

*For Immediate Release
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CHRISTIE'S PAINTS THE MONTEREY PENINSULA RED IN AUGUST

Ferraris Lead Christie's Exceptional Motor Car Auction Including the World's Earliest Sports-Racing Ferrari

*Exceptional Motor Cars at the Monterey Jet Center
August 12, 2004*

New York - Christie's International Motor Cars will stage its 15th annual Monterey Exceptional Motor Cars sale at the Monterey Jet Center on August 12. This exciting auction will offer exceedingly rare and historic sports racing and touring motor cars and will kick off a series of events surrounding the Monterey Historic Automobile races and various Concours d'Elegance events.

Christie's is delighted to announce another first with the sale of the oldest sports-racing Ferrari in the world, the 1947 Ferrari 166 Spyder Corsa, the first customer Ferrari ever sold that effectively launched the legendary Italian automaker. Cars of such historical importance rarely appear on the market and this pristine example from the famous Maranello marque is expected to fetch \$950,000-1,350,000.

The Ferrari 166 Spyder Corsa, numbered '002-C' with Enzo Ferrari's new competition car chassis serial system, is based on the cycle-winged 159 with which Raymond Sommer won the 1947 Turin Grand Prix. It was acquired just two months later by Gabriele Besana, a wealthy enthusiast, thereby making it the first ever Ferrari to pass into private hands. With several prestigious former owners, it has been shown at major concours events in the United States and featured in articles in Cavallino, Car and Driver and Road & Track where it was the highlight of the 50th Anniversary article on the marque by none other than former Ferrari F1 world champion Phil Hill.

A 1956 Ferrari 500 TR Two Seater Sports Racing Car is another Ferrari auction-leader. Estimated at \$1,200,000–1,600,000, this rare example is only one of 17 examples of the model built in left-hand drive configuration. Supplied new to a Mr. d'Oro in Italy, the car was driven to a First in Class (10th overall) in the 1,000km of Montlhéry and came 10th in the Grand Prix Supercortemaggiore, both held in 1956. It was also campaigned at the 1,000km of Buenos Aires and Targa Florio in 1958. The car has continued to road race, campaigning in 6 Mille Miglia retrospectives in Italy over the last 20 years.

Another outstanding highlight of the Monterey sale is a perfect example for West Coast driving, the evocative 1959 Ferrari 250GT LWB California Spyder. Finished in classic Nero black with a stunning red leather interior, this elegant car is number 19 of 49 produced and was originally delivered to racing great Jo Siffert. Not seen on the market for more than a decade, it carries an estimate of \$1,000,000–1,200,000.

The Ferrari celebration continues, with the 1966 Ferrari 275 GTB/6C Alloy Berlinetta, estimated at \$520,000–580,000. This car was one of two cars ordered from Ferrari by American agent Luigi Chinetti, to definitive two-cam specification. Detailed with every conceivable extra, from its long nose lightweight aluminium bodywork, to torque tube transmission, the motor car recently underwent a comprehensive restoration and has been finished in a stunning deep metallic blue.



Auction: Exceptional Motor Cars

Viewing: The Monterey Jet Center

300 Sky Park Drive, Monterey, CA

August 12 at 6 p.m.

August 8 (1p.m. – 5 p.m.)

August 9–11(10 a.m.– 5 p.m.)

August 12 (9 a.m. – 12noon)

*Images available on request
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