

## ROMAGNA MIA WINS VIA BORGHESE STAKES BY WIDENING SEVEN LENGTHS LOWERS TRACK RECORD FOR TAPETA MILE AND HALF BY :01.79 SECONDS

The Gulfstream Park Press Office issued the following story on the victory by Romagna Mia in the Via Borghese Stakes following a seven-length romp over the Tapeta. The grey daughter of Mastercraftsman lowered the mile and half track record on Tapeta surface to 2:28.69. The previous best was 2:30.48, set by Modus Operandi (Ire) in February of 2022.

### 'She Kind Of Won For Fun': Romagna Mia Lives Up To Favoritism In Gulfstream's Via Borghese

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Romagna Mia and jockey John Velazquez after their win in Tuesday's Via Borghese at Gulfstream Park  
(Ryan Thompson/Coglianese Photo)

Team Valor International LLC's **Romagna Mia** lived up to her 4-5 favorite's role Tuesday at Gulfstream Park while scoring an authoritative seven-length romp in the \$125,000 Via Borghese.

Making her first start on Tapeta in the race for fillies and mares that had been scheduled for 1 3/8 miles on turf, the 4-year-old British-bred filly relaxed in fourth as Tass showed the way at a solid pace for the adjusted 1 1/2-mile distance. Tass set fractions of 25.23 (seconds), 49.61, 1:15.45 and 1:40.54 for the first half mile before Hall of Fame jockey John Velazquez pushed the 'go' button on Romagna Mia, who responded with a three-wide sweep to the lead and an impressive stretch run while under little pressure.

"I would have been surprised if she hadn't handled the Tapeta, although the synthetic is a bit of an unknown," trainer Graham Motion said. "She kind of won for fun."

Romagna Mia, a Group 2 winner in Europe, finished third in her U.S. debut in the Beverly D (G1) on turf at Colonial before capturing the 1 1/2-mile Dowager (G3) over Keeneland's turf in her most recent start.

"She's an absolute pleasure to train. She's a lovely filly," Motion said.

The gray daughter of Mastercraftsman ran 1 1/2 miles on Tapeta in 2:28.69. Tass held gamely to finish second, 1 1/4 lengths ahead of Viva La Red.

Romagna Mia is likely to return in the \$200,000 La Prevoyante (G3), a 1 1/2-mile turf stakes for fillies and mares on the Pegasus World Cup Invitational (G1) undercard Jan. 27 at Gulfstream Park.