

The Lipizzaner horses are famous around the world, those striking white stallions that entrance with their grace of movement and their majesty.

Our film opens at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. Here, the white stallions perform a breathtaking display of beauty and power that celebrate a perfect harmony between horse and rider. These carefully choreographed and synchronised movements were originally intended for war. Then, only the strongest and most athletic of the horses were chosen. The Lipizzaner stallion was bred for his courage, his strength and his character. Yet, he is at heart gentle and sensitive, responsive to praise but rebellious to the use of force against him.

From the remains of the day when Vienna was the centre of an Empire, we move to an old castle far off in the mountains of Austria. Here, where history is surrounded by Alpine meadows, the mares give birth each year to almost fifty foals, the next generation of stallions. These seemingly delicate foals are destined to become the

famous white stallions, and we follow the creation of the unique relationship that binds horse and rider together. It seems almost impossible that the tentative steps of the young horses will be transformed into the grace and dignity of the stallions when they perform.

'White Beauty' is a stunning and visual film that tells the history of one of the oldest breed of horses in the world. Using the latest technology of high definition and digital ultra-high speed cameras, the film celebrates the classical art of dressage when horse and rider become as one in a ballet of exquisite grace and beauty.

The film tells the vibrant history of the world famous Lipizzaner stallions, from their origins in ancient times to the almost unknown drama of their rescue in 1945. The focus of the film is through a year in time, when that bond between stallion and rider grows—a relationship that is unique to each Lipizzaner stallion and his rider.

Also available as:

'LEGENDARY WHITE STALLIONS' (1 x 53'), particularly highlighting the history of the Lipizzaners' breed from the deserts of Morocco to the pastures around the Piber Federal Stud in western Styria, until their time in the famous Spanish Riding School in Vienna.



NATURE

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WHITE BEAUTY

1 × 53 min. Written and directed by **Michael Schlamberger**

HD, 5.1 and Stereo Executive producer: **Sabine Holzer**



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