

New Zealand's Champion



Sunline

**Compiled by Susan Archer, NZTBA Online Editor
February 2007**

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SUNLINE

Bay filly, foaled at Pleasanton Stud, Cambridge, New Zealand,
29 September 1995, at around midday

The legend began here...



Photograph © Michael Martin
Sunline as a foal, December 1995, Cambridge, New Zealand

Breeders: Susan Archer & Michael Martin, Auckland
Owners: Thayne Green, Helen Lusty & Trevor McKee,
Auckland
Trainers: Stephen & Trevor McKee, Takanini
Regular Jockey: Greg Childs
Other Jockeys: Larry Cassidy, Peter Johnson
Strapper: Claire Bird

SUNLINE (NZ)

Sire DESERT SUN (GB) 1988	Green Desert Solar	Danzig Foreign Courier Hotfoot L'Anguissola Nijinsky Millicent Alvaro Honey Carlyle	Northern Dancer Sir Ivor Firestreak Soderini Northern Dancer Cornish Prince Rockefella Better Honey
Dam SONGLINE (NZ) 1987	Western Symphony McAngus		

1st dam

Songline, by Western Symphony. **5 wins** at 1200m, 1400m, 2d Canterbury Breeders' S.H., **L**, CJC Avis Rent a Car H., Racecourse Hotel H., 3d Timaru S., **L**, Gore RC Princess Mellay S., **L**, CJC Victoria Florists H., Television New Zealand H., Riccarton Park Function Centre. 2000, 2001 & 2002 NZ Broodmare of the Year. Half-sister to **(Our) Play Maker**, **Killiecrankie**. Dam of seven named foals, six to race, **two winners**, inc:-

SUNLINE (f. by Desert Sun). **32 wins**.

Flaring Sun (c. by Desert Sun). **Winner** at 1300m in 2005-06 in Aust.

Sunny Song (f. by Simonstad). Unraced. Dam of-

Sun Song (Desert Sun). **2 wins** at 1400m, 1600m, A\$78,130, to 2005-06, AJC Galah H., 2d AJC Springhill H., Candy Shop Cabramatta H., STC Aristocrat Technologies H., 3d STC Kerrie Ann Haute Couture Headware Epona S., **L**, AJC Bexley H., MRC Harvie Picken H.

2nd dam

McAngus, by Alvaro. **2 wins** at 1400m, 1600m, 2d CJC Warstep S., **L**, Gore RC Princess Mellay S., **L**, North Canterbury RC Inglewood S., **L**, Timaru RC Show Gate S., **L**, 3d CJC South Island 3YO Championship S., **L**, South Island Thoroughbred Breeders' S.H., **L**, Great Easter S.H., **L**, Southland Guineas, **L**. Sister to Resolute (dam of **INTERVAL - THREE CROWNS (SING.)**), half-sister to **OUR SHOUT**, Plaid (dam of **PHILAMOR**, **Filibeg**), Runny Hunny (dam of **APPLETON GOLD**). Dam of 6 foals, all raced, **4 winners**, inc:-

(Our) Play Maker (Pompeii Court). **6 wins** from 1400m to 3000m, Otago RC Wilsons Amusements H., Timaru RC Roberts Pharmacy Apprentices H., 2d Otago RC Dunedin Guineas, **L**, VATC Deakin H

Songline (Western Symphony). **5 wins**. See above.

Killiecrankie (Prince Echo). **4 wins** from 1200m to 1600m, 2d CJC Beadel Ching H., French Bakery H., Post H., 3d Otago RC Dunedin Guineas, **L**.

Emerald Mountain. **3 wins** at 1050m, 1600m in Mac.

Kinda Magic. Raced twice. Dam of-

Master Magic (Commands) **2 wins** at 1200m, A\$91,080, in 2006-07, STC Win a Million H., Pie Face H., 3d STC Grand Ballroom Marquee on Sale H.

Sunboy. **Winner** at 1300m, 2d MVRC Australasian Shopfitting Co H.

3rd dam

HONEY CARLYLE, by Better Honey. **7 wins** to 7f in NZ; Dam of 10 named foals, 8 to race, **6 winners**, inc:-

OUR SHOUT (Zamazaan). **10 wins** from 1250m to 2500m, A\$160,060, AJC Summer Cup, **Gr.3**, SAJC West End S.H., **Gr.3**, STC Parramatta Cup, **L**, 2d AJC Sydney Cup, **Gr.1**, STC NE Manion Cup, **Gr.3**, 3d SAJC Adelaide Cup, **Gr.1**.

McAngus (Alvaro). **2 wins**. See above.

Plaid. **3 wins** at 1400m, 1600m, 3d CJC Couplands Bakeries Si H. Dam of-

PHILAMOR (Generous). 5 wins from 1400m to 2000m, NZ\$112,175, to 2006-07, Avondale Guineas, **Gr.2**, Waikato Guineas, **Gr.3**, Avondale JC York Cup, Woottons Auto Accessories H., 3d ARC Rentonjames H., 4th WRC Trentham S., **Gr.3**.

Runny Hunny. Unraced. Dam of-

APPLETON GOLD (Ivory Hunter). **6 wins** from 1500m to 2200m, A\$126,520, Ipswich Cup, **Gr.3**, AJC Handicap, QTC Radio 4BH H., 2d QTC Lord Rego Maiden H., 3d QTC Metropolitan H., **L**.

Resolute. Unraced. Dam of-

INTERVAL - THREE CROWNS (Sing.) (Paris Opera). Joint third top colt on The 1995-96 NZ 3YO Free H. **10 wins**-1 at 2-from 1200m to 2800m, NZ\$313,175, A\$106,000, S\$466,425 in NZ, Aust. and Sing, AJC St Leger, **Gr.2**, Avondale Guineas, **Gr.2**, New Zealand St Leger, **Gr.3**, 2d Auckland Cup, **Gr.1**, ARC New Zealand S., **Gr.1**, 3d New Zealand Derby, **Gr.1**.

Quotes about Sunline

"...one of the the most astonishing performances in a Cox Plate, or anywhere else."
- **Australian Bloodhorse Review, commenting on Sunline's second Cox Plate victory in 2000**

She is all class and boasts lashings of that "golden quality" of the thoroughbred - acceleration....Sunline rated 115 in brilliantly winning the Doncaster Handicap last year...and 114 in leading throughout in the BMW Cox Plate. Is she a class act? Absolutely.

- **Mark Read, Sportsman, 31 March 2000**

The high-class, front-running mare was undeniably the leading female [in Australia]. She left her rivals standing when a heavily-backed favourite in the Doncaster, and, although inclined to race too freely on occasions, she performed well when it counted, controlling the pace and then dashing clear in the Cox Plate.

- **Racehorses of 1999**

Racing is all about the "moment" and how often do we recall the day we were there when such a horse won and how we would talk about that moment.

Sunline gave us that moment over and over again, from the gritty wins in the Doncaster, continuing to pour on the power in Hong Kong, to the very top of the mountain in the Cox Plate...Sunline has left us with memories that will live on forever, she was simply the best of the best and sits with the turf icons in the Australian Racing Hall Of Fame.

- **Bryan Martin, leading Australian racecaller & broadcaster, and chairman, Australian Racing Hall of Fame, November 2002**

Nothing we do to promote the joys & pleasures of horse-racing, or the worth of the New Zealand thoroughbred, can match what Sunline did at Moonee Valley in 2 minutes and seven seconds on 28 October 2000.

To win her second consecutive BMW Cox Plate, defeating an outstanding field by seven lengths, was an extraordinary performance. She has exceeded all of our dreams - except the dream of racing a horse like her!

We celebrate and honour the magnificent mare whose background reflects all that is wonderful about New Zealand's thoroughbred industry: a near-perfect environment for rearing young horses, robust Australasian bloodlines, dedicated commercial and private breeders and first-class horsemanship.

We congratulate her owners, Helen Lusty, Thayne Green, & Trevor McKee; thank Stephen & Trevor McKee for their faultless care and management of Sunline; and salute the mare who is now a genuine Kiwi sporting heroine.

- **Susan Archer & Michael Martin, 30 October 2000**

Sunline: the sexy, stunning, sublime, sensational mare

- **Pacemaker, June 2002**

Mum, I saw Sunline.

- **Five-year-old boy at Pukekohe, Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes day, November 1999**

Sunline's Full Race Record

as at 26 October 2002, published by kind permission of Arion Pedigrees: www.arion.co.nz

SUNLINE (NZ) 1995 Bay Mare Desert Sun-Songline (Western Symphony)

Season	Country	Age	Starts	Wins	Seconds	Thirds	Earnings
1998	NZ	2	3	3	0	0	NZ\$27,600
1999	NZ	3	2	2	0	0	NZ\$18,350
1999	AUS	3	8	6	1	0	A\$2,168,305
2000	NZ	4	1	1	0	0	NZ\$37,500
2000	AUS	4	9	5	3	0	A\$2,460,435
2000	HK	4	1	0	0	0	
2001	NZ	5	2	2	0	0	NZ\$100,000
2001	AUS	5	7	5	1	1	A\$1,768,500
2001	HK	5	1	1	0	0	HK\$5,700,000
2001	UAE	5	1	0	0	1	732,000.00Dhs
2002	NZ	6	1	1	0	0	NZ\$62,500
2002	AUS	6	8	5	3	0	A\$2,964,375
2003	NZ	7	1	1	0	0	NZ\$87,000
2003	AUS	7	3	0	1	1	A\$251,140
Total			48	32	9	3	A\$9,622,755, HK\$5,700,000, NZ\$332,950, 732,000Dhs

Date	Placing	Performance	Earnings
26/Oct/2002	4th	MVRC Cox Plate, Gr. 1. A\$3.1 million, 2040m, time 2:06.27 Track dead. 9 ran. Carried 55.5 kg. Won by 1.0 Len and Long neck. Northerly was 1st, Defier was 2nd and Grandera was 3rd.	A\$150,000
12/Oct/2002	2nd	MRC Yalumba S., Gr. 2. \$A402,000, 2000m, time 2:00.60. Track good. 7 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 0.4 Len and 5.5 Len. Lonhro was 1st and Ustinov 3rd.	A\$80,000
29/Sep/2002	3rd	AJC George Main S., Gr. 1. A\$330,000, 1600m, time 1:38.31. Track good. 6 ran. Carried 55.5 kg. Won by 0.4 Len and 1.3 Len. Defier was 1st and Excellerator 2nd.	A\$31,140
24/Aug/2002	1st	HBRI Mudgway Partsworld S., Gr. 2. NZ\$150,000, 1400m, time 1:22.98. Track easy. 16 ran. Carried 56.0 kg. Won by 0.7 Len and 1 Len. Tit For Taat was 2nd and Cent Home was 3rd.	NZ\$87,000

06/Apr/2002	1st	AJC All Aged S., Gr.1, A\$402,460, 1600m, time 1:34.38. Track good. 10 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 6.5 Len and 0.8 Len. Cent Home was 2nd and Dress Circle 3rd.	A\$262,460
30/Mar/2002	1st	AJC Doncaster H., Gr.1, A\$2,410,360, 1600m, time 1:35.22. Track good. 20 ran. Carried 58kg. Won by 0.1 Len and 0.5 Len. Shogun Lodge was 2nd and Defier 3rd.	A\$1,570,360
09/Mar/2002	1st	STC Coolmore Classic H., Gr.1, A\$507,055, 1500m, time 1:30.05. Track slow. 12 ran. Carried 60kg. Won by 0.3 Len and 0.3 Len. Gentle Genius was 2nd and Nanny Maroon 3rd.	A\$332,055
09/Feb/2002	1st	Waikato Draught Sprint, Gr.1, NZ\$100,000, 1400m, time 01:21.67. Track firm, Weather Fine. 11 ran. Carried 56kg. Won by 4 3/4 Len and 1 1/4 Len. Honor Bound was 2nd and Vinaka 3rd.	NZ\$62,500
27/Oct/2001	2nd	MVRC Carlton Draught Cox P., Gr.1, A\$2,070,000, 2040m, time 2:5.84. Track d. 8 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 0.8 Len and 0.2 Len. Northerly was 1st and Viscount 3rd.	A\$380,000
06/Oct/2001	1st	VRC Turnbull S., Gr.2, A\$301,500, 2000m, time 2:3.96. Track d. 14 ran. Carried 56.5kg. Won by 1.0 Len and 1.5 Len. Universal Prince was 2nd and Primrose Sands 3rd.	A\$196,500
15/Sep/2001	2nd	MVRC John F Feehan S., Gr.2, A\$213,000, 1600m, time 1:37.12. Track d. 8 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 0.2 Len and 5.0 Len. Northerly was 1st and Sir Clive 3rd.	A\$42,000
01/Sep/2001	1st	VATC Memsie S., Gr.2, A\$201,000, 1400m, time 1:25.54. Track d. 9 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 1.5 Len and 0.2 Len. Piavonic was 2nd and Rum 3rd.	A\$131,000
18/Aug/2001	2nd	MVRC Manikato S., Gr.1, A\$256,000, 1200m, time 1:12.96. Track slow. 10 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 2.0 Len and 0.2 Len. Piavonic was 1st and Falvelon 3rd.	A\$50,000
21/Apr/2001	3rd	AJC All Aged S., Gr.1, A\$402,460, 1600m, time 1:39.71. Track heavy. 6 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 0.2 Len and 0.4 Len. El Mirada was 1st and Final Fantasy 2nd.	A\$32,000
24/Mar/2001	3rd	Nad al Sheba Dubai Duty Free S., Gr.2, 7,173,600.00Dhs, 1777m. 1 ran. Jim and Tonic was 1st and Fairy King Prawn 2nd.	732,000.00Dhs
03/Mar/2001	1st	AJC Apollo S., Gr.2, A\$151,400, 1400m, time 1:25.45. Track slow. 10 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 2.0 Len and 1.8 Len. Celestial Choir was 2nd and Referral 3rd.	A\$103,400
10/Feb/2001	1st	Waikato Draught Sprint, Gr.1, NZ\$100,000, 1400m, time 01:22.24. Track firm, Weather Fine. 16 ran. Carried 56kg. Won by 4 1/4 Len and 1/2 Len. Fritz was 2nd and Spring Rain 3rd.	NZ\$62,500
17/Dec/2000	1st	Hong Kong Mile, Gr.1, HK\$10,000,000, 1600m. 1 ran. Fairy King Prawn was 2nd and Adam 3rd.	HK\$5,700,000
25/Nov/2000	1st	Counties RC Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' S., Gr.2, NZ\$60,000, 1400m, time 01:21.42. Track easy, Weather Fine. 14 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 3 1/4 Len and 1/2 Len. Amnesia was 2nd and Soap Opera 3rd.	NZ\$37,500

28/Oct/2000	1st	MVRC BMW Cox P., Gr.1, A\$1,840,000, 2040m, time 2:7.70. Track slow. 13 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 7.0 Len and 0.1 Len. Diatribe was 2nd and Referral 3rd.	A\$1,180,000
07/Oct/2000	2nd	VRC Turnbull S., Gr.2, A\$251,000, 2000m, time 2:2.22. Track good. 13 ran. Carried 56.5kg. Won by 0.1 Len and 1.0 Len. Fairway was 1st and Diatribe 3rd.	A\$50,000
16/Sep/2000	1st	MVRC John F Feehan S., Gr.2, A\$213,000, 1600m, time 1:37.94. Track d. 12 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 3.5 Len and 3.3 Len. Le Zagaletta was 2nd and Citra's Prince 3rd.	A\$139,500
03/Sep/2000	1st	VATC Memsie S., Gr.2, A\$200,600, 1400m, time 1:25.42. Track slow. 16 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 1.3 Len and 0.5 Len. Umrum was 2nd and Oliver Twist 3rd.	A\$130,600
19/Aug/2000	1st	MVRC Manikato S., Gr.1, A\$203,000, 1200m, time 1:11.69. Track d. 13 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 3.3 Len and 1.3 Len. Honour the Name was 2nd and Miss Pennymoney 3rd.	A\$133,000
29/Apr/2000	1st	AJC All-Aged S., Gr.1, A\$402,460, 1600m, time 1:35.79. Track d. 8 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 4.8 Len and 1.5 Len. Georgie Boy was 2nd and Over 3rd.	A\$274,460
22/Apr/2000	2nd	AJC Doncaster H., Gr.1, A\$2,404,860, 1600m, time 1:35.02. Track good. 20 ran. Carried 57.5kg. Won by 0.3 Len and 4.0 Len. Over was 1st and Zastov 3rd.	A\$432,000
01/Apr/2000	1st	STC Coolmore Classic, Gr.1, A\$506,630, 1500m, time 1:28.81. Track good. 15 ran. Carried 60kg. Won by 1.3 Len and 0.4 Len. Beat the Fade was 2nd and Noircir 3rd.	A\$347,055
11/Mar/2000	1st	AJC Apollo S., Gr.2, A\$151,460, 1400m, time 1:27.69. Track heavy. 13 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 1.0 Len and 0.2 Len. Adam was 2nd and Hire 3rd.	A\$103,460
12/Dec/1999	7th	Hong Kong Cup, Gr.1, HK\$9,800,000, 2000m. Jim and Tonic was 1st and Running Stag 2nd and Lear Spear 3rd.	
20/Nov/1999	1st	Counties RC Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' S., Gr.2, NZ\$60,000, 1400m, time 01:22.70. Track firm, Weather Cloudy. 8 ran. Carried 54.5kg. Won by 4 Len and Neck. Soap Opera was 2nd and Pace Invader 3rd.	NZ\$37,500
23/Oct/1999	1st	MVRC BMW Cox P., Gr.1, A\$1,696,000, 2040m, time 2:5.40. Track d. 11 ran. Carried 54kg. Won by 1.5 Len and 1.8 Len. Tie the Knot was 2nd and Sky Heights 3rd.	A\$1,086,000
02/Oct/1999	4th	AJC Epsom H., Gr.1, A\$602,460, 1600m, time 1:33.67. Track good. 18 ran. Carried 56.5kg. Won by 0.1 Len and 0.2 Len. Allez Suez was 1st and Referral 2nd and Zastov 3rd.	A\$24,000
25/Sep/1999	2nd	AJC George Main S., Gr.1, A\$352,460, 1600m, time 1:34.97. Track good. 8 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 0.2 Len and 0.5 Len. Shogun Lodge was 1st and Adam 3rd.	A\$63,000
11/Sep/1999	2nd	STC Theo Marks Quality S., Gr.2, A\$151,275, 1300m, time 1:15.38. Track good. 11 ran. Carried 58kg. Won by 0.2 Len and 2.0 Len. Adam was 1st and Al Mansour 3rd.	A\$27,000

21/Aug/1999	1st	AJC Warwick S., Gr.2, A\$151,460, 1400m, time 1:22.14. Track good. 12 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 0.5 Len and 0.4 Len. Tie the Knot was 2nd and Referral 3rd.	A\$103,460
17/Apr/1999	5th	AJC Queen Elizabeth S., Gr.1, A\$502,520, 2000m, time 2:3.80. Track slow. 6 ran. Carried 52kg. Won by 0.8 Len and 0.5 Len. Intergaze was 1st and Istidaad 2nd and Sky Heights 3rd.	A\$10,000
03/Apr/1999	1st	AJC Doncaster H., Gr.1, A\$1,002,460, 1600m, time 1:36.45. Track slow. 20 ran. Carried 52kg. Won by 1.8 Len and 0.3 Len. Lease was 2nd and Juggler 3rd.	A\$682,460
20/Mar/1999	1st	Lone Star Moonee Valley Oaks, Gr.3, A\$958,000, 2040m, time 2:7.44. Track good. 7 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 4.5 Len and 2.5 Len. Grand Archway was 2nd and Ilze 3rd.	A\$658,000
06/Mar/1999	1st	VRC AV Kewney S., Gr.2, A\$501,500, 1600m, time 1:34.55. Track good. 7 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 1.3 Len and 2.5 Len. Rose o' War was 2nd and Lady Elsie 3rd.	A\$326,000
20/Feb/1999	2nd	VATC Angus Armanasco S., Gr.3, A\$401,600, 1600m, time 1:35.98. Track good. 10 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 0.4 Len and 3.3 Len. Rose o' War was 1st and Visual Displays 3rd.	A\$80,000
01/Feb/1999	1st	ARC Windsor Park Breeder of the Year 3YO H., NZ\$9,000, 1200m, time 01:10.14. Track firm, Weather Fine. 6 ran. Carried 62.5kg. Won by 1/2 Len and 2 1/4 Len. Delphic was 2nd and Blue Veil 3rd.	NZ\$5,850
03/Oct/1998	1st	AJC Flight S., Gr.1, A\$352,160, 1600m, time 1:34.83. Track good. 14 ran. Carried 54kg. Won by 3.0 Len and 3.8 Len. Camarena was 2nd and Confer 3rd.	A\$240,160
19/Sep/1998	1st	STC Tea Rose S., Gr.2, A\$151,625, 1500m, time 1:28.62. Track fast. 13 ran. Carried 55.5kg. Won by 4.0 Len and 0.2 Len. Zola was 2nd and Zaroyale 3rd.	A\$103,625
05/Sep/1998	1st	NSW Tatt's RC Furious S., Gr.3, A\$100,060, 1400m, time 1:27.29. Track heavy. 13 ran. Carried 54kg. Won by 5.8 Len and 0.2 Len. Zaroyale was 2nd and Wichita 3rd.	A\$68,060
22/Aug/1998	1st	Hawke's Bay Shamrock Downs Fillies S., NZ\$20,000, 1200m, time 01:14.48. Track soft, Weather Fine. 6 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 2 1/4 Len and 1 3/4 Len. No Alimony was 2nd and Had a Dream 3rd.	NZ\$12,500
09/Jul/1998	1st	Whangarei RC Pacific Ford Breeders' S., L, NZ\$20,000, 1200m, time 1:12.90. 14 ran. Carried 56.5kg. Won by 3/4 Len and 3 3/4 len. Life of Riley was 2nd and Pacific Quest 3rd.	NZ\$12,500
30/May/1998	1st	ARC TV Guide Juvenile S., NZ\$20,000, 1200m, time 1:14.15. 13 ran. Carried 54kg. Won by 3/4 Len and 1 3/4 len. Light Opera was 2nd and The Mule's Brother 3rd.	NZ\$12,500
10/May/1998	1st	Maramarua HC Enterprise Motors Huntly H., 1100m, time 1:09.12. 13 ran. Carried 55kg. Won by 1 34/ Len and 2 len. Speed to Burn was 2nd and Retrousse 3rd.	NZ\$2,600

Summary of Sunline's Race Record

10 May 1998 to 26 October 2002

48 starts: 32 wins from 1100m to 2040m, incl. 3 wins at 2;
9 seconds: three thirds (*only four times out of the first three*)
\$A9,622,755 \$HK5,700,000, 732,000 Dhs, \$NZ332,950

Total approximately \$NZ14 million

(official prizemoney figures supplied by Arion Pedigrees)

1st MVRC BMW Cox Plate, Gr 1 - twice

- one of only five fillies and mares ever to win the Cox Plate
- the second mare, after Flight, to win consecutive Cox Plates
- Sunline's seven-length winning margin in the 2000 Cox Plate equals Dulcify's record set in 1979

1st AJC Doncaster H., Gr 1 - twice, carrying 58 kg, 1.5 kg above wfa, to victory in 2002, three years after her first Doncaster win.

She is one of only eight horses in the 137-year history of The Doncaster to win the race twice, & the only filly or mare ever to do so.

1st STC Coolmore Classic, Gr 1 - twice, the first mare to do so, both times equalling Emancipation's weight-carrying record of 60kg

1st Waikato RC Waikato Draught Sprint, Gr 1

- twice, by a total of almost nine lengths

1st AJC All-Aged S., Gr 1 - twice

1st HKJC Hong Kong Mile, Gr 1 - defeating Hong Kong champion Fairy King Prawn by a short head

1st MVRC Manikato S., Gr 1

1st AJC Flight S., Gr 1

1st VATC Memsie S., Gr.2 - twice

1st AJC Apollo S., Gr 2 - twice

1st CRC Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' S., Gr 2 - twice

1st VRC Turnbull S. G2

1st MVRC J.F. Feehan S., Gr.2

1st VRC A.V. Kewney S., Gr. 2

1st AJC Warwick S., Gr. 2

1st STC Tea Rose S., Gr 2

1st HBRI Mudgway Partsworld S., Gr. 2

1st MVRC Moonee Valley Oaks, Gr 3

1st AJC Tatt's Furious S., Gr 3

1st Whangarei RC Pacific Ford Breeders' S. LR

About Sunline's Pedigree



Desert Sun

SIRE: Desert Sun (bred by Charlton Down Stud, England in 1988; best Annual Timeform Rating: 120 at 3) was imported to New Zealand in 1994 by Ra Ora Stud, Auckland & a syndicate of breeders. He stood three seasons at Ra Ora, and two seasons at Grande Vue

Lodge, Matamata, before being sold in 1999 to Eliza Park Stud, Victoria. Desert Sun now shuttles between Australia and Ireland and is the sire of 25 stakeswinners, including two other Group One-winning fillies, La Bella Dama and Egyptian Raine; and four stakeswinners from his Irish-bred crops.

DAM: Songline (1987) was bred by Robin & Muriel Archer, Christchurch; and raced initially by them in partnership with daughter Susan & son-in-law Michael Martin. Susan & Michael later raced her with Dermot Martin and the late Dan Hay, whose wife Jan trained Songline to win five races. She is the dam of seven named foals, six to race, two winners, Sunline & her brother Flaring Sun. Songline was sold to Dr John Woolridge, Inverness Stud, NSW in May 1996; and re-sold for \$A210,000 at the 2005 Australian Easter Broodmare Sale. *Songline was named Mercedes Broodmare of the Year in New Zealand three times (2000-2002;) and won the NZTBA Auckland branch's Sybil Hayward Trophy four times (1999-2002).*

DAMSIRE: Western Symphony (bred in the USA in 1981; ATR: 112 at two) was trained by Vincent O'Brien in Ireland for Robert Sangster and imported to New Zealand in 1985 by Jim & Ngairé Campin, Chequers Stud, Cambridge, in partnership with a syndicate of breeders. He was later sold to the late Laurie Connell's Glen Oaks Stud, Cambridge; and finally, in 1992, to the Independent Stallion Station in Victoria where he died in April 2005. He is the sire of 27 stakeswinners; and damsire of twenty-one, including Sunline & dual G1 Desert Sky.

GRAND-DAM: McAngus (1979) was bred by Mr G.T. Vance & the late Nancy Owen, Taumarunui who sold her for \$12,000 to Robin & Muriel Archer at the 1981 New Zealand National Yearling Sale. Trained for them by Alan Borthwick, Gore, she won twice, at Riccarton & Trentham, and was stakes-placed

eight times. She left four winners (three of them stakes-placed) from six foals (three fillies, three geldings), and died in July 1997. All three of her daughters are breeding: Songline, Kinda Magic, Edradour, and so far they have produced a total of four colts and two fillies to Desert Sun.

MATERNAL GREAT-GRANDSIRE: Alvaro (bred in England by Mrs P.R.H. Hastings in 1965; ATR: 106 at four) was imported to New Zealand in 1971 by Doug Fisher's Morven Farm, Cambridge. He was champion New Zealand sire in 1980 and died in July 1987.

THIRD DAM: Honey Carlyle (1967) was bred by J.D. Foote and raced by Keith Burley. She won seven races and left six winners from eight foals to race including G3 OUR SHOUT. Her two unraced daughters, Resolute and Runny Honey became the dams respectively of G2 INTERVAL and G3 APPLETON GOLD; while her winning daughter Plaid is the dam of G2 PHILAMOR. Honey Carlyle's fourth dam Fortune's Wheel was a full sister to champion PHAR LAP; and Sunline is an eleventh-generation descendant of the great foundation mare Miss Kate, imported to New Zealand from Great Britain in 1878. Honey Carlyle died in May 1990.

MATERNAL GREAT-GREAT GRANDSIRE: Better Honey (bred in England by the Sassoon Studs in 1958; ATR: 107 at 3) was imported to New Zealand in 1964 and stood at Mr Foote's Dee Lodge Stud, Auckland until his premature death in 1967. He was champion New Zealand sire in 1972.



The Breeders' Story

The following is based on a feature written by Susan Archer for Racing World, Hong Kong:

For my husband Michael Martin and me, Sunline represents the achievement of a lifetime's dream to breed a champion racehorse. Like the majority of New Zealand's thoroughbred breeders, we work with limited resources and a handful of broodmares – in our case, just two at the time Sunline was foaled in September 1995.

However, every racehorse is the product of the devoted work of many people over many years. It's important to pay tribute first to Nancy Owen, a dedicated private breeder who, despite chronic illness, managed to rear and sell the progeny of her broodmare Honey Carlyle including the Group 3-winning Sydney stayer Our Shout. At the 1981 New Zealand Yearling Sale she sold her Alvaro (GB)-Honey Carlyle filly to my parents, Robin & Muriel Archer, for \$NZ12,000. Named McAngus for an old friend of my father, she won only two races, at Riccarton and Trentham in New Zealand, but was stakes-placed eight times and, with luck, her record would have been much better.

In 1986 Muriel and Robin paid a \$NZ22,000 service fee to mate McAngus with the beautifully-bred Western Symphony (USA). I named the resulting foal Songline, and Michael and I raced her with my parents, Dan Hay and Michael's brother Dermot from the Ashburton stable of Jan Hay and then, when she retired to stud, we purchased their share in her. An attractive, sound and genuine filly, Songline won five races and was stakes-placed three times. Her only limitation as a racehorse was a restricted shoulder action and this was something we sought to improve when we sent her to Desert Sun (GB) in the spring of 1994.

We had purchased a share in Desert Sun with our dear friend, owner-breeder-trainer Ngaire Fraser (of Vice Regal & Our Westminster fame), largely because we all liked his fluent, athletic galloping action, and his champion sire Green Desert (USA), a rugged, top-class sprinter whose sire sons we thought might be well-placed in Australia and New Zealand. (Desert Sun and the highly successful Volksraad (GB) have proven us right. Like many of New Zealand's best stallions, both began their careers at humble fees, \$NZ5000 and \$NZ2500 respectively.) Sunline's fame has brought forth several pedigree consultants with various obscure explanations for her ability. As practical breeders whose first goal is to breed good racehorses without losing too much money in the process, we remain extremely sceptical about most of these explanations.

“A big, strong, plain filly, whose most attractive feature was an intelligent and generous eye...”

From 1991 to 1996 Michael, our two children and I lived in Tasmania, Australia where Michael was the Chief Executive of the Tasmanian Racing Authority and a board member of the state's TAB. We chose to leave our broodmares and their foals in Ngaire's care at her lovely Waikato property Pleasanton. Sunline was foaled and reared there in "five-star" conditions, nurtured by the best of New Zealand's world-class horse-rearing environment and quality horsemanship. Her brands reflect her origins: like all our horses, she carries Ngaire's "KR" brand (which honours Kind Regards, the dam of outstanding racehorse & sire Vice Regal) and bears the numbers

8 over 5 – the number eight being Michael’s luckiest.

A big, strong, plain filly, whose most attractive feature was an intelligent and generous eye, she was far from easy to handle as a young horse, making it clear that she liked to do things her own way. Both Michael and I liked her very much and looked forward to racing her, especially after we had sold her dam to John & Sue Woolridge's Inverness Stud, New South Wales in May 1996 for what we considered a good price of \$NZ34,000.

Fate had other ideas. In December of that year we returned to New Zealand to take up our current positions with the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders’ Association. The purchase of a house in Auckland and the costs of educating our children left us with a yearling filly we could no longer afford to put into training.

We had her broken in by expert horseman Tim Welch and then approached Trevor McKee, who had trained and profitably sold the filly’s accomplished relative Interval (who, as Three Crowns, won the 1998 Singapore Gold Cup and later broke down and was destroyed during the 1998 Melbourne Cup). Trevor has always impressed us with his professional demeanour and consistent success.

He did not inspect the filly before agreeing, with his partners in Interval, Helen Lusty and Thayne Green, to lease her with a \$NZ40,000 right of purchase - a very common arrangement in New Zealand for non-Premier quality fillies owned by small breeders, especially in New Zealand’s depressed racing scene.

Trevor later told us that he didn’t like her too much when she arrived at his stable, thinking that she would need time to grow into her big, raw-boned frame. He liked the filly even less when she displayed her wilful, imperious temperament but his reservations soon disappeared. Sunline won all three of her starts as a late two-year-old, and the right of purchase was exercised after her sixth victory, the STC Tea Rose S. G2 in September 1998. The rest, as they say, is history.

Sunline’s gifts to us have been many and generous. In 1999, for the first time in seven years, we were able to put a filly in training and enjoy the pleasures of racehorse ownership once again. We have had unparalleled opportunities to promote the worth of the New Zealand thoroughbred, not merely as industry professionals, but as breeders of a champion. And we have a renewed determination to make sure that all New Zealand breeders are properly rewarded and recognised for the extraordinary horses they breed.

A final message from Sunline's breeders, December 2002:

What an amazing seven years it’s been, from the first sight of our big, strong, stopy filly foal in December 1995, to that fighting finale in her fourth Cox Plate. Sunline has taken us through so many emotions: the wonder of her first start win, the excitement of her rapid rise to Group One company, the grief of losing her when we never wanted to sell her, the thrill of watching her compete against the best for so long and the joy of her greatest victories. And what a privilege, and a challenge, it’s been for us to tell Sunline’s story, and the story of New Zealand thoroughbred breeding all round the world.
Charismatic, indomitable, magnificent: Sunline is living proof of the power of dreams, and the worth of our breeding industry. May she inspire the creation of many future New Zealand champions!

Sunline's Roll of Honour

***Timeform's World Champion Female of 2000 - ATR 129**

***Timeform's World Champion Turf Mare of 1999 - ATR 125**

***Member, Australian Racing Hall of Fame**

inducted 30 July 2002

***Member New Zealand Racing Hall of Fame**

inducted 3 March 2006

***2002 Australian Champion Racehorse**

The only horse to win this title three times.

***2002 Champion Australian Mare**



Bronwen Healy's magnificent sequence of photographs of the 2002 AJC Doncaster H. G1, showing Sunline and Shogun Lodge at their gloriously competitive best. Sunline won, by a short half-head.

***2002 Mercedes NZ Horse of the Year**

The only horse to win this title four times

***2002 Mercedes NZ Champion WFA Performer**

***2002 Mercedes NZ Champion Sprinter-Miler**

***2001 Australian Champion Racehorse**

***2001 Champion Australian Mare**

*** 2001 Champion Australian Middle Distance Performer**

***2001 Mercedes NZ Horse of the Year**

***2001 Mercedes NZ Champion WFA Performer**

***2001 Mercedes NZ Champion Sprinter-Miler**

***2000 Australian Champion Racehorse**

***2000 Champion Australian Mare**

***2000 Champion Australian Middle Distance Performer**

***2000 Mercedes NZ Horse of the Year**

*2000 Mercedes NZ Champion WFA Performer

*2000 Mercedes NZ Champion Sprinter-Miler

***1999 BMW NZ Horse of the Year**

*1999 BMW NZ Champion Three-Year-Old

*1999 BMW NZ Champion Sprinter-Miler

***Champion Older Horse, Mare, and Middle Distance Performer with 124**

2001-02 ANZ Classifications

***Rated 126 by Racing And Sports**

(Timeform Equivalent Ratings), 2001-02

second only to Northerly on 128

*** Champion Older Horse & Mare (63.0 kg), Sprinter (60.5 kg),**

Intermediate Distance Performer (63.0 kg),

Middle Distance Performer (63.0 kg),

2000-01 ANZ Classifications

- the highest-rated mare since the inception of the ANZ Classifications in 1980.

***Champion Older Horse & Mare (62.0 kg), Sprinter (60.5)**

& Middle Distance Performer (62.0),

1999-2000 Australia-New Zealand Classifications

- rated equal with champion mare Let's Elope (NZ) in 1991-92

***Head of the 1998-99 NZ Three-Year-Old Free Handicap - 61.5kg**

***Joint Head of the 1998-99 ANZ Three-Year-Old Classification**

- with Sky Heights, both allotted 60kg

***Australasia's All-time Second Leading Earner (\$A11.3 million)**

- as at September 2006

2000, 2001 & 2002 Mercedes NZ Broodmare of the Year - *Songline*

1999 Dunstan NZ Trainer of the Year - *Trevor McKee*

1999 BMW NZ Owner of the Year - *Trevor McKee*

1999 BMW NZ Breeders of the Year - *Susan Archer & Michael Martin*

**A Comparison with other Australasian Champions
ranked by % of wins/starts**
courtesy of NZ Thoroughbred Marketing & Arion Pedigrees
Updated November 2005

Name	Group One wins (or equivalent)	Wins/Starts	Winning %
Gloaming b. 1915	10?	57/67	85.0
Carbine (NZ) b. 1885	25	33/43	76.7
Lonhro (AUS) b. 1998	11	26/34	76.4
Kingston Town (AUS) b. 1976	14	30/41	73.2
Phar Lap (NZ) b. 1926	27	37/51	72.5
Kindergarten (NZ) b. 1937	5?	25/35	71.4
Tulloch (NZ) b. 1954	27	36/53	67.9
Emancipation (AUS) b. 1979	6	19/28	67.8
Sunline (NZ) b. 1995	13	32/48	66.6
Surround (NZ) b. 1973	5	17/28	60.7
Northerly (AUS) b. 1996	9	19/34	55.8
Octagonal (NZ) b. 1990	10	14/28	50.0
Might And Power (NZ) b. 1992	7	15/33	45.5
Let's Elope (NZ) b. 1987	4	11/25	44.0
Saintly (AUS) b. 1992	4	10/23	43.5

Horlicks (NZ) b. 1983	6	17/40	42.5
Makybe Diva (GB) b. 1999	7	15/36	42.0
Bonecrusher (NZ) b. 1982	9	18/44	40.9
Rough Habit (NZ) b. 1986	11	29/74	39.0
Better Loosen Up (AUS) b. 1985	8	17/45	37.8
Tie The Knot (AUS) b. 1994	13	21/61	34.4
Super Impose (NZ) b. 1984	8	20/74	27.0



Sunline the broodmare

Sunline ended her fabulous career with a fighting fourth in the 2002 Cox Plate, defeated by a magnificent champion Northerly, who joined her as a two-time winner of the race; Defier and Grandera.

After much speculation about her future, she remained in New Zealand ownership, principally that of her trainers Trevor & Stephen McKee, and in the spring of 2003 travelled to Coolmore Stud in New South Wales to the court of champion northern hemisphere racehorse Rock Of Gibraltar. Safely in foal, she returned to New Zealand in December. Despite some speculation that she was “too masculine” to be a good broodmare, Sunline is proving very fertile and is a devoted mother to her foals.



At 8.30 am on Monday 18 October 2004 she delivered a healthy bay filly at Cambridge Stud.

Sunline visited champion sire Zabeel in 2004 and gave birth to a big, bay colt in Australia on 22 October 2005. She returned to Rock Of Gibraltar, conceiving to a December service, and delivering a second filly, at Arrowfield Stud, NSW, on 16 November 2006. She was then served by Hussonet.

Sunline's two-year-old daughter by Rock Of Gibraltar has been retained by her owners, and broken in; and her Zabeel yearling colt topped the 2007 New Zealand Premier Sale, selling for \$2 million to Aucklander Don Ha.

Sunline and her 2004 daughter, soon after the birth.

PHOTO: Jenny Kain, Cambridge

The rest of the family

At the 2004 Australian Easter Yearling Sale Eliza Park sold her three-quarter sister (Desert Sun-Sunny Song by Simonstad from Songline; later named Droughtline, a sister to SP winner Sun Song) for \$A130,000; and Inverness Stud sold her chestnut full-brother (subsequently named Flaring Sun and a winner) to Katsumi Yoshida for \$A450,000. Another three-quarter sister (Desert Sun-Edradour by St Hilarion from Songline) made \$40,000 at the 2004 New Zealand Select Yearling Sale.

In 2005 the Inverness Stud Dispersal saw several members of Sunline's family sell for six-figure sums. Songline, in foal to Reset, was sold to agent Vin Cox for \$A210,000 at the 2005 Australian Easter Broodmare Sale; while her Danehill daughter, Song of Songs made \$A270,000 at the same sale. Songline's yearling filly by Galileo was knocked down to Wm. Inglis -as agents for \$A200,000 at the 2005 Australian Easter Yearling Sale.

In 2003 Sunline's relative Philamor (Generous-Plaid by Morcon from Honey Carlyle) won the Avondale Guineas G2 & Waikato Guineas G3. He returned to winning form in 2006 after recovering from a series of setbacks.

**“Everything we thought she
was...”**

The QUEEN of the turf

“The mare of the world..”

Champion

Hero

Legend

Acknowledgements

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Arion Pedigrees Ltd

www.arion.co.nz

Racing & Sports, Australian Racing Records

www.australianracingrecords.com

Bronwen Healy

www.ausracing.net.au/bronnies.htm

New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association

www.nzthoroughbred.co.nz

New Zealand Racing Hall of Fame

www.racinghalloffame.co.nz

Australian Racing Hall of Fame

www.racingmuseum.com.au

Sunline

www.sunline.co.nz

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