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Kevin Staut Strikes Gold as French Riders Sweep the Emirates Gold Cup Podium at the Longines Masters of Los Angeles



Star Duo Nayel Nassar and Sloan Elmassian Shine in Pro-Am for Charity Benefiting “Ride On”

LOS ANGELES (Oct. 2, 2016) – Saturday night at the Longines Masters of Los Angeles was the epitome of glamour, prestige and excitement with top-level show jumping and entertainment at the Long Beach Convention Center. The evening featured two renowned classes: The Emirates Gold Cup and the Pro-Am Style & Competition for Charity. The third night of the prestigious competition attracted celeb spectators **Kaley Cuoco, William Shatner, Selma Blair** and **Arianna Rockefeller**.

The Emirates Gold Cup showcased the power and agility of show jumping as the world’s best riders jumped the course designed by Uliano Vezzani. After a competitive first round, the top ten and their horses took to the course again. The winning round came to an exciting finish as the French swept the podium. Kevin Staut and Elky van



het Indihof HDC claimed the top prize with a time of 35.52 seconds, with Simon Delestre and Julien Epailard coming in second and third, respectively.

The morning portion of the competition was highlighted with the City of Long Beach Trophy class, in which Steve Guerdat took home the top prize with a time of 33.83 seconds. Also in the morning session, the Terranea Resort Trophy was won by Estelle Navet, while Amelie Bittar claimed the Ecuries d'Ecaussinnes Trophy.

The afternoon and evening showcased the fun and philanthropic aspect of the Longines Masters Series with the much-anticipated Pro-Am Style & Competition for Charity. The event featured seven teams, each consisting of one professional rider and one amateur rider, each competing for the charity of their choice while in full costume and riding to music matching the theme.

The team with the best style was decided by a celebrity jury composed of Miss USA 2015 Olivia Jordan, Lawrence Zarian, and entertainment reporter Sam Rubin. Winners were judged on the number of penalties, the teams' style and elegance, as well as the horses' style.

Nayel Nassar and teammate **Sloan Elmassian** were crowned the Pro-Am for Charity winners dressed as disco kings with afros and all to benefit Ride On, an organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of people with disabilities through equine-related therapy, recreation and fun. Other notable competitors included Steven Spielberg's daughter, Destry Spielberg and Jane Richard-Phillips riding as samurai ninjas competing on behalf of Just World International.

The seven teams included:

- Kristin Hardin and Nikki Hirt for Compton Jr. Posse Youth Equestrian Program
- Nayel Nassar and Sloan Elmassian for Ride On
- Francie Steinwedell-Calvin and Vani Khosla for Thrive Animal Rescue
- Destry Spielberg and Jane Richards-Phillips for Just World International
- Will Simpson and Ben Ebeling for Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases
- Eduardo Menezes and Jean-Christophe Mely for Special Spirit
- Joie Gatlin and Chandler Meadows for Semper Fi Fund

Before each class, spectators were treated to the unique, up-close experience of watching the world's best riders warm up. Located in the heart of the Prestige Village, the paddock mirrored the extravagance of the brands on display including Longines and Hermès with a luxurious Lamborghini Huracan LP610-4.

The Longines Masters of Los Angeles will conclude on Sunday afternoon with the signature event, the Longines Grand Prix, where riders will compete for the chance to make history by taking home the new Super Grand Slam Bonus of 2.25 million Euros.



To purchase tickets for the remaining events of the 2016 Longines Masters of Los Angeles, visit <http://www.longinesmasters.com/en/ticketing>.

Photos are available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hc5ps02aguo1oq3/AABLoYm15vXOnZOM-roh9mxZa/Longines%20Masters%20of%20Los%20Angeles%20Day%203%20Saturday%20October%201st?dl=0>

Photo Credit: Bernstein Associates, Nuno Madeira & Jessica Rodrigues for EEM

For b-roll of the red carpet: [ftp.limetreeproductions.tv](ftp://ftp.limetreeproductions.tv)

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ABOUT THE LONGINES MASTERS

Established in three of the world's most iconic cities — Los Angeles, Paris and Hong Kong — the Longines Masters Series, “Grand Slam Indoor of Show Jumping” is renowned as one of the most prestigious equestrian events in the world.

Created by EEM and inspired by the Grand Slam tennis tournaments, the Series rapidly developed abroad, with the Longines Masters of Hong Kong in 2013 and the Longines Masters of Los Angeles in 2014. In 2015, the intercontinental trilogy became the Longines Masters.

Presented by EEM and recognized by the FEI, the “Grand Slam of Indoor Show Jumping” is the ultimate challenge, with two levels of prizes:

The Super Grand Slam, a bonus of 2.25 million Euros for winning 3 consecutive Longines Grand Prix in the same season: Los Angeles, followed by Paris and then Hong Kong.

The Grand Slam: a bonus of 1 million Euros for three successive victories in the Longines Grand Prix from one season to the next, (ex: Paris > Hong Kong > Los Angeles, or Hong Kong > Los Angeles > Paris.)

These events are broadcast in more than 120 countries and reach up to 550 million households. Every edition of the Longines Masters is a must-attend event bringing together top-level athletes and amateurs alike, celebrities and corporate decision-makers from around the world, all who come to enjoy a unique experience created by exceptional moments in sport, entertainment, glamour, gastronomy and contemporary art.



Save the dates for the season two:

- Longines Masters of Los Angeles: 29 September-2 October, 2016
- Longines Masters of Paris: 1-4 December, 2016
- Longines Masters of Hong Kong: 10-12 February, 2017

ABOUT EEM

EEM CEO and Founder Christophe Ameeuw and his team have set no less a goal than to reinvent the sport of show jumping. For over ten years they have been dedicated to bringing equestrian sports to the international front stage. Inspired by the legendary tournaments of the tennis Grand Slam, EEM gathers under one roof the best of show jumping, entertainment and lifestyle experience. 2009 was a crucial milestone for EEM with its revival of the “Jumping de Paris” and the creation of the Paris Masters. EEM then set off to conquer new continents, with an Asian edition which took place in Hong Kong in 2013, followed in 2014 by the first American stage of the Longines Masters in Los Angeles. In 2015 the intercontinental trilogy of which EEM is the creator, owner and organizer, became the Longines Masters “Grand Slam Indoor of Show Jumping”.

ABOUT LONGINES

Based in Saint-Imier, Switzerland since 1832, the watchmaking expertise of Longines reflects a strong devotion to tradition, elegance and performance. Longines has generations of experience as the official timekeeper for world championships and as a partner of international sports federations. Over the years, Longines has forged solid and lasting ties with the sports world. Known for the elegance of its timepieces, Longines is a member of the Swatch Group Ltd., the world’s leading manufacturer of timekeeping products. Featuring the winged hourglass as its emblem, the brand operates in more than 150 countries.

Information: www.longines.com

Contact: publicrelations@longines.com

PRESS CONTACT

Sunshine Sachs - LLAMpress@sunshinesachs.com
212.691.2800 | 323.822.9300



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