

*Immediate Release  
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## ***CHRISTIE'S EXCEPTIONAL MOTOR CARS AT THE LE MANS CLASSIC***

*Exceptional Motor Cars at the Le Mans Classic  
Friday 23 July 2004 at 4pm*

*Christie's France - Christie's International Motor Cars Department is delighted to announce an auction of Exceptional Motor Cars in conjunction with the Le Mans Classic retrospective on 23 July 2004. The sale will feature over 30 lots, with estimates ranging from €5,000 to €2,500,000.*

*The Christie's auction will signify the start of the Le Mans event, and will include competition and historic motor cars representative of every generation that have competed at the famous 24 Hour race since 1923, including victorious marques such as Aston Martin, Bentley and Jaguar. Following an extremely successful inaugural event in 2002, the Le Mans Classic moves to July enabling longer daylight racing hours and an even greater expected attendance.*

*Headlining the auction are five exceptional British cars from an important private collection including two of the most famous Le Mans entries ever to compete at the circuit and ancestors of the current 24-hour winning Bentley.*

*The Works No. 2 Bentley Speed Six Tourer, the best vintage car to survive dating from the 1920s, and the most important to have been offered for sale for many years, is expected to fetch €2,200,000-2,500,000. This magnificent car came second in 1930 when piloted by Clement and Watney, and was also winner of the 'Double Twelve', the equivalent British Endurance race. No other car has accomplished so much and, most importantly 'No.2' remains in the same condition since its early racing days in the 1930.*

*Another remarkable Bentley on offer in the Christie's sale is the 1928 'Bobtail Bentley', named after its cowl-tailed section of bodywork. This car finished third in the memorable Bentley 1-2-3 finish in 1929 (estimate: €1,500,000-1,800,000), and second in the 1929 'Double Twelve'.*

*Alongside the two 'Works' Bentleys is a further example of this marque, a rare 100 mph 8 litre Tourer built by Gurney Nutting, the final successful model that the company built in 1931, (estimate: €420,000-500,000).*

*In addition to the three superb Bentleys, this incredible collection also features a Frazer-Nash TT Replica, which ran Le Mans in 1934 driven by Michael Collier (estimate: €140,000-180,000) and a 1914 Sunbeam TT Twin Cam Racer, which ran in the Isle of Man Tourist Trophy in year 1914, (estimate: €370,000-520,000). Just recently the Sunbeam returned to the Isle of Man on 10 May to commemorate the centenary of the Gordon Bennett Elimination Trials.*

*Elsewhere in the sale, another noteworthy lot is the perfect post-war competitor, a 1957 Aston Martin DB3S (estimate: €1,300,000-1,600,000). This car carries the desirable 'twin-plug' cylinder head as fitted to the Aston Works cars, and was entered by company owner David Brown at Le Mans in 1957. Painted in French racing blue livery, it was driven by Kurgeun and Colas, winning its class and finishing 11<sup>th</sup> overall. This rare example has a remarkable history and remains in entirely original condition with an appropriate combination of Anglo-French racing provenance.*

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Venue:  
*Circuit des 24 Heures  
Le Mans, France*

Viewing:  
*Thursday 22 July: 8am – 6.30pm  
Friday 23 July: 8am – 2.30pm*

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