



Benjamin Leon, Jr. riding Profeta de Besilu at the 2011 Grand National Show

Profeta de Besilu

By Carlos Tobon

This Classic Fino stallion was born April 25, 1989; he is the son of the legendary Hall of Fame stallion Nevado and PFHA Classic Fino National Champion as well as Confepaso World Champion mare La Profetiza. He was bred and raised by Mr. Benjamin Leon, Jr., founder, owner, and chairman of Besilu Collection. Profeta de Besilu grew up in Miami at the Leon family's Hacienda de Besilu. He was started by PFHA Trainer of the Year Javier Suarez. Most of us can still remember

that night at Tropical Park in January of 1992, when Profeta debuted by winning the 3 Year Old Classic Fino Class and the Grand Championship – it was the beginning of what would become a Paso Fino legend.

Later, Profeta de Besilu came under the hands of another PFHA Trainer of the Year, Alberto Sierra. It was at this time that Profeta continued to climb to the top in the show ring.

As a four year old, he participated in the 1993 Spectrum International, winning his class and once again grabbing the Grand Champion Fino Stallion title. Profeta went on that year to the PFHA National Show and was Classic Fino Stallion Champion and the Grand National Champion Classic Fino Stallion. In November of 1993, Profeta traveled to the first Confepaso World Cup Show in the Dominican Republic. He came away with 1st place World Champion Fino Colt and the Grand World Championship in Classic Fino Stallions.

In 1994, Profeta de Besilu repeated his success by again winning his class and Championship at the Spectrum International as well as Grand Champion Classic Fino Stallion at the PFHA Nationals. In November of 1994, he went to Ponce, Puerto Rico, and was the Ponce International Grand Champion Classic Fino Stallion. It was in the spring of 1995 that Mr. Benjamin Leon sold Profeta de Besilu to Kimberly King and her family, with an undefeated show record.

Profeta's success did not end there. Kimberly took Profeta de Besilu to the 1995 Spectrum and won Grand Champion Classic Fino Stallion for the third year in a row. In September of 1995, Profeta solidified his prowess by again securing the title of National Champion and Grand National Champion Classic Fino Stallion at the PFHA Grand National Show.

In 1997, Kimberly King took Profeta de Besilu to Colombia to compete at the Confepaso Mundial. He placed 2nd in his category. Also in that year, Profeta became the Grand National Champion in Colombia, beating the reigning Confepaso World Champion, Insolito de La Luisa.

Profeta de Besilu has not only been a Grand Champion around the world, but he continues to stamp his characteristics onto his offspring, expanding his reputation as an ideal breeding stallion. He has been on the PFHA Top Ten Sire List for 13 consecutive years, holding the #1 spot from 2006 to 2010. Owners and breeders of Paso Fino horses are using Profeta de Besilu as a sire to improve their breeding programs worldwide. His naturalness of gait, ideal tracking, and powerful yet distinct evenness of the four beat gait, together with his willingness and gentle temperament have made him a favorite among Paso Fino breeding stallions. In his early breeding career, Profeta de Besilu was breeding over 100 mares per year in the US, Puerto Rico, and Colombia. In the last 16 years, Profeta de Besilu has been a steady producer of show quality horses in all divisions in the PFHA show world, but also has produced International Champions in the Classic Fino Division in Colombia, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. The biggest asset Profeta de Besilu has, as a sire, is his ability to produce horses that have the willing temperament that amateur, youth, professionals, and recreational riders can easily enjoy. Profeta de Besilu has produced offspring that continue to pass on his characteristics through 2nd and 3rd generations.

Some of Profeta's most important offspring include Director de Dagua, Detalles II de Besilu, Jazmin de Isla, Ricardo IA, Davinci de Los Reyes, Gaviota de Besilu, Destello de La Divina, and Profeta Segundo de Besilu. Profeta is a proven producer. To date, he has 758 PFHA registered offspring, and from 2005 to 2010, they earned a combined yearly average of 10,500 show points. At the age of 22, Profeta de Besilu is still strong in his fertility and in high demand in the Paso Fino breeding industry.

Profeta de Besilu's story does not end there. One of his most important moments took place back in January of 2009, when he came home to Besilu once again. A gift to Benjamin Leon, Jr. from his wife Silvia, Profeta de Besilu will spend his remaining years as a loving member of the Leon family. Mr. Leon says, "Profeta de Besilu was born into our family 22 years ago. His intelligence and gentleness won our hearts, and thru his accomplishments and greatness, Profeta de Besilu became the epitome and the Prototype of the Paso Fino Horse. Profeta de Besilu's induction into the national Hall of Fame is the ultimate recognition for the horse that gave it all and made an everlasting impact in the Paso Fino Breed."

Profeta de Besilu gave his last public demonstration at the 2011 PFHA Grand National Show to a standing ovation from the crowd and tears from many. Profeta de Besilu will be remembered as not just a proven PFHA Classic Fino Champion and breeding Stallion but a legend and an important cornerstone in the history of the Paso Fino breed in the United States and around the world.

