CLASSIC DRIVER

Christie's Strengthens European Car Operation



Christie's is opening a new office in Paris devoted entirely to motor car consignments. This will mean winter UK auctions will now be consolidated around the annual February Rétromobile auction in Paris, and specialist Jack Patrick, currently based in London, is relocating to Christie's Paris Office in Avenue Matignon.

An early entry for the February Sale is The ex-Lucien Vincent/Lino Fayen **1950 Talbot-Lago T26 GS Berlinette** - estimate: EURO 150,000-250,000 - above.







Other entries include the world-famous ex-Dick Seaman 1927 Delage 8 Cylinder 1,500cc Supercharged Grand Prix Car (estimate: EURO 2,000,000-3,000,000), pictured above, the ex-Maurice Mestivier 1927 Amilcar MCO 6 Cylinder 1,100cc Supercharged Grand Prix Single Seater (estimate: EURO 300,000-400,000) and the 1948 Gatso Barchetta 'Flatty' (Estimate EURO 90,000-130,000) pictured below with its creator, tha famous race and rally driver Maurice Gatsonides of 'Gatso' fame.



The Rétromobile exhibition runs from 16 - 25 February 2007, Christie's Sale will be on Saturday the 17th.

Rupert Banner, Head of Christie's International Motor Car Department said "Christie's sales of motor cars in France have been incredibly successful. We have sold more than EURO 32 million of classic cars since their inception in 2002, and we have decided to enhance the service we offer our global clients by providing an additional local point of contact for Europe. With this move we anticipate a broader audience will benefit from the unique nature of our international motor car auctions".

This new European team of specialists will be headed by Christie's Director Philip Kantor, based in Brussels, while Jack Patrick will provide business-getting support based in Paris. Rupert Banner will remain based in London at Christie's South Kensington, giving clients an additional central London office in an area long associated with the sale of historic automobiles.

These strategic changes will provide Christie's car clients with three points of contact throughout Europe, in Paris, Brussels and London.

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