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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*August 1, 2002*

**LEMANS WINNING FERRARI TO FETCH 7.5 MILLION AT WORLD'S LARGEST AUCTION OF SPORTS AND RACING CARS.**

*RM Auctions' 17<sup>th</sup> annual Monterey Concours d'Elegance anticipates record-breaking sales as top selling vintage sports and racing cars drive expectations wild.*

*Beverly Hills, California, August 1, 2002* – A spectacular array of rare and collectable Ferraris, Mercedes-Benzs, Jaguars and other foreign as well as domestic cars will be on the auction block at the Doubletree Hotel in Monterey, California on August 16-17, 2002. Held by RM Auctions in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, the Monterey Sports Car Auction is a blockbuster event marking the year's most prominent auction of sports and racing cars gathered from around the world. Leading the legendary racecar portfolio is the Le Mans-winning 1962 Ferrari 330 TRI/LM owned by a famed French collection since 1974. The only four-liter Testa Rossa built, the 330 TRI/LM chassis number 0808 is the last front-engine car to claim victory at the fabled 24 Heures du Mans by drivers Phil Hill and Olivier Gendebien---one of the greatest teams in racing history. Meticulously re-bodied to its original Le Mans-winning style, "the Ferrari 330 TRI/LM chassis number 0808 is possibly the most significant Italian race car ever offered at auction," says company president David Gooding, "and is expected to acquire at least 7.5 million dollars for its possession."

In addition to supporting the Ferrari heritage at auction includes a 1965 275 GTB Speciale Competizion Berlinetta, and a 1954 250 Monza Spider identified with chassis number 0442 M. As such, 0442 M is recognized as the only surviving example of its kind with original body intact, not to mention a glorious racing history to boot. Last, but not least, a 1961 250GT/Comp short wheelbase Berlinetta SEFAC Hot Rod will also be auctioned as only one of eight offered in a series of limited production SEFAC cars built by Ferrari to Le Mans specifications.

Other important cars to be offered at RM Auctions' Monterey Sports Car Auction include a 1937 Mercedes-Benz 540K Supercharged Sport Cabriolet A with coachwork by Sindelfingen. Identified as chassis number 154084, it is only one of twelve surviving with a well-documented history that marked its debut as the fastest production road car of its era---and the last supercharged model the company built. Following suit, a 1937 BMW 328 Roadster will also undergo sale. Documented as chassis number 85.035, the two-seater open car was fourth in delivery to Britain, and later raced at Lemans in 1937

with driver Pat Fairfield behind the wheel. Interestingly, chassis number 85.035 was retired to its previous owner's garage in 1959, where it remained untouched for more than 30 years prior to a proper and dedicated restoration in the early 1990s.

Of course, the Monterey auction would not be complete without vintage racing Jaguars, including the Pomona Six Hour Enduro Winning 1955 D-type sports racer that was conceived using aircraft design and engineering principles. Noted as chassis number XKD 528, it was actually presented by Road and Track magazine in May of 1956 as "...the best performing automobile we have ever tested," while later competing at the SCCA National race with driver Harold Erb squaring off against worthy adversaries such as Phil Hill and Carroll Shelby.

For the collector intrigued with an interest to the early-type racecars from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a historical 1909 Simplex 50 horsepower Toy Tonneau with original coachwork and drive train is sure to grab attention. Considered sporty for its time, the Simplex was designed by Edward Franquist and employed a remarkable 597 cubic inch four-cylinder engine of equal bore and stroke 'square' dimensions, while using a chain drive mated to a four-speed transmission. Of course, the Simplex line of automobiles gathered its success with numerous firsts in 24-hour grinds at Brighton Beach, New York and an outright win at the 1909 National Stock Chassis Race.

Another fine specimen of automobile racing history at RM Auctions' Monterey Sports Car Auction this year includes the daunting and successful works of legendary Harry Miller, with his creation of the 1930 183 Two-Man Indianapolis Race Car. A timeless piece of racecar heritage, this example with its history of twelve starts in the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race from 1930 to 1947 is proof of the brilliant ideas and sound principles that were invested into every one of his adoring automobiles.

Important North American cars also scheduled to headline the Monterey Sports Car auction include a 1966 Shelby 427 Competition Cobra and a 1961 Racing Corvette developed at Gulf Research labs in Harmarville, Pennsylvania that was driven by Don Yenko and Dr. Dick Thompson for two consecutive SCCA National Championships. In addition, a 1967 Chevrolet Corvette L88 Coupe raced by the Sunray DX Team and campaigned by Dave Morgan and Don Yenko that won the Grand Touring class at the 1967 Sebring 12 Hours, is also up for auction. The '67 L88 was an all-out road racer built by GM Engineering under Zora Arkus-Duntov's direction. At over 500 stock horsepower and only 20 built, the L88 cars have become the most highly sought after Corvettes on the market.

A variety of later sports and racing cars will also make venue such as a 1970 Ford Mustang Boss 302 Trans AM Competition car, and a 1995 Ferrari F50, just to name a few. "To sum it up," says David Gooding, "there are so many spectacular examples that cover a century of automobile racing, here at Monterey, that it will be most difficult for the astute car collector to settle on purchasing just one." RM Auctions' company president further comments, "The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Monterey's Sports Car Auction will be a test of self indulgence that be as entertaining to watch as kids in a candy store."

As expected, the list of entries exceeds well over 100 enviable rare and exotic automobiles that are bound to raise the hairs on the arms of the most elite and reserved car collector. Lots will be available for preview starting Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 6:00PM as well as prior to auction, which will start on Friday and Saturday at 6:00PM to 12:00 midnight.

Copies of the Monterey Sports Car Catalogue for auction are available for \$50, including admission for two at sale time. To order, call 800.211.4371.

A limited number of late consignments are still being accepted. To consign cars that would complement this exceptional offering, contact David Gooding or Ian Kelleher at 866.762.8248, or Mike Fairbairn or Rob Myers at 800.211.4371.

*Please note:*

*High-resolution color photography of the lots offered is available via email or CD. Samples of images available are posted at [www.rmauctions.com](http://www.rmauctions.com).*

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