

CLASSIC DRIVER



Early Entries Announced to Gooding's 2010 Pebble Beach Sale

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1951 Ferrari 340 America by Vignale

The event that many consider the grand finale of the Monterey week, David Gooding's Pebble Beach auction, will feature top-level Jaguar, pre-War Mercedes, Maserati and Ferrari motor cars in its customarily well-turned-out 2010 catalogue.

Although still inviting consignments, the sale, to be held on **Saturday, August 14** and **Sunday, August 15**, has already received a boost by early entries: cars such as the **1927 Mercedes-Benz S Boattail Speedster**, once owned by the **Marx Brothers**, an **ex-Maserati-factory 1956 Maserati 200 SI** and, from the estate of the late Gil Nickel, a **1951 Ferrari 340 America by Vignale**.

The **Marx Brothers' Mercedes**, apart from featuring in the **Cary Grant/Katherine Hepburn** film *Sylvia Scarlett*, was also the subject of an unlikely bet between **Zeppo Marx** and **Phil Berg (Clark Gable and Gary Cooper's manager)**, who wagered each other on whether the S would beat **Mr. Berg's Duesenberg Model J** on the dry lakes of **East Los Angeles**. Many Hollywood stars witnessed the excitement – although it's not known who won the bet...

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1927 Mercedes-Benz S Boattail Speedster, bodywork by Murphy

The rare, **Murphy-bodied supercharged Mercedes** has resided in **California** all its life and still carries its 1950s yellow and black licence plates. This is the very first time it has ever been offered for sale at auction.



1949 Jaguar XK120 Alloy

1931 Bentley 8-Litre

The bare-metal **Maserati** – a prime **Mille Miglia Storica/Le Mans Classic/Goodwood Revival** entry if ever there was one – has been raced in period by **Stirling Moss, Jean Behra** and **Piero Taruffi**, while the big **Ferrari**, chassis no. 0140A, was purely a sportsman's road car at the time, only seeing competition in recent times.

The yellow car debuted at the 1952 New York Auto Show and has, for the last 30 years, been in the ownership of the late Gil Nickel, who enjoyed running it in the **Mille Miglia Storica**, the **Monaco Historics**, the **Laguna Seca Historics** and the **Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance**. At the time, the **340 America** was **Ferrari's** most potent road-racing car.

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1956 Maserati 200 SI

All estimates are 'on request' until nearer the date of the sale.

For further information, see www.goodingco.com.

Text - Steve Wakefield

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