

CLASSIC DRIVER

London calling for RM Sotheby's

Lead

On the evening of 7 September, Max Girardo will bring the gavel down on 76 lots at the RM Sotheby's London Sale in Battersea, headed – as with last year's auction – by a very special Ferrari 250 GT 'Tour de France'. We've browsed the catalogue and selected some highlights...

We've [already covered](#) two rather yellow stars of the show – the [Alfa Romeo RZ](#) (£50,000-70,000) and [Bugatti EB110 SS](#) (£600,000-770,000) – in the magazine. But there's plenty more to whet the appetite at the RM Sotheby's annual (and ever-popular) London sale next week. Take the headline lot, a [1958 Ferrari 250 GT 'Tour de France'](#), for example – an early single-louved car with matching numbers and period competition history, to boot. Eligible for almost any historic event, be it on *or* off the track, it's estimated to fetch a strong £4.5m-5.5m.

Pristine ponies



Ferraris – particularly those with outrageously low mileage – appear to be the flavour of the auction, in fact. Hot on the TdF's heels is a genuine [1973 Daytona Spider](#) (est. £2m-2.4m), boasting not just a scant 3,800 miles on the clock and Classiche certification, but also a truly elegant colour combination: Marrone Colorado over Beige Scuro. Then there's the 'as new' right-hand-drive [328 GTS](#), which has covered a scarcely believable 556 miles (sacrilege?) and is estimated at an almost-as-startling £170,000-200,000. A desirable (and rare) [manual 612 Scaglietti](#) (£80,000-100,000) and a [one-owner F40](#) (£780,000-900,000) are also of note.

Seldom-seen classics



Two less familiar Italian classics, but both with sought-after Mille Miglia eligibility, caught our eye: the charming Ghia-bodied [1953 Cisitalia 505 DE](#) (£130,000-150,000) and the [1955 Moretti 750 Sport Barchetta](#) (£175,000-225,000).

Judging by the photo, the matching-numbers [Lancia Stratos HF Stradale](#) (£270,000-320,000) looks to be a riot to drive, while those after an eligible historic racer with fantastic provenance should look at the rare [MGA Twin Cam](#) (£120,000-160,000).

Fame fascination



If [celebrity provenance](#) is something you look out for, how about the [Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud I Drophead Coupé](#) offered by the famous James Bond set designer Sir Ken Adam (£175,000-200,000), or the quite exquisite and highly original [Maserati Mistral Spyder](#), formerly owned by the ‘English Marilyn Monroe’, Diana Dors (£475,000-575,000)?

Black and gold



Which car would we most like to drive home (through Central London, naturally)? It simply has to be the black [Bizzarrini GT 5300 Strada](#), estimated at £495,000-700,000. It might not have its original engine, but its history is well documented and, well, just look at it...

Photos courtesy of RM Sotheby's

Gallery

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