



Cadillacs, Edsels and Studebakers still soldier on in Cuba Â New coffee-table book celebrates these American classics

Interlink Publishing of Northampton, Maine, releases Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles, a lavishly illustrated coffee-table book by Cuba expert and award-winning travel writer & photographer, Christopher P. Baker.

OAKLAND, CA ([PRWEB](#)) August 5, 2004 -- Four decades after the U.S. imposed a trade embargo on Cuba, Hudsons, Edsels and Chevys still chug through the streets of Havana. Now, Interlink Publishing of Northampton, Maine, has published Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles that honors these beauties of a bygone era in their unlikely communist setting.

In this lavishly illustrated coffee-table book, travel writer/photographer Christopher P. Baker pays homage to Cuba's astonishing wealth of antique cars, revealing the time-worn splendor of classic American automobiles spanning eight decades. From Model-T Fords and '40s-era Buick Roadmasters to late '50s Edsel Citations and Chevrolet Impalas with fins sharp enough to draw blood, Cuba Classics evokes the nostalgic and seductive world of Cuba's car culture.

Written in the lively, engaging style that has won the author numerous literary awards, the evocative text proves both absorbing and richly entertaining. Baker draws upon memoirs, museum records, personal interviews, and Cuba's own dusty archives to celebrate the four-wheeled survivors from the heyday of Detroit.

Tracing the evolution of motor madness in decadent pre-revolutionary Cuba, Cuba Classics also surveys the tough realities of caring for vintage cars in the modern age of embargo and shortages. In a dynamic photojournalistic essay that portrays the long love affair between Cubans and the U.S. automobile, the author offers a paean to the extraordinary people who keep their weary cacharros running with resourcefulness, ingenuity, and indefatigable good humor.

Cuba Classics captivates everyone from armchair travelers to classic car connoisseurs with powerful imagery that reflects the beguiling other-worldly charm of Cuba, the Caribbean's most compelling and intriguing isle. Blurry action shots of moving cars... close-up details of hood ornamentation, grillwork, and dashboards... and lavish landscapes that place the beloved cacharros within a setting both sensual and surreal are complemented by extensive captions that, together, illustrate the subject magnificently.

Acclaimed travel photographer Robert Holmes wrote the Foreword. Â Baker has done a remarkable job documenting Cuba's most important cultural icons, visually capturing the elusive sense of place that is the goal of every travel photographer and yet which very few ever achieve. A better book on Cuba would be hard to find,Â writes Holmes, twice recipient of the 'Travel Photographer of the Year.'

The book has received critical advance acclaim. Martin Cruz, author of Gorky Park and Havana Bay, commented: Â This is the most beautiful, most sympathetic book about Cuba I have seen for years. It's terrific!Â

About Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles and the author:

The 190-page Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles (ISBN 1-56656-546-4) is published by Interlink Publishing of Northampton, Maine. Released in August 2004, the large-format, hard



cover edition is illustrated with 168 photographs. Christopher P. Baker is also the author of National Geographic Traveler Cuba, Moon Handbooks: Cuba, Moon Handbooks: Havana, and Mi Moto Fidel: Motorcycling Through Castro's Cuba, winner of both the 2002 Lowell Thomas Award for Travel Book of the Year and the North American Travel Journalists Association's Grand Prize. His many other awards include the Benjamin Franklin Award and the Caribbean Tourism Organization's Travel Journalist of the Year. More information is available on <http://www.cuba-automobiles.com> and on <http://www.interlinkbooks.com>

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