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International Dressage Rider Marco Bernal Delights Audience at Sho Clothes “Shop Talk”

Wellington, FL (February 15, 2010) – International dressage rider Marco Bernal delighted the audience at a recent “Shop Talk” at Sho Clothes dressage boutique in Wellington when he shared stories about growing up riding horses in his native Colombia and his years of training in Germany. Bernal ended the evening by explaining he was catching a plane to Colombia to receive a special athlete’s award from the President of Colombia.

“Marco’s love of horses was very evident and everyone was thrilled with his lively question and answer session,” said Betsy Rebar Sell, who co-owns Sho Clothes with Michele Hundt. “Marco has a kind and effective approach and he had everyone feeling positive by the end of the evening.”

Bernal, who owns and operates Marco Bernal International Dressage in Wellington, grew up in Colombia where he developed his love for horses on his father’s farm. He was the first Latin American to graduate from the prestigious German riding school Warendorf, and has since gone on to make a name for himself as a top dressage rider, including winning a silver medal at the 1999 Pan Am Games and competing in the 2009 Rolex FEI World Cup in Las Vegas.

Bernal encouraged the audience at Sho Clothes to spend a great deal of time watching and learning as much as they can about their horses and to question why a horse does or does not give the right response. “Marco is not only a gifted rider and trainer but a gifted speaker. He really tried to open everyone’s eyes to the fact that horses are individuals,” said Rebar Sell. “Marco is also very

passionate about dressage. He was flying to Colombia right after 'Shop Talk' to receive an award from the President and he was returning the following day to compete in a CDI in Wellington. He truly is inspiring."

Bernal, who is sponsored by the National Colombian Coffee Federation, competes three of his horses under the sponsorship: Halbgott, a Trakehner stallion who qualified for the 2007 Pan Am Games; Farewell IV, a Westphalian stallion who earned the world record at WEF in 2005 with a score of 85.385%; and Maybach, a Westphalian stallion who earned the highest score at the National Horse Show in 2004.

"Shop Talk" is co-sponsored monthly by the Gold Coast Dressage Association, and Rebar Sell said their audience enjoys learning from the "best of the best" in the dressage world. "We love to support the dressage community and 'Shop Talk' has proven to be a successful way for dressage enthusiasts to gather and learn," Sell said, adding that 'Shop Talk' is held the second Tuesday night of each month.

Sho Clothes, an upscale dressage boutique in Wellington, specializes in the latest and most fashionable dressage apparel for show and play. The Sho Clothes Sho Room, located at 3220 Fairlane Farms Road in Wellington, boasts a wide variety of the finest dressage riding clothes, apparel, jewelry and dressage accessories available. Sho Clothes also offers a mobile boutique that travels to dressage shows.

For more information on Sho Clothes or "Shop Talk," visit their website at www.shoclothes.com or call them at 561-319-2121.



Photo: International dressage rider Marco Bernal (left) spoke recently at “Shop Talk” at Sho Clothes, Wellington’s upscale dressage boutique. Betsy Rebar Sell (right) co-owns Sho Clothes with Michele Hundt, and Sho Clothes is a strong supporter of the dressage community.