has won two races at one and one-eighth miles, including the G3 Withers last time out. The Keeneland sales grad appears to be headed to the G2 Wood Memorial next on April 3.

The Godolphin homebred and Triple Crown nominee **Prevalence** put in an early 2021 'wow' moment in his first start at Gulfstream Park on January 23, defeating a tough field of maidens on debut by eight-and-a-half lengths. Trained by Brendan Walsh, the sophomore registered an 89 Beyer Speed Figure for his strong effort.

Medaglia d'Oro also has a nice three-year-old filly in **Moonlight d'Oro** who took the one-mile G3 Las Virgenes Stakes in also her first start following her maiden victory. Trained by Richard Mandella and owned by MyRacehorse.com & Spendthrift Farm, the filly brought \$620,000 at Keeneland as a yearling in 2019.



On Sunday, **Medaglia d'Oro's son Golden Sixty** confirmed his position high among the world's leading racehorses with a third consecutive G1 win – and his 16th from 17 starts – in the Hong Kong Gold Cup. His Timeform rating, a mighty 129, is now just one pound behind Medaglia d'Oro's best ever, the 130-rated Rachel Alexandra.

Unbelievably, there are better crops coming

GOOD as it is, Medaglia d'Oro's crop of three-year-olds is likely to be upstaged by his 2021 crop of juveniles: with a Comparable Index (CI) of 4.90, they reckon to be his best-bred group from 15 crops of racing age.

His juveniles include 15 out of G1 winners – among them, Breeders' Cup Distaff winner **Forever Unbridled**, Kentucky Oaks winner **Cathryn Sophia**, and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winner **My Miss Aurelia**. Thirteen are half-siblings to G1 winners and there are full siblings to Breeders' Cup winners **Songbird** and **Bar of Gold**. They were duly well received at the yearling sales: Medaglia d'Oro was the nation's leading yearling sire by average last year.

And he has an even better crop of foals now being born. He bred his best book of mares ever by CI in 2020 – they score a whopping 7.73, the best for any stallion since Storm Cat in 2007.

DARLEY'S GOLDEN BOYS

DADDY OF THEM ALL
Medaglia d'Oro
\$150,000 S&N



This Astern
filly is very similar
to **Vequist**
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