

Mercedes González Cort

Once you realize that you can master a horse by yielding on the reins and you can appreciate just how sensitive he is to movement; you then discover that the most difficult thing is to do Nothing.

When you understand that "Less is More"
it is possible to perform the true expression of Dressage.

Master of Advanced Education Techniques in Equestrian Disciplines with Excellence in Dressage;

Tradition in Equestrian Art

Dressage Techniques

Riding in Lightness

Horse Study and Analysis

Complete Education for Rider &
Horse

Training and Instruction
Programmes

Academic Studies

Colegio Dames de St. Maur c/ Eduardo Dato, Madrid	1957 - 1961
Convent of St. Clotilde, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, England	1961 - 1966
Cours Saint Seurin, 9 rue de Bel Orme, Bordeaux, France	1966 - 1968
Lycée Français de Madrid, Parque Conde de Orgaz, Madrid	1968 - 1972
Bachillerato Superior Fluent in English and French	

Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art
Master Rider (1974 - 80)

Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria
Diplomature 1980-81

P.R.E.(Pure Bred Spanish) Horse Judge
appointed by Jefatura de Cría Caballar
Worldwide Official Breed Registry Authority for the Pure Bred Spanish Horse for a century.

University Expert in Equestrian Education - University of Madrid

Young Horses' Tests Evaluator
for the Ministry of Agriculture Equine Improvement Scheme

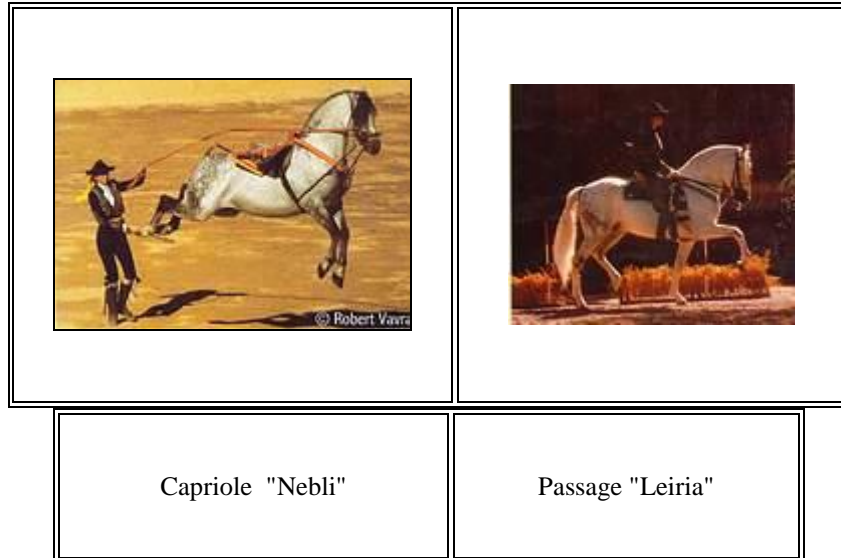
Spanish High School (Alta Escuela) Judge
Doma Vaquera Judge
Vaulting Instructor and Judge

Dressage Judge
Trec Judge
Carriage Driving Instructor

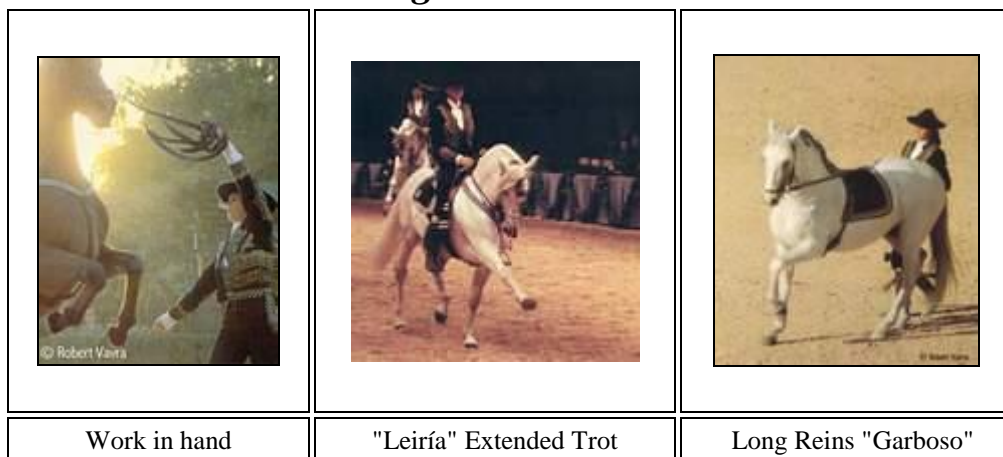
Member of the **Academic Forum of Equestrian Studies of Madrid**

Member of "**El Club del Caballo Español**"

Mercedes González Cort - Master Rider at the Andalusian School of Equestrian Art 1974 – 1980



Photos from the book *"All those girls in love with horses"* VAVRA



**Spanish Riding School
of Vienna
Austria
1980 - 81**

EQUESTRIAN STUDIES AND MASTERS

1961 - 1966	The Talland School of Equitation Cirencester, Glos. Inglaterra Director: Molly Sivewright
1968 - 1969	Riding Teacher: Guillermo Martínez Centeno del Equipo de Doma y Concurso Completo de Argentina
1970 - 1973	Riding Teacher: Mary Allen Instructor British Horse Society
1974 - 1980	José Atayde Director of the Coudelaria de Alter Real, Portugal Dr. Guilherme Borba Director of the Portuguese Riding School of Equestrian Art of Lisbon, Portugal Oberberreiter Arthur Kottas Chief Rider of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria
1980 - 1981	Instruction with: General Kurt Albrecht Director of the Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria Milos Welde Gestüt Gschwendhof, M ^a Anzbach, Austria last pupil of del Colonel Podhasky
1980 - 1981	Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria Diplomature Spanische Hofreitschule, Wien, Austria

Lectures and Seminars on the Pure Bred Spanish Horse and Dressage Clinics

In depth specialist on the Pure Bred Spanish Horse, Mercedes imparts theoretical and practical formative courses about the morphology and the functionality of the Spanish Horse, in Spain and worldwide.

Mercedes is familiar with all the secrets, the education and training of the Spanish Horse from backing to High School, showing, in hand and ridden, judging, selection, breeding, movements, types and temperaments.

Other International Lectures and Seminars

The Pure Bred Spanish Horse. Morphology and Functionality.

Salamanca 2000. Toronto, Canadá 2001. Sydney, Australia, 2002.
Copenhague, Denmark 2003. Bedford, England, 2003. USA 1998-2010

The Functionality of the Spanish Horse. Judging and Selection.

Salamanca, 2003. Madrid, 2003

History and Evolution of Dressage through the Classical Authors.

Spanish High School Symposium, Córdoba, 2000

Spanish High School. Exercises, competition and judging

Spanish High School Course for Judges,
Federación Catalana de Hípica, Centro La Curdenya, Girona 2004

The Pure Bred Spanish Horse. Morphology, Showing & Judging

Northfield Farm, Flash nr Buxton, Derbyshire - Albayati Stud New Forest - Half Moon Stud, Motcombe, Dorset

British Association for the Pure Bred Spanish Horse. April 2005
College of P.R.E.Judges, Madrid- Judges Educator
P.R.E.Mundial International Judge; 2009 USA

Books and DVDs; Mercedes has done a range of DVDs and in 2008 her own book on riding was published (Spanish only at this time)

SIDE SADDLE

Ride Aside - A better way of riding

A distinctive style
A search to regain elegance
A proof of riding skill
An equestrian refinement
A way of enhancing the training of the horse

The right choice of side saddle is essential for a good seat.

A good side saddle should have:

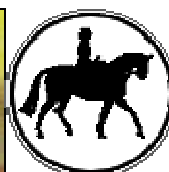
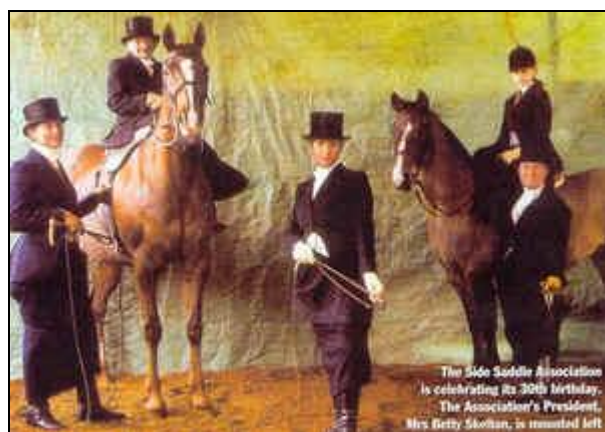
- wide and padded pommels
- horizontal and flat seat
- safety stirrup bar
- sidesaddle stirrup and stirrup leather
- properly filled panels appropriate for the horse's shape
- 3 buckled girth & balance girth

The Side Saddle

Outstanding Lady Rider The British SideSaddle Association 2004

Number of members in 1974: 121

Number of members in 2004: over 1200



The High School

High School is the essence of Dressage, requiring a lengthy learning on behalf of the rider and a consistent training of the horse, the purpose of which is to attain a high degree of collection and obedience in lightness of the horse and the fineness of the rider's action.

The horse is perfectly trained only when he is able to execute the most difficult exercises giving the impression that he is doing them alone, without the rider's imposition

Vaulting (volteo)

Vaulting teacher and national vaulting judge.

Mercedes has judged several Vaulting Championships of Spain.

Her best pupil is her daughter Candela Cartujo, who participated with the Spanish Team in the World Equestrian Games Jerez 2002.

Carriage driving



**Leiría 20 years
old**

Club de Campo
1990
pleasure
driving with her
children

Quotes of the Masters

Xenophon (430 BC - 355 BC)

“The moment he acknowledges it [*the bit*] and begins to raise his neck, give him the bit”.

Peri Hippike (424 a.C.)

Salomón de la Broue (1530 - 1610)

“A good hand is the one that can resist and yield when necessary and receive with precision the action created by the legs.”

Le Cavallerice Française (1530 - 1610)

Antoine de Pluvinel (1555 - 1620)

“I have mentioned the supreme refinement of all the aids, of which the intelligence is the most necessary for the rider as well as for the horse.”

L'Instruction du Roi (1628)

François Robichon de La Guérinière (1688 - 1751)

“The Shoulder In: This lesson produces at the same time such good effects that we contemplate it as the first one and the last of all those that can be given to the horse to make him acquire a perfect flexibility and freedom in all his parts.”

École de Cavallerie (1730)

Manuel Álvarez Osorio y Vega, Count of Grajal

“To the lazy one you must make hasty and determined... The mettlesome and impatient can have a hasty air, in which case you should retain them and give them all the serenity that their intrepidity allows. If the horse should be gallant and willing, it is not necessary to warn; because commanded in an orderly way he will invite better and better.”

Manejo Real (1733)

Dupaty de Clam (1744 - 1782)

Charles Mercier Dupaty, Marquis de Clam

“The true qualities of the bit are to be found in the seat, the hand and the leg of the good rider.”

The Science and the Art of Equitation, demonstrated according to nature (1777)

Ludwig Hünersdorf (1748 - 1813)

“All objet placed in balance is easy to move.”

Anleitung zu der natürlichsten und leichtesten Art Pferde abzurichten (1791)

Francisco de Laiglesia y Darrac

“The importance of feeling the horse [...] This knowledge is indispensable, because in its absence it is impossible to fix the horse's paces, to bring him to the equality that he should have, and to correct him when he loses in them his order and cadence.”

Ensayos sobre los verdaderos Principios de la Equitación (1805)

François Baucher (1796 - 1873)

“Request often, be content with little, reward lavishly.”

A New Method of Horsemanship (1842)

Gustav Steinbrecht (1808 - 1885)

“If the art were not so difficult we would have plenty of good riders and excellently ridden horses, but as it is the art requires, in addition to everything else, character traits that are not combined in everyone: inexhaustible patience, firm perseverance under stress, courage combined with quiet alertness. If the seed is present only a true, deep love for the horse can develop these character traits to the height that alone will lead to the goal.”

Das Gymnasium des Pferdes (1885)

Charles Lebrun-Renaud

“To balance him and make him lighter the rider will dedicate much practice, but the results are so alluring that it is well worthwhile that the rider endeavours to attain them.”

Manuel Pratique d'Equitation (1892)

General Alexis L'Hotte (1825 - 1904)

"Calm, forward, straight"

“Art is not learnt in the books that only instruct those who already know”

General Albert Decarpentry (1878 - 1956)

"The goal is not to raise the neck, it is to lower the hips .”

Piaffer et Passage (1932)

Captain Etienne Beudant (1861 - 1949)

“The rider should reduce his actions to the minimum and give the horse freedom in his movements.”

Horse Training (1950)

Adolfo Botín Polanco (1893 - 1925)

“Anyone who produces a great impression of risk is because he doesn't give it of control.”
El noble bruto y sus amigos (1925)

André Jousseaume (1894 - 1961)
“Lightness becomes perfect when collection is obtained.”
Progressive Dressage

Alois Podhajsky (1898 - 1974)
“As a result of the appropriate gymnastics and training of the horse, the appearance and the movements of the horse will be more beautiful.”
The Complete Training of Horse and Rider (1965)

Nuno Oliveira (1925 - 1989)
“Descente de main: the rider relaxes his fingers and the horse meanwhile maintains the same pace, the same attitude and the same cadence.”
Reflections on Equestrian Art (1965)