

Tibetan Spaniel Association



Newsletter 2019



Crufts 2019 a dream come true

Competing at Crufts is an unforgettable experience.

From the moment we qualified for the infamous ATC, preparing for the show was a long process. Not only organising the trip (the hurdle of travelling to England with dogs...) but also ensuring the dogs were in perfect condition physically before the show (long winter walks to reinforce muscle tone and coat quality).

After a long bus drive accompanied by our entire fan club, 7 people in total, we finally arrived in Birmingham.

THE day comes and we are up at dawn for a morning walk with the dogs and a last grooming session before heading off to the NEC.

On-site at the exhibition centre we feel our excitement step up notch... or three. Settling our dogs into their respective boxes, we begin to browse the Show guide, discover the long list of competitors, and the wait begins.

First up, my male Nyin-djé Emaho, is presented by Miss Sarah Mélanie Tridondani who has been training him since he was a puppy. We are filled with joy when he ranks 5th out of 16 in the Open Dog Class.

Next in line in the Puppy Bitch Class is female Nyin-djé Galante. She is also presented by Sarah Tridondani who has been training her since she was 3 months old.

Nyin-djé Galante is up against 5 other competitors, each more beautiful than the other. My heart starts racing and I can't repress a thought for her mother, Sommerlyst's Mani Minnie, who was an international champion herself and who passed into doggy heaven only 15 days beforehand. She would have been so proud of her daughter...

Here is our little princess, under the watchful eye of Miss E. Scoates, parading around the ring as if she was born there. I can't believe my eyes! She poses like a star, and completes her turn in complete harmony with her handler, Sarah Tridondani.

Then, much to my amazement, Miss Scoates selects her and declares her 1st Puppy Bitch !

How wonderful...but it's not over!! She has to run the ring again with the 1st Puppy Dog Class.

And then the magic happens the sort of moment each competitor secretly dreams of; Winning Crufts !!!

I see my 11-month old female crowned Best Puppy of the Breed.

I feel tears welling up and am at a loss for words... what can I say ? It's just a dream come true.

I would like to take this opportunity to show my gratitude to Miss Sarah Mélanie Tridondani for all her hard work with Nyin-djé Galante.

My thanks go as well to Judge Miss E. Scoates, for her evaluation, and to the Crufts organisers for setting up such a wonderfully organised grand exhibition of international renown.

The fantastic atmosphere around the ring allowed me to make a number of high quality contacts with other breeders for the future.

I think it's safe to say that winning Crufts with a dog from my small family kennel is the greatest form of recognition and my proudest moment as a lover of the Tibetan Spaniel breed.

Marie-Claude Saudan

