

NEWS

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BAARNS SELECTED AS OFFICIAL ARTIST FOR 70TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP PAINTING

WARRENTON, Va. -- "It's very prestigious to be chosen to paint an image for the International Gold Cup," states Dr. William Allison, race chairman. For many years, the Virginia Gold Cup (spring race) and International Gold Cup (fall race) commissioned artists to produce paintings. Artists are now commissioned to do commemorative paintings on anniversary years. Since the upcoming International Gold Cup (October 20, 2007) is celebrating its 70th anniversary, a painting has been commissioned with nationally known artist Anita Baarns.

Baarns was born in Fontainebleu, France and later moved to the Netherlands where she spent most of her childhood. In 1988 she came to the United States and entered Northern Virginia Community College where she majored in studio fine arts and received an A.A.S. degree, *summa cum laude*, in May, 1993.

In 1992 she received an U.S. patent for a process for creating artwork by application of crayon and ink. Her oil paintings have been exhibited at the American Academy of Equine Art in Lexington, KY; Frost and Reed, in New York and her work has appeared on the cover of *The Chronicle of the Horse*.

Baarns is no stranger to the International Gold Cup. She was also commissioned as the official artist of the event in 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000. "Her work is just so exceptional," states Allison. "She is able to truly capture the expressions of the horses and the essence of the event." Baarns' 2007 International Gold Cup commemorative painting will be unveiled in September at a special event.

The International Gold Cup is presented by Porsche of North America and is one of metropolitan Washington's largest outdoor events. It is also one of the nation's largest steeplechase events. The International Gold Cup provides a unique venue for social entertaining and a great place to network in the midst of spectacular scenery. Included in this year's event will be a showcase of Porsche Sports Car Exhibit, which represent the latest models as well as classics and unique limited editions. The exhibit is being organized by the Porsche Club of America and the Washington area Porsche dealers.

General admission car passes are \$55 in advance, \$65 week of the race. For ticket information contact the Virginia Gold Cup Association at 540-347-1215 or order online at www.vagoldcup.com. Advance purchase of tickets is recommended. Children under 12 years of age and under are admitted free with an adult. Great Meadow, in The Plains, Virginia, is located approximately 50 miles west of Washington, D.C.

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For ticket outlet information visit us on the web at www.vagoldcup.com.

The 70th running of the International Gold Cup Races is proudly presented by Porsche of North America, Porsche of Arlington, Porsche of Tysons Corner, Rockville Porsche, and Tischer Porsche. Race sponsors include Fidelity Investments, GTSI, L.F. Jennings, Thomas J. Carroll, Jr. and S.W. Rodgers. Additional support for special activities comes from Capital Party Rentals, Farm and Ranch Magazine, Horton Truck and Equipment, Proskauer Rose, LLP, Tri-County Feeds, and the Virginia Lottery. The Official providers for the races include, Brown-Forman, Dogtopia, Miller Brewing Company and Professional Grounds.

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