

CLASSIC

CAR AFRICA

R47.00 incl VAT
October 2017



TRACK STARS ALIGN

1959 PODIUM-FINISHING PROTEA TRIUMPH
& MGA TWIN CAM REUNITED

THE ROTOR ROUTE
NSU'S SUPER SMOOTH R080

BACKYARD BRAWLERS
ALFA, BMW & FORD GROUP 1 RACERS

KATJA POENSGEN | GOTTLIEB DAIMLER | MARIO MASSACURATI





THE GAME CHANGER



The late 1930s era of exuberant French coachwork led to a new wave in automotive design as the highly functional forms of the 1920s were swapped out for fantastic curves and sensuous lines. Almost overnight cars became objects of art and while there were others that did a fantastic job, the Parisian firm of Figoni et Falaschi was, and still is, regarded as the leading innovator in the groundbreaking new look.

The firm's Joseph Figoni teamed up with Talbot-Lago in 1937, signing an agreement to work together exclusively for a period. The finest product of this collaboration was the landmark 'goutte d'eau coupé' (drop of water or teardrop coupé), of which just 16 were produced in two different series. This didn't mean mass-production though with each Teardrop handbuilt, and consequently there are some variations from one car to another. For example, two were built with skirted front and rear wheels, some featured bullet headlamps between the radiator grille and fenders, while others featured headlamps recessed behind chrome grilles.

The first series, named 'Jeancart' after the first client, was an aerodynamic coupé with a slight notchback design. Five were built along

these lines, with three on the T150-C SS chassis, one on the 3-litre T23 chassis and one on the T150-C Lago Speciale long-wheelbase chassis.

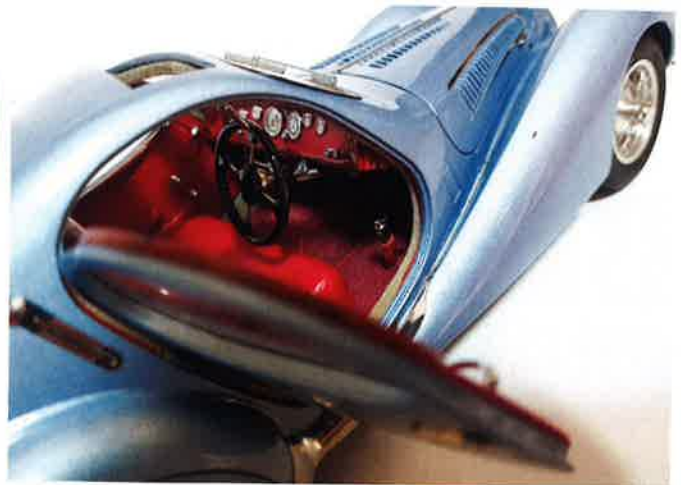
A second series debuted at the New York Auto Show, and the Big Apple gave its name to the fresh 'Model New York' in honour of the occasion. It was similar in concept but featured an uninterrupted fastback profile. While not all second series cars were officially designated 'Model New York' by Figoni, the similar appearance and characteristics across the board usually see them listed as such by experts.

With over twenty years of model making under its belt and some fine-tuned skills, CMC felt the time was right to reproduce this automotive design icon with the high-end detailing it deserves. And the result is exquisite. Everything opens and closes (including the slip back sunroof) and the panel fit is incredibly good. Inside the cabin the detail abounds, from the leather upholstery with scale graining to an accurate dash filled with gauges, metallic toggle switches and buttons. Even the carpet pile is scaled correctly and the piping on the edge of these miniature rugs is just spot on.

This carpet continues in the boot, where you also find a spare wheel secured by removable leather strap. A closer inspection of this wheel shows some real steel laced spoke wheels, complete with spoke nipples. Under the long bonnet (which has actual



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open louvres) there's another bit of art (both in model and full size form) with a beautiful 6-cylinder and triple carbs. CMC outdid themselves in this department with fabric plug leads, accurate terminals and wiring harness fittings, and the battery bracket even has butterfly nuts. What was chromed on the Talbot is chromed on the CMC. Likewise painted surfaces are painted and what was left as raw casting is emulated down to the finest detail. The same attention to detail continues underneath with every nut and bolt on the suspension there. So too are brake lines, multi-bladed leaf springs and where the original has wooden boards CMC did exactly that – only a lot smaller.

One of the benefits of copying exacting details is that the CMC Talbot bolts and screws together. There's no glue and clumsiness. It is truly a work of art that, although 18 times smaller, replicates one

of the most iconic automotive artworks in fitting style.

TALBOT LAGO COUPÉ T150 C-SS DATA

Engine:	6-cylinder in-line
Displacement:	3996cc
Power:	140 - 160bhp
Top speed:	185km/h
Production:	1937 - 1939
Units made:	16

Thanks to Bunny Wentzel of Sportique Collectable Models for letting us get up close and personal with this beauty. 📷

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SPORTIQUE COLLECTABLE MODELS

IN THE RACE FOR QUALITY THERE IS NO FINISH LINE

Modelli Da Legenda

– BUNNY WENTZEL –

350 Emerald Estates, 22 Greenstone Drive, Greenstone, 1609
Tel: +27 11026 7614 | Cell: +27 82 923 0512
E-mail: bunny@sportique.co.za | Website: www.sportique.co.za