

Valdivia, Jr., Jose: Born: Dec. 8, 1974. From: Lima, Peru.

From Peru but moved to the United States when he was 14-15 years old. Jose's father was a top jockey in Peru and his uncle was Fernando Toro, successful jockey on the southern California racing circuit. Another uncle, Juan Suarez, was a successful trainer in the U.S.

Began riding professionally in 1994 at Belmont Park. His first really good horse was Val Royal who also gave him his first Breeders' Cup win in 2001 in the BC Mile (as of 2020 this is his only Breeders' Cup win). In 2011 he won his only Triple Crown race to date taking the G1 Belmont Stakes with Ruler On Ice. He has won multiple Grade 1, 2 and 3 races.

Family: Wife, Renee; two children: Siena and Luca.