



**MERCEDES W196**

Full story of Fangio's lost racer

**LOTUS CORTINA**

Reunited with Sir John Whitmore



USA \$9.99 | CAN \$11.99 | £4.50 | ISSUE 120 JUNE 2013

# Octane

CLASSIC & PERFORMANCE CAR

# GTO VS F1

Will the McLaren ever replace the Ferrari as the ultimate classic?  
The experts decide



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PRE-WAR ASTON MARTIN • GINETTA • VW XL1 • ROLLS-ROYCE

1:18 CMC

## Bugatti T35B



**PRICE** £228.95  
**MATERIAL** Premium diecast  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★  
**VALUE** ★★★★★  
 YES, IT'S GREEN rather than the more usual French racing blue, because this is the first in a new series from CMC of Type 35s in 'national colours'. And for this initial release, CMC has chosen the most famous

Type 35 of them all: the car driven by William Grover-Williams to victory in the inaugural Monaco Grand Prix of 1929. Grover-Williams went on to become a British secret agent in France during WW2 and was executed by the Nazis in 1945; his car survived in amazingly original form and is rumoured to have been sold to collector Fred Loh in 2006 for €2.7 million.

CMC's replica is, as you'd expect, stunning. Working features include a handbrake that pulls on the linkage to the rear wheels, and front brake cables that correctly move on guide pulleys as the wheels swivel. Both bonnet sides open to reveal a very detailed engine, although the underside of the model is (prototypically) concealed by a full-length undertray.

Unless stated otherwise, models shown are available from Grand Prix Models, +44 (0)1295 278070, www.grandprixmodels.com. P&P is free to UK customers.

**Model of the Month**

1:43 SCALE

- 1 ASTON MARTIN DBR1**  
 BY SMTS **PRICE** £119.95  
**MATERIAL** Metal handbuilt  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Only ten examples have been made of this model of the 1961 Le Mans entry. It's impressively heavy, and well finished.
- 2 CHEVROLET CORVETTE L88**  
 BY TRUESCALE MINIATURES  
**PRICE** £66.95 **MATERIAL** Resin  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 You can't get more American than this fantastically detailed Daytona Corvette – is that a beermat lying on the dash top?!
- 3 ALFA ROMEO 8C 2300 TOURING**  
 BY SPARK **PRICE** £59.95  
**MATERIAL** Resin  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Pretty Touring-bodied road-racer has been nicely captured by Spark, including the fairing over the spare wheels.
- 4 KOENIG FERRARI F55**  
 BY BBR **PRICE** £199.95  
**MATERIAL** Resin and metal handbuilt  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 It looks like an F40, but Koenig's twin-turbo special was based on an F355. Price aside, the model is hard to fault.
- 5 LOTUS 16** BY SPARK  
**PRICE** £54.95 **MATERIAL** Resin  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Pleasing little model of the '16' in its original 1958 form, as driven by Alan Stacey in the 1958 British Grand Prix.
- 6 FITCH SPRINT** BY AUTOMODELLO  
**PRICE** \$119.95 **MATERIAL** Resin  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Racing driver John Fitch's hotted-up Chevrolet Corvair was dubbed 'America's Porsche', and this is a very fine replica – buy it through www.automodello.com.
- 7 BUGATTI T57SC VAN VOOREN**  
 BY MINICHAMPS **PRICE** £99.95  
**MATERIAL** Resin  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Excellent replica of the unique 57SC that's now in the Mullin Collection.
- 8 McLAREN M8E CAN-AM**  
 BY MARSH MODELS **PRICE** £172.80  
**MATERIAL** Metal and resin handbuilt  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 Gorgeous handbuilt of Roger McCaig's 1971 privateer entry – the alloy floorpan and interior detail look particularly fine.
- 9 MERCEDES-BENZ 540K**  
 BY CARBONE **PRICE** £268.40  
**MATERIAL** Resin handbuilt  
**QUALITY** ★★★★★ **VALUE** ★★★★★  
 ...with body by the Mayfair Carriage Co of London. An expensive but superb model.



### CLASSIC MODELS

## Auto-Dux Construction Set



**ANYONE WHO HAS TRIED** to glue together and paint a plastic kit knows it can be a messy business. Putting together the Auto-Dux set is much simpler: all you need to do is attach the clockwork motor to the base, screw on the body and fit the wheels.

At least, that's what a child would have done in the early '50s if he'd been given one of these sets. Any collector lucky enough to find a pristine, unassembled example today would be well-advised to leave it exactly as it is, with each component carefully strung onto its backing card.

Markes and Company first used the Auto-Dux trademark for toys made in its

factory at Lüdenscheid near Cologne, Germany, in 1932. A new series of post-war cars began in 1951 and this variation presumably dates from a year or two after that, as the Mercedes 300SL Gullwing is based on the car that won Le Mans in 1952 in the hands of Hermann Lang and Fritz Reiss. It's paired with a more sedate vehicle, BMW's first post-war saloon, the 501. Both are to approximately 1:35 scale, a bit bigger than the customary 1:43 size used for diecast models.

Before WW2, the German toy industry had been associated with tinplate toys but, by the mid-50s, this market had largely been taken over by Japan. New plastic materials gave

European toy companies an opportunity to innovate, and the Dux set is an interesting mix of old and new: the silver body of the Mercedes is a tinplate pressing whereas the BMW is moulded in plastic. The German toy industry's decades of experience in producing ingenious mechanisms can be seen in the clockwork motor, which fits horizontally onto the chassis and is switched on or off by a switch protruding from the back of the car.

Period Dux advertisements claimed that 'youthful lovers of motor sport have taken this car kit to their hearts'. Those whose passion to own one remains unfulfilled 60 years later could pay £500 for the privilege.