

LYON EUREXPO 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

LYON, RHÔNE 25 OCTOBER 2023 **PRESS RELEASE** 

# CONFERENCES, TESTIMONIES : THE HORSE AND MAN: TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER'S WELL-BEING

Every year, Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval, and Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International, offer visitors the chance to meet the people who are involved in the industry. Through a rich and varied series of conferences, the event in Lyon showcases an equestrian community which is evolving. Focus on three of the highlights of the 2023 event!

#### 'THE HORSE, THE PARTNER THAT MAKES US STRONGER' CONFERENCE

**On Wednesday 1 November, from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm; at the VIP Village. Free admission for exhibition visitors.** Everyone involved in the industry agrees that riding is much more than just a sport. The horse can contribute to your health, well-being and the personal development of those who work with it. On Wednesday 1 November, from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm, the French Equestrian Federation and its Equiaction endowment fund, will give visitors to Equita Lyon, the Salon du Cheval de Lyon, the opportunity to discuss this topic with health professionals, representatives of the equestrian world and professional associations based on three themes: the horse as a way of managing one's emotions and gaining confidence to act; the horse as our health partner; the horse as a way to fight cancer.

#### EQUINE WELFARE DAY: 'WHAT DOES FRENCH LAW SAY ABOUT EQUINE WELFARE?'

**On Thursday 2 November, from 10 am to 4 pm; at the VIP Village. Free admission for exhibition visitors.** In 2023, the traditional Equine Welfare Day and conference organised by the Institut de Droit Equin will be joining forces to provide visitors at Longines Equita Lyon, Concours Hippique International, with an opportunity to look at the issue of equine welfare from a legal



perspective. The morning will be interspersed with contributions from legal professionals on how the legal system protects horses, which are considered to be 'sentient movable property'. The afternoon will provide details on how to use the certificate of competence and the certificate of knowledge required by any natural person or legal entity responsible for a place where horses are kept, introduced on 31 December in the provisions of the French 'loi Dombreval'. There will also be a focus on the legal tools available to professionals in the industry. All the presentations will be illustrated by case studies from managers of equestrian centres, vets, competition organisers and international riders, among others.

#EquitaLyon2023 #LonginesEquitaLyon #FEIWorldCup #RideToParis



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Snort

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## **BEATRICE DE LAVALETTE: A SURVIVOR'S TESTIMONY**

## On Saturday 4 November, at 4pm; at the Health Area's conference room; free admission for exhibition visitors. See her biography in the appendix, on the following page.

She shouldn't have lived. Even the Belgian rescuers, faced with this terrible choice on 22 March 2016, felt that other victims on the ground had a better chance of escaping than she did. Her body, dislocated by the bomb, showed little sign of hope. Five years after the Brussels Airport bombing, Béatrice de Lavalette was the opening rider for the dressage test at the Tokyo Paralympic Games. The Franco-American will be talking about her experience this weekend at Equita Lyon's Health Area. And she will be aiming for gold next summer, in the gardens of the Sun King in Versailles, for the United States team.

# **PRESS CONTACTS**

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## **APPENDIX**

## **BÉATRICE DE LAVALETTE,** PARA DRESSAGE RIDER FOR THE UNITED STATES TEAM: **WONDER WOMAN!**

She shouldn't have lived. Even the Belgian rescuers, faced with this terrible choice on 22 March 2016, felt that other victims on the ground had a better chance of escaping than she did. Her body, dislocated by the bomb, showed little sign of hope. Five years after the Brussels Airport bombing, Béatrice de Lavalette was the opening rider for the dressage test at the Tokyo Paralympic Games. The Franco-American will be talking about her experience this weekend at Equita Lyon's Health Area. And she will be aiming for gold next summer, in the gardens of the Sun King in Versailles.

This is the story of an accomplished sportswoman whom nothing, not even the murderous madness of men, can distract her from her goal. Horse-ball, dressage, hunter, but also high jump, a discipline in which she won a gold medal at a European Championships, and football: Béatrice does all these sports with the same enthusiasm. The same fighting spirit. The same desire to win. At seventeen-years-old, the young woman's personal destiny changed course. Not her sporting destiny. Six months after the attack, which left her paraplegic and with both legs amputated, Béatrice was back at school. The following month, she got back on her horse to ride. After a year of rehabilitation, she took part in her first para dressage show. Béatrice rode DeeDee, a grey mare who had joined the family stable before the tragedy struck, and had an even crazier dream: to represent the United States at the biggest international events.

And the young woman is hitting hard, very hard! In September 2021, she took part in the Tokyo Paralympic Games as the opening rider. The result was not what she had hoped for, falling short of her high expectations. Nevertheless, Béatrice became the first rider in the history of American para dressage to pass the 70% mark! On her return from Japan, she met Sixth Sense, Sensei in private, a gentle

> eleven-year-old horse with whom, just nine months after their first laps around the track, she took part in the World Championships in Herning. She came home from Denmark with the team bronze medal. Today, Beatrice is in the running to represent the United States once again, this time in Paris, in Versailles to be precise, at the 2024 Paralympic Games. 'I grew up five minutes from the Games site, so I want to be there!' she explains with a twinkle in her eye. "Last summer I took my first real holiday for three years, because my body needed it. When I got back on my horse at the end of August, I could feel it: I was ready for this Olympic year; and as always, I'm going to fight!'

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# LONGINES EQUITALYON CONCOURS HIPPIQUE INTERNATIONAL

LYON
EUREXPO
1 <sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER
5 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER
2023

# **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

. Open from Wednesday November 1 to Friday November 3 from 8.30 am to 8.30 pm\*, Saturday November 4 from 8.30 am to 10.30 pm \* and on Sunday November 5 from 8.30 am to 7 pm \* \*Access to the International Ring's stands from 8 am

## **Exhibition Tickets**

- . Free for children under 6-years-old and disabled people 13
- . Full price: €23
- . Reduced rates: French Equestrian Federation (FFE) license holders, students and holders of Pass Région cards, groups of 15 people and more, €19<sup>1</sup>
- . Children from 6 to 12-years-old: €1
- . 5 day-pass: €69
- . Family pass (2 adults and 2 children under 16-years-old): €60 (only sold onsite)

## "Sport and Show Evenings"

. Friday November 3, at 7.30pm\*, show jumping: from €36<sup>2</sup> The Longines Grand Prix followed by the equestrian show . Saturday November 4, at 8pm\*, show jumping: from €36<sup>2</sup> The Equita Masters presented by Hermès Sellier, followed by the equestrian show . Saturday November 4, at 6.30pm\*, reining: from €40<sup>2</sup> The NRHA European Derby Final and The Run For A Million Qualifier . Sunday November 5, at 2.30 pm\*, the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ leg: from €36<sup>2</sup>

\*Times likely to be modified

1 Reservations are required for group prices: no group prices will be granted at the entrance of the exhibition. FFE members, students and disabled people must present their card at the entrance of the exhibition.

2 Subject to availability.

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3 To facilitate access to the site for disabled people, numbered seats in the stands can be reserved at the following e-mail address <u>btoblive@fnac.com</u>



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