



NINE CONTENDERS CONFIRMED TO COMPETE FOR THE \$16 MILLION USD PEGASUS WORLD CUP INVITATIONAL ON JANUARY 27, 2018

***The World's Richest Horse Race Returns to South Florida for the Second Year with the Best
in Horse Racing and Entertainment***

HALLANDALE BEACH, FL (December 20, 2017) - [The Stronach Group](#) announced today that nine of twelve contenders have been confirmed for the second running of the [Pegasus World Cup Invitational](#) (G1). With a record breaking \$16 million USD purse, the world's richest Thoroughbred horse race will be contested on January 27, 2018, at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Florida.

*"We are excited to officially announce nine confirmed contenders for the 2018 Pegasus World Cup Invitational," said **Timothy Ritvo, Chief Operating Officer of The Stronach Group & President of Gulfstream Park.** "With just over a month until race day, we are in vigorous discussions and negotiations for the final three coveted starting spots in what is shaping up to be an incredible 12-horse field. Once again, Pegasus will play host to many of the top horses, jockeys and horsemen in the world."*

Tickets, which range from \$75 to \$1,000+ USD per person, are moving fast and can be purchased at www.PegasusWorldCup.com. From exciting views of the finish from the Grandstand, luxurious suites and VIP experiences in Ten Palms restaurant or superb race views from the Apron, the venues at Gulfstream Park offer the best for the ultimate day at the races.

*"The inaugural Pegasus World Cup Invitational surpassed our expectations and we believe brought a new level of excitement to Thoroughbred horse racing", said **Belinda Stronach, Chairman & President, The Stronach Group.** "We see Pegasus as an entertainment event that will appeal to fans, seasoned and new, where music, fashion, celebrity, and world-class racing combine to create an experience unlike any other."*

For the 2018 Pegasus World Cup Invitational, The Stronach Group has partnered with the team behind *LIV, Story, & Komodo* to form a unique themed entertainment experience that will recreate their world-renowned high energy experiences onsite at Gulfstream Park, creating a new world-class race day extravaganza for fans. More information along with program details will be released within an official announcement to be made in early January 2018.

The nine confirmed starters for the 2018 Pegasus World Cup Invitational as of December 15, 2017, are as follows (listed alphabetically):

Collected

Owner: Speedway Stable LLC. Trainer: Bob Baffert

Hall of Fame trainer Baffert, who saddled Arrogate to victory last year, returns with two starters including Collected, a multiple-graded stakes winner who finished second November 4 at Del Mar in the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1). The son of City Zip has won eight of 12 starts and is currently training at Santa Anita.

Gunnevera

Owner: William C. Gallo, et al. Trainer: Antonio Sano

The popular colt won the Fountain of Youth (G2) and was second in the Travers (G1) at Saratoga this summer and finished in a dead-head for fifth in the Breeders' Cup Classic. He has three victories over Gulfstream Park and is training at Gulfstream Park West.

Gun Runner

Owner: Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC/Three Chimneys Farm. Trainer: Steve Asmussen

Just two days before the running of Pegasus, Gun Runner is favored to be crowned 2017 Horse of the Year at the 47th Eclipse Awards at Gulfstream. Under the care of Hall of Fame horseman Asmussen, Gun Runner won five of six races in 2017, including four consecutive Grade 1 events. He capped off his season with a gate-to-wire victory in the Breeders' Cup Classic. The son of Candy Ride is training in New Orleans.

Seeking the Soul

Owner: Charles E. Fipke. Trainer: Dallas Stewart

Bred by Fipke, Seeking the Soul will enter Pegasus off his biggest win, a half-length victory in the Clark Handicap (G1) at Churchill Downs November 24. The son of Perfect Soul is currently training in New Orleans.

Stellar Wind

Owner: Mrs. John Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith (Coolmore). Trainer: Chad Brown

The lone filly or mare in Pegasus as of now, Stellar Wind earned an Eclipse Award as champion 3-year-old filly in 2015. She reeled off three consecutive Grade 1 victories earlier this year and is the daughter of two-time Horse of the Year, Curlin. The mare is currently in training at Palm Meadows Training Center in Palm Beach.

Toast of New York

Owner: Al Shaqab, Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, R.A. Hill, Eric Young. Trainer: James Osborne

Toast of New York returned from a three-year layoff earlier this month to win at Lingfield Park in Surrey, United Kingdom. The 6-year-old was retired in 2014 after finishing second in the Breeders' Cup Classic for stallion duties in Dubai, but was returned to training in April. He has finished first or second in seven of his nine career starts. He remains in the United Kingdom.

To Be Announced

Owner: Adena Springs. Trainer: TBA

Adena Springs is owned by the Stronach Family, the innovators behind the Pegasus World Cup Invitational. Adena Springs bred Shaman Ghost, who finished second in the inaugural running of the Pegasus World Cup Invitational.

War Story/Game Over

Owner: Ron Paolucci and Ashley Quartarolo. Trainer: Jorge Navarro

The connections are still considering which one of two horses they will have in the Pegasus starting gate. War Story, a graded-stakes winner, would enter off a fourth-place finish in the Breeders' Cup Classic. The lightly-raced Game Over was most recently fourth in the Pennsylvania Derby (G1). Both are stabled at Gulfstream Park West.

West Coast

Owner: Gary and Mary West. Trainer: Bob Baffert

Winner of the Travers Stakes and third in the Breeders' Cup Classic, this 3-year-old has won six of nine starts and has never finished worse than third. Currently training at Santa Anita.

For the latest news and updates follow the Pegasus World Cup Invitational on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @pegasusworldcup and at www.pegasusworldcup.com.

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About The Stronach Group

The Stronach Group (TSG) is an industry leader in world-class horse racing, entertainment and pari-mutuel wagering technology. Within our portfolio of racing and gaming businesses, the Company holds some of the greatest brands in the industry including; Santa Anita Park, “The Great Race Place”; Pimlico Race Course, home of the legendary Preakness Stakes; Gulfstream Park, one of Florida's newest entertainment destination centers, and home to the \$16 million USD Pegasus World Cup Invitational, the world’s richest Thoroughbred horse race; Laurel Park; Golden Gate Fields; Portland Meadows; and Rosecroft Raceway. TSG is an industry leader in pari-mutuel technology through its subsidiaries AmTote and Xpressbet and is a major distributor of horse racing content to a global audience through Monarch Content Management. The award winning Adena Springs is the breeding and training facility of The Stronach Group with stables in Kentucky, Florida and Ontario. For more on The Stronach Group, visit www.stronachgroup.com.

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