



Soul Strong

Bay gelding, 3 by Father Patrick – Sheer Soul By Yankee Glide

OWNER: Stable Why Not [Cees Faber], NJ
BREEDER: Al J Libfeld, ON & Marvin Katz, ON
SALE INFO: \$27,000 Lexington-Selected
TRAINER: Ake Svanstedt
DRIVER: Dexter Dunn

YEAR	STARTS	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2019	6	3	2	0	\$50,112	1:52.1 M
2018	8	0	2	0	\$15,415	Q 1:57.4 Gty
LIFETIME	14	3	4	0	\$65,527	3,1:52.1 M

- Gelding finished a gutsy first over second [1:51.4] to stablemate Marseille in the Tompkins Geers on June 20th at the Meadowlands.
- Won a three year old open race at the Meadowlands after holding off stablemate Sheena's Boy in :26.3 on June 28 at the Meadowlands.
- Started off his three year old season with two wins. One on May 6th at Pocono Downs and the second at the Meadowlands in a leg of the New Jersey Sire Stakes on May 17th.
- Winless as a two year old. His two second place finishes both came at the Meadowlands. One in a leg of the New Jersey Sire Stakes in May and in a leg of the Kindergarten in October.
- Ake Svanstedt, 60, won the 2017 Hambletonian with Perfect Spirit, who was second-placed-first in the final after What The Hill was disqualified for interference in the stretch. It was the first disqualification of a winner in Hambletonian history. Svanstedt trained and drove Perfect Spirit.
- In 2018, Svanstedt's Six Pack finished sixth in his Hambletonian elimination and failed to advance to the final. For the season, Six Pack won 11 of 15 races and \$1.15 million and received the Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old male trotter. He trotted history's fastest mile by a 3-year-old, winning the Kentucky Futurity in 1:49.1.
- Previous stars for Svanstedt included Dan Patch Award winner Sebastian K, who became the then-fastest trotter in history when he went a mile in 1:49 in 2014.

- Svanstedt is in his sixth season of racing in North America after moving to the U.S. from Sweden. He was Sweden's Trainer of the Year five times and Driver of the Year on three occasions.
- In 2017, Svanstedt was inducted in Sweden's Hall of Fame.
- During his career overseas, Svanstedt won the Elitlopp twice, with Torvald Palema in 2009 and Gidde Palema in 2004, the Copenhagen Cup three times and both the Oslo Grand Prix and Olympic Trot four times.
- Svanstedt won 6,306 races as a driver in Sweden and 5,384 as a trainer.
- In 2017, Svanstedt set career highs in North American training wins (124) and training purses (\$4.67 million). Since arriving in the U.S., Svanstedt has trained more than 530 winners and earned \$20 million in purses. As a driver, he has totaled more than 340 wins and \$14 million in purses.
- Svanstedt grew up with horses in Sweden. His father, who was in the timber business, used horses for work and raced cold-blooded trotters. Svanstedt began his professional career at the age of 24 and within several years was the champion at his home track in Bergsaker.
- Dexter Dunn, 29, is in his first full season of driving in the U.S. after a record-setting career in New Zealand. A native of Christchurch, Dunn led New Zealand's premiership in wins for 10 consecutive years from 2008 through 2017. During that span, he won at least 200 races on six occasions and twice finished with 199. He was the first New Zealand driver to win at least 200 races in a season.
- Dunn was invited to drive in the U.S. last summer by trainer Chris Ryder, a longtime family friend. When Dunn left New Zealand, his 2,225 wins ranked fifth in history there. He was the youngest driver to both 1,000 and 2,000 wins, and the youngest, at the age of 18, to win a Group 1 race in New Zealand.
- In 2015, Dunn represented his country in the World Driving Championship and drove off with the trophy.
- Dunn has already made a splash on the Grand Circuit in North America with wins in the Valley Victory last year and this year in the Fan Hanover, Art Rooney, Confederation Cup, and a division of the Delvin Miller Memorial. He finished second in the North America Cup, Meadowlands Pace, Maxie Lee Memorial, Dexter Cup, and Blue Chip Matchmaker.
- He ranks fourth in purses among all drivers in North America with nearly \$5 million.
- His sire Father Patrick was the prohibitive favorite going into the 2015 Hambletonian. He was five-for-five that year and riding a 15-race win streak dating back to the previous year, he drew the outside post 10. Father Patrick became the shortest-priced horse to not capture the trotting classic when he went offstride for the first time in his 17-start career.

