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Art Of The Classic Car



Synopsis

The rarity and historical significance of prewar classic and antique cars make them hot commodities on the collector car market. These are the automobiles that populate the fairways and manicured lawns of the world's greatest car shows in alluring locales like Pebble Beach, California, and Amelia Island, Florida. These are the cars that bring a hush to the hall when they roll across the blocks at auctions around the world. These are the cars that fill the world's greatest collections, like those of Ralph Lauren, Mark Knopfler, and various members of royal families. These are the cars from history's premiere automakers: hallowed names like Packard, Duesenberg, Stutz, Bugatti, Mercedes-Benz, Cord, and others' "six-figure and million-dollar machines that thrill Barrett-Jackson audiences and drive bidders to frenzy. Art of the Classic Car features the stunning studio photography of Peter Harholdt (Art of the Hot Rod, Art of the Muscle Car), lavished on the most significant automobiles from the classic era: the 1910s to early 1940s. Every page contains framable-quality portraits of some of the most important cars ever made, with each car accompanied by a short essay from automotive expert Peter Bodensteiner that places the model contextually within automotive history. Complete with period ads and promotional art, Art of the Classic Car is the most beautiful pictorial history of classic cars ever produced.

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Customer Reviews

If the "Olympian" cars of the 1925-40 period are your thing, then grab this volume. It is chiefly made up of photos--lovely color renderings of classic cars, sometimes in profile, sometimes focusing on a specific part of the automobile. These cars were hugely expensive when they were new--and the

survivors depicted here are even more so now. The photos take you to a different time, sadly in many cases to the depths of the Depression when few could even think about driving such a car. And compared to the automatic shifts, power steering, disc brakes, air conditioning and steel-belted radial tires we take for granted, they drive like trucks. But who cares? This is all about taking in the coach built glory of handmade cars designed for the 1% of their time. All are museum pieces now, luckily some on public display. But you need not travel anywhere (some of the best collections open to the public are in California, no surprise) . . . just wallow in this fabulous collection of photos.

The photography is first class, great narrative, BUT why do publishers insist in running full photos of those beautiful automobiles across the gutter....it ruins the look of the car and is an insult to the photographer, because much of the detail is lost in the binding. This is why I will be reluctant to purchase any more automobile "coffee table" books.

I can't imagine anyone being disappointed in this lavish volume of automotive art. The choice of vehicles photographed and the detail and composition of these images is outstanding. I also appreciated the large format of the book (page size being 12 x 10.5 inches).

Beautifully crafted book - great photography - the selected automobiles are truly gems of the automotive world. Misses on some great Auburn, Cords, Dusenbergs and many others marques that make the classic car world go around... worth a look

Fantastic book. Magnificent photos. Quick little snippets of info on the cars included. Money can't buy happiness, sure, but..... Those who possess these mechanical masterpieces are in possession of some serious works of art. Peter has done a grand job of capturing their magic and allure as well. If you like pre war autos, the best of the best, you will not be disappointed.

Works of art. Recently started drawing some vintage car pen and ink illustrations. This book is awesome. The photography is top shelf and the cars themselves are mind blowing examples...if you love beautiful industrial design..you'll love this book. Bought a very good used copy for less than 9.00 bucks.

Great photography of (mostly) fabulous cars, ranging from 1911 to just before WW2. Highlights are the great cars of the 20s and 30s -- the Deusenbergs, Mercedes, Packards, Bentleys, Chryslers,

Cords ... Let's just say, even Bill Gates would notice if he bought a garage-full of these babies. My favorites? The Bentley Speed Six! (1930); the Deusenberg SJ Mormon Meteor (1935), the Cadillac Fleetwood V-16 (1933); pretty much any Coffin-nose Cord -- and the comparatively-humble Chrysler Town & Country woodie (1941): my parents had a pea-green steel-sided variant of this one all through WW2: "Dugout Doug". Happy reading -- and drooling Peter D. Tillman

My initial introduction to this outstanding Classic Car book was diminished because the page inside the cover arrived folded and creased in two places, with the imprint of a paper clip at the top of the page. These flaws in my copy did nothing for the full page photo of the featured Classic Car. This problem seems to result from the seller and not the publisher. Hope your copy arrives in pristine condition - like the Classic Car contents.

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