



The South African
L I P I Z Z A N E R S

The South African Lipizzaners return to the Royal Show!

The Royal Show at Pietermaritzburg has always been a very special venue for the SA Lipizzaners, for it was at the Royal Show in 1951 that Major George Ivanowski, an ex Polish Cavalry Officer, first met Count Jankovich-Besan, who had brought his Lipizzaners from war-torn Europe to South Africa in 1948 and settled in a small farm just outside Mooi River. Major Ivanowski was offered a Lipizzaner to train and then the idea was born, why not have a team of Lipizzaner Stallions able to give performances similar to the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. So the training of the stallions began. Major Ivanowski gradually built up a team of stallions who travelled country-wide giving performances.

The SA Lipizzaners perform at the Royal Show every two years, and this year, the team will be back at the Royal Show, performing on the evening of Monday 31 May, with renowned South African tenor, Jannie Moolman, and the diminutive and charismatic Nedine Blom, who has been hailed as the 'Sarah Brightman' of South Africa. The performance promises to be an evening of choral delight and equestrian grace. The performance will include the world famous 'Tribute to the Horse', the Pas de Deux, two horses performing an intricate display in a mirror image of each other, the spectacular 'Airs above the Ground', a Solo Performance, and the breathtaking final quadrille – the Ballet of the White Stallions.

For more information on the SA Lipizzaners, phone 083 601 2104 or 082 457 9725, Website www.lipizzaners.co.za, e-mail lipizzaner@hixnet.co.za

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