

Lion Heart has made a hugely encouraging start to his stud career with two Graded winners and three Graded-placed horses.

As Northern Dancer is back in the fifth generation of Lion Heart's foals and Mr. Prospector is no closer than the fourth generation, Lion Heart has endless options with mares from these very popular lines. The obvious candidates from the Northern Dancer line include **DANZIG**, **DIXIELAND BAND**, **EL GRAN SENOR**, **NIJINSKY**, **NUREYEV** and **ROYAL ACADEMY**. His very talented son Azul Leon has a **NIGHT SHIFT** mare as his second dam and his three highest-priced second-crop yearlings all had second dams by sons of Northern Dancer (**SADLER'S WELLS**, **DANZIG** and **BARACHOIS**).

Lion Heart's dam Satin Sunrise is also the dam of a Graded winner by French Deputy, a son of **DEPUTY MINISTER**. Mares by **AWESOME AGAIN**, **DEHERE**, **FRENCH DEPUTY**, **SALT LAKE**, **SILVER DEPUTY** and **TOUCH GOLD** are worth trying with him.

The numerous options from the **RAISE A NATIVE** line include mares from the **ALYDAR**, **EXCLUSIVE NATIVE** and **MR. PROSPECTOR** branches. Lion Heart's second-crop yearlings included a 325,000-dollar colt out of a **KINGMAMBO** mare. The **FAPPIANO** branch looks likely to suit him and he already has a Graded-placed winner out of a **DEFENSIVE PLAY** mare and a stakes-placed horse out of a mare by Unbridled's brother **CAHILL ROAD**. Mares by **UNBRIDLED**, **QUIET AMERICAN**, **RUBIANO** and **CRYPTOCLEARANCE** are likeable options.

Lion Heart's dam is inbred 2 x 4 to **HAIL TO REASON**, so extra lines to this outstanding sire could be interesting, especially through **HALO** and sons of **ROBERTO**, such as **DYNAFORMER**, **LEAR FAN**, **RED RANSOM** and **SILVER HAWK**. Azul Leon is out of a mare by **CURE THE BLUES**, a grandson of **HAIL TO REASON**, which means that this Graded winner is inbred 4 x 4 to Hail To Reason. Lion Heart's other Graded winner, Silent Valor, is also out of a mare with Hail To Reason blood. Lion Heart's sire Tale Of The Cat sired the Gr.1 winner Tale of Ekati from a daughter of **SUNDAY SILENCE**.

**SEATTLE SLEW** mares also appeal, in view of his Hail to Reason blood and his fine record with Lion Heart's grandsire Storm Cat. One of Lion Heart's first representatives out of a **SEATTLE SLEW** mare is the Gr.2-placed Pretty Prolific.

The Gr.3 winner is out of a mare by **VALID APPEAL**, who also appears as the broodmare sire of Graded winners by Storm Cat and Tabasco Cat.

The **DAMASCUS** line is another which should suit well with Lion Heart, including daughters of **PRIVATE ACCOUNT**, **TIME FOR A CHANGE** and **OGYGIAN**.