

# CLASSIC DRIVER

## [Bonhams at Quail Lodge - 14 August 2009 - Review](#)



**Top-selling car at this year's Quail sale (no, the Auto Union wasn't sold) was a pre-War Duesenberg. Hot on its heels was the fabulous 'Bumblebee' 1952 Ferrari 212 Inter Coupé by Vignale, achieving \$804,500.**

The 'Duesie' was a **1933 Model J Torpedo Convertible Victoria** and sold for a handy \$1,437,000 (mid-estimate for the **ex-'Hopalong Cassidy' car**). The armoured **1930 Cadillac Series 452 V-16 Imperial Sedan**, formerly the property of **Al Capone** and the **Chicago Mob** sold for \$309,500. These were just two of the generally Without Reserve, **Sidney H. Craig Collection 'Classics and Celebrities'** cars – although it was not all 1930s decadence, as the dancing school mogul's (only in the USA...) **1955 Mercedes-Benz 300SL 'Gullwing'** sold for \$546,000. It was Strawberry Pink metallic, though.

The wonderful **two-tone Ferrari** was originally delivered to France in June 1952. It then passed through various collectors' hands, including **Don Nelson** and **Anthony Bamford** in the UK. Estimated pre-sale at \$1,000,000 – 1,300,000, the magnificent, restored machine sold for \$804,500. A good buy for a super-rare Ferrari that drives well, too.

1971 Lola-Chevrolet T260 CanAm Racing Spider -  
Sold for \$304,000

1961 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Roadster -  
Sold for \$804,500

The **ex-Otis Chandler 1961 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Roadster** matched that price, as did the **c.1931 Bentley 4½ Litre 'Birkin Style' Tourer with original Supercharger**. Another Cricklewood car, the **1929 Bentley 4½ Litre Supercharged Birkin Team Car Specification Tourer** went well for \$722,000.

It wasn't all good news, though, as the **2009 Quail Lodge** auction's unsold figure of just over 40 per cent shows. **Auto Union** apart – and I think there were few who believed the car would sell – the American 'muscle' cars did not fare well, and neither the original **'Daytona' Spyder** nor the elegant **1937 Bugatti Type 57S Coupé** found new owners.

1952 Allard J2X 'Little Red' - Sold for  
\$194,000

1955 Alfa Romeo 1900C Super Sprint Berlinetta - Sold  
for \$557,000

A varied and well-presented catalogue doth not a successful Monterey-week sale make. But, before I leave the pulpit, let's finish on a couple of positives: well done the man who bought the white **1970 Maserati Mistral Spyder** for \$130,750 (RHD but below estimate and a nice-looking car), and it's good to see a well-patinated **E-type FHC** go for reasonable money. The **1964 matching-numbers, California car** catalogued well in its original Golden Sand metallic/Cinnamon interior colour scheme and sold for \$99,450 – under estimate, but more than it would achieve in the UK.

Prior to the motor cars, Bonhams sold a variety of **jewellery, watches** and **automobilia**, including **A Louis Vuitton humidor** (\$29,280).

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to see the full results for the **2009 Quail Lodge** sale.

*Text: Steve Wakefield*  
*Photos: Bonhams*

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