CLASSIC DRIVER

Gooding & Company to auction Sheryl Crow's Mercedes 190 SL in aid of Joplin tornado victims

Sheryl Crow and her 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190 SL (\$50,000 - \$80,000)

American singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow has donated her 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190 SL to the Joplin Schools Recovery Fund, a charity dedicated to helping rebuild the city in southwest Missouri which suffered a devastating tornado earlier this summer.

The official auction house of the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, Gooding & Company, will offer the car at 'no reserve' on Sunday 21 August, with all proceeds going to charity. The Sheryl Crow 190 SL is the latest in a line of cars sold by Gooding in the aid of good causes - more than \$25m has been raised over the years.

Commenting on the decision to place her beloved white SL in the sale, the singer said: "After the tornado in Joplin, I was moved to help rebuild a city so close to where I grew up in Missouri. My hope is that the auction of my 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190 SL Roadster will bring in funds to help rebuild the schools in the area."

The white with white hardtop 190 SL (\$50,000 - \$80,000) was acquired by Crow in 2005 and, following a comprehensive restoration that year, now has fresh brakes, suspension, a reconditioned Becker Mexico radio and a new black leather interior.

1959 Mercedes-Benz 190 SL

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Other entries in the two-day (20-21 August) sale include a 1957 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa, chassis 0666TR, the prototype for the 250 TR series (if it sells, quite possibly the most valuable car sold at auction...) and an exfactory team car, 1963 Shelby Cobra 289. While the latter carries an estimate of \$2.4 million - \$2.8 million, it's 'On Application' for the Testa Rossa.

Classic Driver will carry a full preview of the Gooding & Company 2011 Pebble Beach Sale when the catalogue is finalised.

1963 Shelby Cobra 289 (\$2.4 million - \$2.8 million)

1957 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa Prototype ('On Application')

For further information, see <u>www.goodingco.com</u>.

Text: Steve Wakefield

Photos: *Photos by Pawel Litwinski (Testa Rossa and Cobra) and Scott Nidermaier (190 SL) all © 2011 Courtesy of Gooding & Company*

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