CLASSIC DRIVER

5 collector cars to put in your garage this week

Lead

This week's Market Finds pitches 60s Italian beauties against 80s German performance icons, with a Mercedes SLR McLaren thrown in for good measure. We can't pick a side, but maybe you can - take a look below!

Ferruccio's F-bomb



It's a genesis story as good as any: Ferruccio Lamborghini, tractor manufacturer extraordinaire, was less than blown away by his Ferrari sports car, so he decided to provide Enzo with some constructive feedback. In return, Mr. Ferrari told him where he could shove said feedback, which clearly rubbed Ferruccio the wrong way, because he decided to produce his own sports car: the Lamborghini 350 GT. This stunning Grigio Argento example, <u>currently for sale with Wim Prins</u>, is one of just 131 cars made and looks to be in Concours condition. The 350 GT's beguiling doe-eyed headlights and expansive front windshield only add to what is an undeniably gorgeous car, so it's easy to see why Ferruccio was so confident in his ability to leap from agriculture to automotive culture.

Super Luxurious Rocket



Alright, SLR is actually an acronym for "Sport Leicht Rennsport" (sport light racing), but that doesn't make the title any less true. After all, can any grand tourer hold a candle to Mercedes and McLaren's joint creation? Despite the traditional GT proportions, the Mercedes SLR McLaren was anything but conventional, combining a raucous 5.0 litre supercharged V8 with a cutting edge carbon fibre monocoque for supreme rigidity and power. While the SLR was poised for GT perfection, it was still more than happy to stomp on the toes of any contemporary supercars. Adding even more curb-side appeal are the side-exit exhausts, designed to singe the ankles of any plebeians straying too near to Merc's imperious land missile. This stunning example is finished in Cristal Covellin metallic blue paint over brown Flèche d'Argent nappa leather and is currently for sale with the good folks over at L'Art De L'Automobile.

The people's hot hatch



Has any car done more for petrol heads worldwide than the Golf GTI? Ever since its debut at the Frankfurt motor show in 1975, the Golf GTI has been democratising driving fun, and arguably no generation of VW's hot hatch managed to nail the brief better than the original. Undeniably a must-have in any car collection no matter the size, if you wanted to buy a MK1 Golf GTI, you might as well do it right and find a white Pirelli special edition example, just like this one for sale with PCH Automotive. This particular example has clearly had its share of fun on the roads with roughly 120,000 miles on the clock, but even so, it's in better condition than any 35 year old economy car should be.

Step nose track veteran





It's unusual for a more "junior" model in a manufacturer's line-up to outshine the rest of the range, but in the case of the Alfa Romeo GT 1300 Junior, it's hard to think of a better looking car from the same era, or ever really. So-called for the step in front of the bonnet seam, this GT from 1969 was converted to meet FIA CT 12 class regulations many moons ago, and has since competed in countless races in Italy. Having enjoyed a restoration to the tune of €10,000 just a year ago, during which the chassis, fuel tank, tires, and seats were renewed, this Alfa is now ready to race once more. Available with Movendi, this could be your chance to acquire what will surely be one of the prettiest cars on any racing grid.

It's an M3, enough said



If you're reading Classic Driver you already know what this is. The automotive equivalent of a scalpel, the E30 M3 is a perfect driving tool, equalled perhaps only by the finest 911s in terms of unfiltered driver engagement. While the E30 M3 is down on the Porsche (and its successors) by two cylinders, it makes up for it with box flares and timeless styling courtesy of Claus Luthe. This stunning example available with Ruote Da Sogno is barely broken in, having covered just 15,000 since 1987, and would make for an unrivalled companion on the track or on the tarmac.

Gallery

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