

CLASSIC DRIVER



Bonhams Sale at the Reims Circuit de Gueux en Champagne, 11 Sep 2010 - Preview

31 August 2010 | Classic Driver

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1996 Aston Martin Sportsman Estate Car - 400,000 - 500,000 euros

Bonhams Europe has assembled a catalogue of 40 cars for its forthcoming Reims sale. The Aston Martin marque features large, with seven examples entered, including the 1996 'Sportsman Estate Car' estimated at 400,000 - 500,000 euros.

The sale is being held at the annual '**Week-End de l'Excellence Automobile Reims**' event, based at the still extant '**Circuit de Gueux en Champagne**' location, with its colourful pit buildings and characteristically flat, public road straights. The auction itself will be held within the pit complex site.

The **Aston** shooting brake was one of two factory-built cars constructed on standard coupé chassis from September 1996 to December 1997. As a '**V8**' rather than a '**Virage**', with its circular rear lights, the whole ensemble is a much more balanced creation. This, and the **Newport Pagnell** (rather than an independent coachbuilder) connection, helps justify the robust estimate.

1972 Citroën SM Coupé - 20,000 - 30,000 euros

1969 Mercedes-Benz 280SL Coupé - 22,000 - 28,000 euros

In addition to the estate, there's also a **LHD 1965 DB5 Vantage Coupé** (300,000 - 400,000 euros) and a **1957 DB2/4 MKII Drophead Coupé** for 140,000 - 180,000 euros. Enthusiasts for more modern **Astons** will like the **2003 Vanquish**, a metallic green/saddle leather car reasonably estimated at 50,000 - 70,000 euros.

Elsewhere in the catalogue, there's a silver-blue with blue leather **1967 Lamborghini 400GT** (150,000 - 180,000 euros), a tasteful (special-order gunmetal grey paint with tan hide) **2001 Ferrari 550 Barchetta** (125,000 - 175,000 euros) and a **Classic Driver office** favourite, the **1972 Citroën SM**. The latter is a 5-speed manual car, finished in very pale metallic green with restored black leather and reasonably estimated at 20,000 - 30,000 euros.

1966 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III Drophead Coupé - 150,000 - 190,000 euros

1967 Lamborghini 400GT 2+2 Coupé - 150,000 - 180,000 euros

Finally, despite the location, purely sporting cars are a rarity. However, two stand out: the historically important, **ex-1977 London-Sydney Rally, 1977 Fiat Abarth 131 Diesel** (60,000 - 80,000 euros)

and the **c.1971 Ford Capri RS2600**.

If your **250 GT SWB**, fresh from its **Ferrari Classiche** restoration, is just a touch too pristine for the **Tour Auto** or **Tour de España**, why not bid on the **Capri**, a Cologne competitions-department-built car, estimated at 75,000 - 95,000 euros?

**c.1971 Ford Capri RS2600 - 75,000 -
95,000 euros**

**1957 Aston Martin DB2/4 MKII Drophead Coupé -
140,000 - 180,000 euros**

To see a full lotlist, please **[CLICK HERE](#)**.

For further information on the **'Week-End de l'Excellence Automobile Reims'** event, see **www.weea-organisation.com**.

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