

SUMMER SOIREE RETIRED AFTER 3RD-PLACE FINISH IN G1 MATRIARCH FLEET AND VERSATILE G1 WINNER WILL BE BRED TO MEDAGLIA D'ORO TEAM VALOR WILL OFFER DAUGHTER OF WAR FRONT NEXT NOVEMBER



Summer Soiree scored in 2 dirt races by a combined 16 lengths, along with her Graded stakes wins on Polytrack and turf.

Summer Soiree wrapped up her racing career by passing the \$500,000 plateau and adding to her Grade 1 credentials with a third-place finish in the Matriarch Stakes on November 25 at Hollywood Park.

The 4-year-old daughter of War Front, one of America's hottest young sires, will be bred to another in the 2013 season, as she is set to visit Darley's Medaglia d'Oro. Team Valor plans to offer her in foal at public auction next November.

Summer Soiree, winner of the Grade 1 Del Mar Oaks in 2011, returned to Southern California in typical fashion, heading straight to the lead in the one-mile Matriarch. She finished second in the same race last year when she was caught in the stretch by Star Billing after leading through fractions of :24.82, :48.97 and 1:12.60.

and getting the first 6 furlongs in 1:09.76, including a blazing second quarter in :22.74. That was without pressure from the 7 to 5 favorite, Dayatthespa, who has been effective as a frontrunner but ceded the lead to Summer Soiree and stalked along the inside early before trying to jump over the rail in the first turn in a scary incident. Jockey Javier Castellano nearly came off the 3-year-old filly, but she recovered well enough to finish fifth, despite suffering a long gash in her right front leg.

This time, Summer Soiree set an even faster pace, opening up a 4 ½-length lead along the backstretch

Summer Soiree was untouched by Dayatthespa's trouble, but the pace caught up with her in the stretch. Better Lucky challenged her at the eighth pole and spurted clear to the victory. She was quickly followed by a late-runner, Tiz Flirtatious, who finished a length back at the wire. Summer Soiree held on for third, beaten 3 ¼ lengths. Dismissed at 21 to 1 odds off a subpar fourth-place finish in a Grade 1 at Keeneland, she beat home the Matriarch's top 3 choices—Future Generation, Dayatthespa and Emulous—and pushed her career bankroll to \$506,180.

Trained by Graham Motion, the white-faced bay filly retires with a record of 16-5-1-5. She boasts two wins on dirt by a combined 16 lengths and a Grade 3 victory at Turfway Park by 10 ¾ lengths on Polytrack. She roared to an 8 ½-length win in the Grade 3 Boiling Springs Stakes at Monmouth Park in her first grass opportunity, registering a 99 Beyer Speed Figure and 3 on the Thoro-Graph Sheets.

A filly who began her career in a 4 ½-furlong stakes race in May of her 2-year-old season, Summer Soiree successfully stretched her speed to 9 furlongs in the Del Mar Oaks, beating Star Billing by a half-length. In 7 turf starts, all in Graded stakes, she hit the board 5 times. The lone exceptions were at Keeneland, where her regular jockey Gabriel Saez said she struggled with the sand-based course.