

THE PENINSULA

C L A S S I C S

BEST OF THE BEST AWARD

The Peninsula Classics Best of the Best Award

2024 Nominees



1928 BUGATTI TYPE 35 C GRAND PRIX

Coachwork by Bugatti

2024 Best of Show, Chantilly Arts & Elegance Richard Mille

- 1991 CC straight 8-cylinder, supercharged
- Serial No: 4871
- 125 horsepower at 5,500 RPM
- 4-speed manual gearbox
- Suspensions: front hollow live axle, semi-elliptic springs; rear live axle, quarter-elliptic springs
- Drum brakes front and rear

Background:

This particular Bugatti model secured more than 2,000 grand prix victories during its era and is considered one of the top race cars of all time. One of just 52 built by Bugatti between 1927 and 1930, the nominated vehicle successfully raced until 1933. It placed fourth overall in its first race at the Targa Florio in 1928 and was later sold to Jannine Jennky, who raced it extensively and claimed numerous victories, including an overall win in the 1928 Coupe de Bourgogne in Dijon. The Bugatti won Best of Show at the 2024 Chantilly Arts et Elegance Richard Mille.

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1932 ALFA ROMEO 8C 2300 SPIDER

Coachwork by Figoni

2024 Best of Show, Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este

- Serial No. 2211079
- In-line 8-cylinder engine, 2,300 CC, supercharged
- 142 BHP at 5,000 RPM
- 4-speed manual gearbox
- Suspensions: live axle front and rear, semi-elliptic springs
- Drum brakes front and rear

Background:

The 1932 Alfa Romeo 8C 2300 Spider is the only short chassis on which Giuseppe Figoni built a new body. In 1937, it was given as a graduation present to Henri d'Autichamp, a French Naval Academy graduate, who made several modifications, including a thicker chassis, rear-body adjustments and a larger fuel tank. D'Autichamp then disassembled parts of the car and hid them to protect it from the Germans during World War II. Thought to have disappeared, the 8C 2300 Spider was rediscovered in 2014, and acquired by its current owner in 2024. It has been restored to mechanically perfect condition, retaining its original patina and paintwork, and won Best of Show at the 2024 Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este.

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1934 BUGATTI TYPE 59 SPORTS

Coachwork by Bugatti

2024 Best of Show, Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance

- Serial No. 57248
- 3,300 CC, 8 cylinders
- 250 HP
- 4-speed gearbox
- Front suspension: leaf spring, hydraulic dampers; rear suspension: rigid axle on leaf springs
- Brakes: mechanic drums on all wheels

Background:

The 1934 Bugatti Type 59 Sports competed in various races in 1934 and 1935 with renowned drivers René Dreyfus, Robert Benoist, and Jean-Pierre Wimille. Bugatti then converted the vehicle into a sports car by removing its supercharger, adding a four-speed synchronized transmission, and reworking its body. The newly modified car was purchased by King Leopold III of Belgium, who had it repainted in black with a yellow stripe to match Belgian racing colours. Since 2020, it has been owned by a Bugatti enthusiast and made history as the first preservation-class car to win Best of Show at Pebble Beach in 2024.

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C L A S S I C S

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1937 BUGATTI TYPE 57 S ROADSTER

Coachwork by Corsica

2024 Best of Show, Goodwood Cartier Style et Luxe Concours of Elegance

- Serial No. 57503
- 3,257 CC DOHC Straight 8 Engine with Dry Sump
- 180 BHP at 5,000 RPM
- 4-speed manual gearbox
- Live axle with leaf springs front and rear
- Brake drums front and rear, cable operated

Background:

The third Bugatti finalist boasts a 3.3-litre straight-eight DOHC engine mounted in an innovatively low chassis, a design that subsequently evolved into the Works Grand Prix 57G “Tanks” that dominated the 1936 racing season. One of only 42 Type 57S chassis ever built, it has received numerous prestigious awards, including Most Elegant Pre-War Sportscar at the Pebble Beach Concours, Best of Show at Salon Privé Blenheim Palace, Car of the Year by *Classic & Sports Car*, and Best of Show at Cartier Style et Luxe in 2024.

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C L A S S I C S

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1937/1946 DELAHAYE 145 CABRIOLET

Coachwork by Franay

2024 Best of Show, The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering

- Serial No. 151-53-75
- 4,496 CC, DOHC 12-cylinder engine
- 245 BHP at 5,500 RPM
- 4-speed Cotal electromagnetic gearbox
- Independent front suspension, live rear axle
- Drum brakes, cable operated

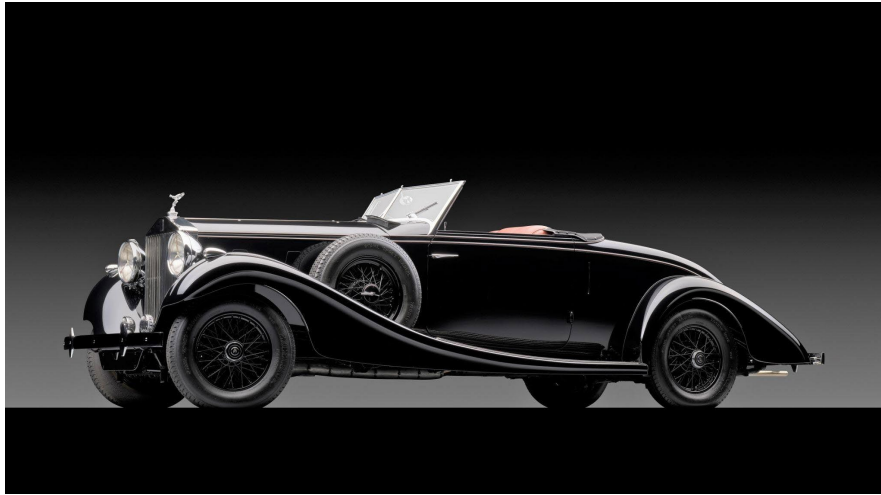
Background:

Driven by Rene Dreyfus, this 1937/1946 Delahaye 145 Cabriolet claimed the prize in 1937's infamous ACF (Automobile Club de France) Prix du Million, a challenge that offered one million francs to the constructor and driver who could best the speed record set at Montlhéry racecourse by Mercedes-Benz. Decorated in Prix du Million livery, the Delahaye went on to win multiple races but was hidden away during World War II. After the war, Delahaye rebuilt the Prix du Million chassis for a French customer looking for a sports car, and in 1981, automotive designer Philippe Charbonneaux re-bodied it to replicate its original grand prix appearance. The car's current owner reunited the 1937 race car with its 1946 Franay roadster coachwork. It now sports its original electric blue colour and light grey interior, and won Best in Show at *The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering* in 2024.

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1937 ROLLS-ROYCE PHANTOM III CONVERTIBLE

Coachwork by J.S. Inskip

2024 Best of Show, Concours of Elegance Hampton Court Palace

- Serial No. 3CP18
- 7,300 CC, 12-cylinder OHV engine
- 180 BHP at 3,000 RPM
- 4-speed manual gearbox
- Front suspension: independent with coil springs; rear: live axle and semi-elliptic springs
- Brakes: drums front and rear, servo-assisted

Background:

The nominated 1937 Rolls-Royce Phantom III Convertible is one of 18 custom Phantom III bodies built by Brewster craftsmen. A unique two-passenger convertible coupé sometimes referred to as a Henley, the vehicle was delivered in June of 1937 to Colonel Joseph Samuels, a wealthy philanthropist. It had a number of additional owners before it was acquired by Charles Melhinch, who showed it at the 1953 AACA Devon meet where it won the Smoothness and Silence trophy. The car has since been sold a number of times and has received prestigious awards, including Best of Show at the Concours of Elegance at Hampton Court Palace in 2024.

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1947 DELA HAYE 135MS NARVAL CABRIOLET

Coachwork by Figoni et Falaschi

2024 Best of Show, The Amelia

- Serial No. 800495
- 3,557 CC inline 6-cylinder engine
- 125 HP
- Total 4-speed pre-selector gearbox
- Independent front suspension; live rear axle with parallel semi-elliptic springs
- Drum brakes all-round

Background:

The second Delahaye in the group is an elegant 1947 Delahaye 135MS Narval Cabriolet that was first exhibited at the Paris Auto Salon in October of 1947, and was originally owned by famous French singer and songwriter Charles Trenet, who requested the original orange brûlé paint be refinished to a light French blue. It was ultimately purchased by the Mecum family, who restored it and returned it to its original paint colour. Upon completion, the Delahaye won the Elegance in Motion Award at the 2023 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, Best of Show at the 2023 St. Michael's Concours d'Elegance, and Best of Show at The Amelia Concours d'Elegance in 2024.

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1957 FERRARI 335 S

Coachwork by Scaglietti

2024 Best of Show, Salon Privé

- Serial No. 0674
- 4,023 CC, front longitudinal 60o V12 DOHC 24 plug
- 390 BHP at 7,400 RPM
- 4-speed gearbox
- Independent front suspension, double wishbone, coil springs; De Dion Axle rear suspension, coil springs
- Drum brakes front and rear

Background:

The Ferrari 335 S was part of renowned collector Pierre Bardinon's collection for over 45 years and is considered one of the greatest Ferraris ever built. Initially a 290 MM Spyder Scaglietti, it was driven by Juan Manuel Fangio in the 1956 Mille Miglia. After several successful races, including a third-place finish at Nürburgring and second in the Swedish Grand Prix, the car was upgraded to 315 S specifications and then further modified to 335 S specifications, which included a pontoon-style nose for improved brake cooling. For the filming of Michael Mann's 2023 film *Ferrari*, the car was used to create replicas for scenes depicting the 1957 race season. In 2024, it was recognized as the Best of Show winner at the Salon Privé.

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C L A S S I C S

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1964 FERRARI 250 LM

Coachwork by Scaglietti on a design by Pininfarina

2024 Best of Show, Cavallino Classic

- Serial No. 6053
- 3,285 CC 12-cylinder engine
- Single Overhead Camshaft (SOHC), 2 valves per cylinder
- 320 BHP at 7,700 RPM
- 5-speed manual

Background:

A Grand Touring version of the mid-engined 250, the stunning 250 LM had a vibrant racing career from 1965 to 1967, including first-place finishes at Brands Hatch, Snetterton and Silverstone in 1966. It was recently shown at the 2024 Casa Ferrari and won Best in Show at the Palm Beach Cavallino Classic in January 2024.