## **CLASSIC DRIVER**

## RM at Monterey 19 - 20th August 2005 - Preview



The doyen of Monterey auctions, Rob Myers and the rest of the RM team are presenting what they describe as a '\$40 million auction' - their biggest so far. One of the entries is the 1964 NHRA Street Stock Championship finalist drag-racing Shelby 289 Cobra, estimated at \$350,000 - \$500,000.

The bulk of RM's catalogue mixes Old World and New, with the **1961 Aston Martin DB4 GT Zagato** estimated at \$2,900,000 - \$3,200,000 rubbing shoulders with the ex-Bob Grossman **1959 Ferrari 250 GT "Tour de France" Berlinetta**, \$1,400,000 - \$1,700,000, the **1964 Ford GT40 Prototype**, \$2,200,000 - \$2,600,000, and many American cars including several other Shelby Cobras in addition to the drag-racer, such as the **1966 Shelby 427** at \$450,000 - \$550,000.

The **1938 Talbot-Lago T150-C Lago Speciale Teardrop Coupé by Figoni et Falaschi** (\$3,000,000 - \$4,000,000), merits its own sub-catalogue in the beautifully presented slip-case. And for those of you thinking these cars were a little 'Best in Show', there are plenty of photos of chassis 90034 racing in-period at the Spa 24 Hours piloted by suitably tough-looking European racing drivers.

Not a Boston Terrier in site.



Even those of us in Europe will be familiar now with the stratospheric prices paid for American big-block muscle ars with 'matching numbers' and arcane original specification. Cars such as the two **Plymouth Hemi** '**Cudas**, both estimated at \$300,000 - \$400,000. Or the **1969 Chevrolet Corvette Baldwin Motion Phase III** \$250,000 - \$350,000, a rare 600bhp, 482 c.i. special edition prepared by fast-Chevy experts Motion Performance from Long Island, NY.

RM have a knack of extracting the most out of relatively 'normal' entries. Take the 1949 Jaguar XK 120

**Alloy Roadster**, a rare and desirable example of the marvellous XK in its purest form. But it's not just any old '120; it's the earliest surviving XK120 in existence, and the one of 'The Most Historically Significant Jaguars in the World'. The estimate reflects this rarity: \$550,000 - \$750,000.



Please click **<u>HERE</u>** to see a full lotlist.

For more information, visit <u>www.rmauctions.com</u>.

*Text: Steve Wakefield Photos: RM Auctions - Strictly Copyright* 

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