



RM's Monterey Sports Car Auction Continues Million Dollar Tradition With a Distinctive Pair of Seven Figure Cars For Sale

One of a kind Abarth Bodied - 1953 Ferrari 166/250 and Jim Hall's First Edition #61 Chaparral Headline Exceptional Offerings, at Portola Plaza Hotel, Monterey, CA August 13-14, 2004

BLLENHEIM, Ontario, Canada ([PRWEB](#)) August 9, 2004 -- For nearly a decade, RM Auctions has brought record setting, multi-million dollar cars to the auction block at its annual Monterey Sports and Classic Car Auction. This year, the event will be held on August 13-14, 2004 at the newly refurbished Portola Plaza Hotel (formerly the Doubletree Hotel) in Monterey, California. The early consignment centerpieces of this year's event are two outstanding sports racing examples, which raised the bar for their competition and significantly impacted the motorsports events of their day.

The first beauty is an extremely rare 1953 Ferrari 166/250 MM Competition Spyder. After nearly 50 years in hibernation, this unique and visually stunning Ferrari, with one-off coachwork by Carlo Abarth, was impeccably restored to its authentic condition. Originally constructed in 1952 by special request of Scuderia Guastalla driver Giulio Musitella, this car is perhaps the most daringly styled and unconventional Ferrari of its era.

From its imposing central headlight, twin nose scoops, prominently scalloped fender wells and bladed rear fender tops, it is a visual standout. Its specially-designed, lightweight body weighs 600 pounds less than subsequent 166 MMs and its quick-release removable panels were designed to make maintenance easier and faster -- especially during a race.

Powered by a Ferrari V12, the 166/250 MM Competition Spyder saw action in the 1953 Targa Florio race in Sicily, the 1953 Mille Miglia, numerous races at the Interlagos circuit in South America and it placed second in the Rio Grand Prix in Brazil.

The second RM Monterey headliner is a 1961 Chaparral 1 Sports Racing Car, the early brainchild of Texas-born racing driver Jim Hall, whose innovative cars dominated the unlimited class of sports car racing in the U.S. throughout the mid-1960s. This first edition Chaparral 1 is a Chevy-powered, front-engined car that shares a common heritage with the rear-engined #Scarab racer, which was also designed by Chuck Pelly and constructed by the firm of Troutman-Barnes.

To this day, very few racing cars of any type have included and successfully demonstrated the successful innovations that Jim Hall engineered into his Chaparrals, revolutionizing race car aerodynamics and ground effects. On his way to a decade of victories, Jim Hall amazed the racing world from 1961 through 1970, developing fiberglass and aluminum chassis, aluminum-honeycomb and composite structural pieces. And he created the first car with vacuum-assisted roadholding, grabbing a distinct competitive advantage through the creative use of downforce.

In total, only five of the first edition Chaparrals were constructed. RM Auctions offers serious collectors a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire the car that founded the famous Chaparral Racing dynasty and launched Jim Hall's into automotive history as the father of the #Texas Road Runners.



“Each of these cars is not only evocative of the remarkable engineering advances of its era, but each also stands as a testament to the creativity and vision of the men who created them,” says Mike Fairbairn of RM Auctions. “At Monterey, discerning buyers will have a chance to own a fascinating chapter of racing history.”

RM Auction’s Monterey Sports and Classic Car Auction will be held at the Portola Plaza Hotel (formerly the Doubletree Hotel) at Fisherman’s Wharf, 2 Portola Place, Monterey, California, beginning Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. August 13th and continuing on Saturday, August 14th from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight. Vehicles can be previewed beginning Thursday morning, August 12th from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Admission is \$30 per person (good for Friday and Saturday) with children under 12 admitted free of charge. An auction catalog is available for an additional \$50 U.S. including shipping and handling within North America, by calling 800-211-4371.

RM Auctions will mark its 25th Anniversary in 2004 and is known as the leader in the North American investment-grade collector car auction market. Worldwide RM Auctions was recognized by Catalogo Bolaffi, an Italian-based catalog that tracks classic auto auction sales worldwide, for selling the top five autos based on final hammer prices in 2002/2003 and six of the top ten. For additional information on RM Auctions Inc., please call (800) 211-4371 or visit the company web site at www.rmauctions.com



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