

# CLASSIC DRIVER



## Voiture Extraordinaire: The Unique Ferrari P540 Superfast Aperta

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**Proving that Ferrari maintains its special-client, coachbuilding capacity, the Italian company has revealed a one-off 599 GTB with a Targa roof.**

The customer, **Edward Walson** (son of **John Walson**, the inventor of cable TV) was inspired by the special **Fantuzzi-designed Ferrari** built specifically for the Fellini section **Toby Dammit** of the three-chapter 1968 film ***Histoires Extraordinaires***.



**Walson** approached **Ferrari** in 2008, commenting: "I had always dreamed of designing sports cars, and when I saw this film the decision came of its own accord: one day I would have 'my' Ferrari." From commission to testing at **Fiorano** took just 14 months. Although based on the standard car's coupé chassis, the strengthened, open-top '**P540 Superfast Aperta**' weighs just an extra 20kg, thanks mainly to the extensive use of carbonfibre.



The film took its inspiration from the tales of **Edgar Allan Poe**, the celebrated American writer of the early 19th Century.

Famous for mystery stories such as '**Murder in the Rue Morgue**' and '**The Pit and the Pendulum**', **Poe** wrote a lesser-known short story titled '**The Gold-Bug**' that could easily provide a sobriquet for this unique car.

**Walson** took delivery at **Fiorano** and, delighted with his commission, said "This is the most special Christmas present of my life."

**Text:** *Steve Wakefield*

**Photos:** *Ferrari*

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