

# CLASSIC DRIVER



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## Book Review: 'Inside the Archives' – Jesse Alexander

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**The photography of American-born Jesse Alexander is synonymous with high-quality, pin-sharp focusing and superb composition. The latest book from David Bull Publishing features his colour and b/w prints from the 50s and 60s, all of which have the 'just look at that...' factor.**

As the nights draw in and the leaves drop (with THAT season just around the corner), the thoughts of many classic car enthusiasts turn to quieter, more mellow times. The car is safely tucked away, logs are crackling in the hearth, there's something nice on the stereo and a well-filled crystal glass lies conveniently to hand.

'**Inside the Archives**' is the perfect way to wind down after almost a year at the coalface, featuring, as it does, images taken during the truly great years of **Formula One** and sports-car racing in the 1950s and 60s.



**1958  
Nürburgring  
1000 Km**  
The Aston Martin DBR2, designed by Roy Waller, was the first sports car to be built in the UK. It was developed by the factory at Gaydon, Warwickshire, and was used to win the 1958 Nürburgring 1000 Km race. The car was driven by Roy Waller and Peter Collins, and was the only British sports car to win a major international race.

Road cars are included, too, as **Alexander's** trans-European travels brought him to **Modena** and **Maranello**. Here, the latest Italian GT could be observed either embarking on road trials, or in production, 'under the hammer' at **Scaglietti's** coachbuilding company.



**1960  
24 Hours of  
Le Mans**  
The Maserati Birdcage, designed by Giotto Bizzotto, was the first sports car to be built in Italy. It was developed by the factory at Maranello, Modena, and was used to win the 1960 24 Hours of Le Mans race. The car was driven by Bruce McLaren and John Cooper, and was the only Italian sports car to win a major international race.

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The quality of the reproduction, from clearly superb prints taken on top-notch equipment, is outstanding. Take the colour photograph on page 51 (above), for example. It shows the factory **Aston Martin DBR2** at the 'Ring' in 1958, yet could easily be from a recent historic meeting.

All the great men (**Moss, Gregory, Frère, Phil Hill et al**), races (**Le Mans, Spa-Francorchamps** and the **Targa Florio**) and cars (**250F, 250 GTO, 'Birdcage' Maserati** and more) are featured in the 96-page, 11" x 13" hardback book.

*The book (ISBN-13: 978-1-935007-10-4) is published by **David Bull Publishing** and priced at US\$75.00 plus postage. There is also a signed-and-numbered 'Publisher's Edition' - available at \$250.00 - which is strictly limited to just 300 examples and includes a 11" x 13" **Jesse Alexander** print of a rainy practice session at the **Monaco Grand Prix** in 1965.*

For further information, see [www.bullpublishing.com](http://www.bullpublishing.com).

**Text** Steve Wakefield

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