

Shanti



Shanti, a solid chestnut Appaloosa mare, was transported to the sanctuary from Horsham after the Victorian bushfires in 2009.

She was only four years of age but was in a significant amount of pain, riddled with lice, underweight and with neglected feet.

Shanti had been 'broken in' too early and suffered a sacroiliac subluxation and a fractured hip as a result.

We enlisted the help of Carlos Tabernaberry, the brilliant horse 'listener' and trainer (renowned for his gentle, non-forceful, bit less training methods) as her pain rendered her unpredictable.

<http://www.whisperingacres.com.au/>

Shanti had significant chiropractic work and remedial footwork (via Sarah at Innovative Hoof Care - <http://www.innovativehoofcare.com.au/about-us/>) to correct her skeletal imbalance and (as with all the horses sanctioned) needs ongoing treatment to ease her discomfort.

It has taken a lot of time, therapy and groundwork to stabilize and calm this divine mare, but now she is polite, willing, gentle and responsive. Given the opportunity to express her personality freely, Shanti has blossomed into one of the most intelligent horses I have ever worked with.

She responds to verbal cues and has regained her trust in people. Extremely friendly, communicative, curious and generous, Shanti's story is testament to how pain, fear and mistrust dictate behavior and can be overcome with patience, unconditional love, perseverance and understanding.

Finally, she is free to express her true nature, her innate wisdom and playfulness – and has become the predominant 'leader' of the herd.

Shanti, in Sanskrit, means peace and today, this mare is the embodiment of peace. Her loyalty and devotion is unquestionable, as is her gratitude and respect to those who helped her move beyond her significant pain threshold.

It has been stated that it is 'the difficult horses that have the most to give' and Shanti is living proof of that theory.