

Noelle Floyd Shares Her Flair

By Katie Shoultz

Noelle Floyd is a Canadian show jumping rider with a flair for telling a good story. Author and creative genius behind the popular equestrian blog, NoelleFloyd.com, Noelle has made it her job to capture the life and energy behind the international show jumping scene. Smartly written industry updates and rider profiles are accompanied by her own stunning images; Noelle is passionate about discovering the untold stories of the equestrian lifestyle. Currently based in Europe, Noelle travels the show circuit in an effort to grow her website while also running a freelance photography business. It runs in the family, as her mom is a photographer - although Noelle herself is largely self-taught! Sidelines caught up with the behind-the-scenes guru and asked her 10 questions. We will also feature Noelle's top 10 favorite photos on the Sidelines website - you don't want to miss her great photos.

1 How did you get your start in the horse world?

I started riding in Vancouver as a kid. My most influential trainer in Canada was Bobbie Reber; through her, I got to travel to California and compete at Spruce Meadows. She introduced me to a lot of great people in the industry: Eric Lamaze, Randy Roy, Kim Kirton, Philip Rozon, Neil Jones, Yann Candele, Tiffany Foster, Laura and Brent Balisky, Buddy Brown, John Anderson, Jonathon Asselin, Gail Greenhough and Chris Pratt, (whom I eventually got a working student position with in California. I learned a lot from Chris, and he gave me the confidence to move to Europe.)

2 You mention on your blog that you ride with the acclaimed Belgium rider, Marc van Dijck. Do you have a position as a working student?

No, I rode for him professionally when I first moved to Brussels; but now I just ride when I'm in town. We've become good friends and he runs a great program.

3 What are your current riding goals?

I'm not competing very much at the moment. I still ride for Marc Van Dijck when I'm in Brussels; but I'm on the road a lot because my main focus is expanding NoelleFloyd.com. I may take some time next year to go on tour - maybe the Sunshine Tour in Spain or Magna Racino in Austria for a few weeks.

Noelle Floyd behind the lens.

Photo by Sacha Floyd



Noelle Floyd in the saddle.
Photo courtesy of Noelle Floyd



4 What other activities do you enjoy?

Well riding and work keeps me really busy; but I'm a pretty active person in general! I'm from Vancouver where everyone is pretty outdoorsy with a lot of hiking, sailing and mountain biking. I ski a lot when I'm home; I actually started skiing before I started riding.

5 What has been the inspiration behind your blog?

Really, my inspiration is probably John Whitaker! (An acclaimed British equestrian and five-time Olympic rider.) Since moving