

CLASSIC DRIVER

[Techno Classica 2006](#)



Over 1,000 exhibitors from 15 countries were at this year's Techno Classica with but a single aim - to show the very best classic cars and collectors' items. Whether it was a prototype, a limited edition or simply a rare and exotic piece - you can find it at the annual fair in Essen.



It's difficult to pick a 'highlight' in this year's show, so we've put together a small selection of some of the vehicles present. Classic Driver dealer [Thiesen](#) carries the advertising legend 'Rare Automobiles', and from its locations in Hamburg and Berlin it certainly lived up to its name. Take the **Hispano-Suiza J12 Labourdette Sport Torpedo** for example; built in 1933, the wonderful coupé is powered by a gigantic 11-litre V12. Other interesting cars included the [Bentley 8 Litre "Le Mans-style 4-seater"](#) and an extravagant [Rolls-Royce Phantom VI Landaulet](#).



Likewise in Hall 11 Northern German specialists [Steenbuck-Automobiles](#) were showing some superb cars. Such as the beautifully restored [Horch 930V Cabriolet](#) in classic two-tone paintwork, or the [Invicta 4 1/2 Litre Tourer](#) and [BMW 327 Cabriolet](#), the model that drew such praise when it was launched in 1937. The latter had been the subject of a complete 'nut and bolt' restoration from 2002 to 2004 - it certainly showed. Top-level dealer [Axel Schütte](#) was presenting 1950s perfection on his stand - a light green metallic **Aston Martin DB3S** in the company of two **Ferrari 250 GTs**, a 1957 'Tour de France' and a 1953 Mille Miglia.

Unfortunately there's too little room to list all the gorgeous vehicles present, and this year's event has finished. Better wait for next year.

































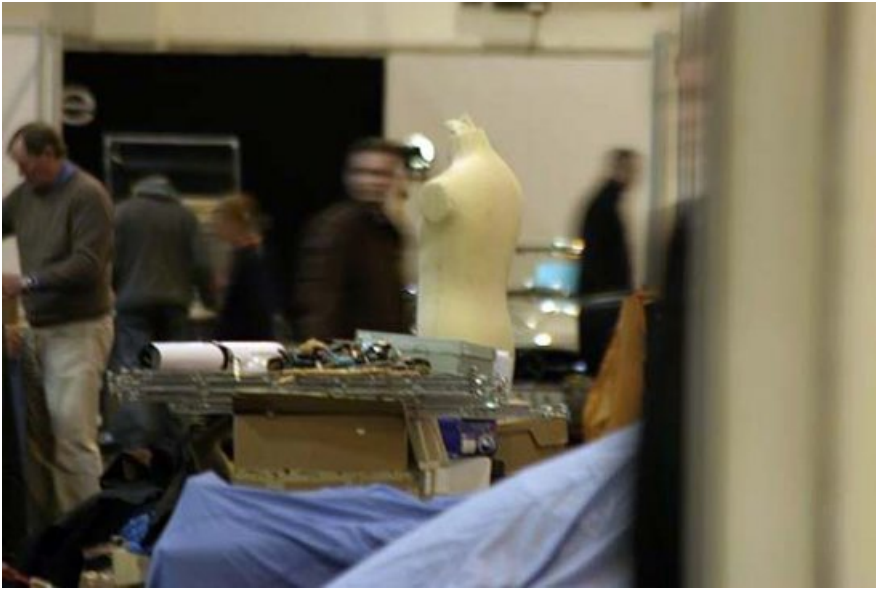






































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