

# Horses



**Yann Arthus-Bertrand**

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# HORSES

The horse's beauty is about movement and action. How can a frozen image capture this? And how can a simple photograph do justice to the bonds linking the horse with its environment, culture and civilization?

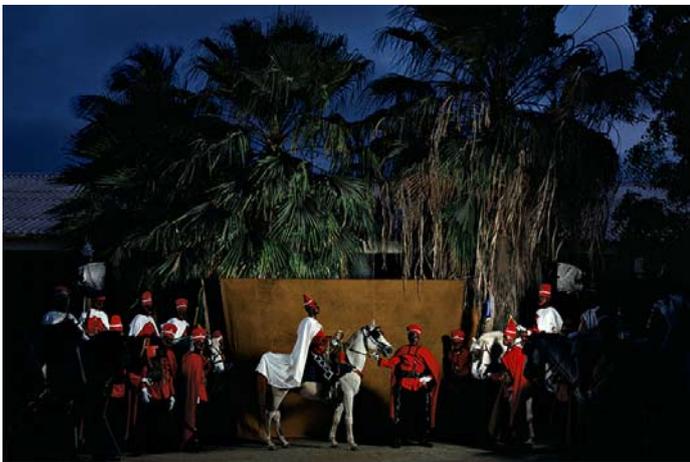
From the African savannah, to the Siberian taïga, from low-lying swampland to the Himalayan peaks, whatever the terrain man has colonized the horse has accompanied him. Within a few millennia hundreds of different varieties of horse have developed all over the globe. Man has fashioned and transformed a wide diversity of breeds to match his dreams and make them capable of fulfilling his needs: war, transport, agricultural work, leisure...

Over the last fifteen years Yann Arthus-Bertrand has made portraits of horses from over a hundred different breeds and varieties across the world. Taking leave of the academic conventions of equestrian portraiture, the photographer has conserved the notion of studio photography by using a brown canvas backdrop to frame his images. But he has moved the studio outside, using what he terms the "bâche décalée" (ironic canvas). Planted in the midst of a landscape, the canvas translates the atmosphere of the life shared by men and horses. Each photograph is a composition in which the horse is the main character, providing an instant wherein its vitality, elegance and grace are captured.

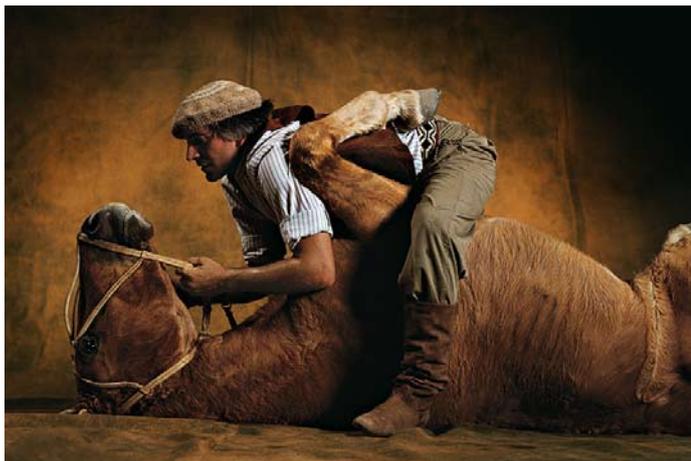
*Photographs taken from the book "Horses" (Editions du Chêne) complemented by the texts of Jean-Louis Gouraud.*

*Thanks go to Jean-Louis Gouraud, author of the photographs' captions and to Sibylle d'Orgeval for all her enthusiasm and determination.*

*Development by the Janjac laboratory (Boulogne-Billancourt).*



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The exhibition “Horses” has to be free to the public and must be presented during a minimum of 2 months.

The exhibition includes:

- the presentation of 100 photographss:  
80 photos 80x120cm and 20 photographss 120x180cm, to be presented indoor.  
or 100 photographss 120x180cm to be presented outdoor. Photos must be produced, bought and returned at the end of the exhibition.
- the captions of the photographs
- a panel of general introduction
- a panel about the technical aspects of Yann Arthus-Bertrand’s shooting
- the lighting of each photograph
- a leaflet distributed for free

The organizer has to prepare a pedagogical booklet for schools and an educational back-up for schoolchildren.

From a technical point of view, the exhibition requires:

- the visit of the location by Yann Arthus-Bertrand’s office coordinator
- a wall to wall insurance
- the transportation of the photographss
- fees due to Yann Arthus-Bertrand (depending on the location and duration of the exhibition)
- fees of the office for administrative and technical follow-up
- Catherine Arthus-Bertrand’s fees for coordination
- travel and accommodation for Yann Arthus-Bertrand and Catherine Arthus-Bertrand

The book “Horses” is published in 9 languages (395x275mm, 224 pages, 45,50€ retail price). Photographs are completed by Jean-Louis Gouraud’s texts. Postcards and calendars are published by Editions Amiiimages ([www.amiiimages.com](http://www.amiiimages.com)).



Bercy International Jumping, Paris, February 2004



La Bourdaisière, Montlouis/Loire, May 2004

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Each picture is presented with a caption of 1500 signs (50 words).



## **Barb Stallion**

Tango, mounted by warrant officer Abdoulaye N'Diène and held by Captain Djiby Tine, amongst members of the second platoon. Red Guard Barracks, Dakar, Senegal.

*Originally a Berber horse from North Africa the Barb horse has had a prodigious career. Crossing the Mediterranean it bequeathed some of its qualities to the Iberian horse, which then transmitted them to the Americas thanks to the Spanish conquistadors. Crossing the Sahara, it left its imprint on the equine stocks of sub-Saharan Africa, a migration that has continued until this day. Europeans appreciate the hardy qualities and endurance of the Barb and the Africans mount their most prestigious cavalries on Moroccan horses.*