

AT LE MANS CLASSIC: MOVIE CARS, MOVIE STARS!

Born at the same time as movies, at the beginning of the 20th Century, cars have often held a special place on the big screen. Le Mans Classic 2010 has chosen to pay tribute to these "star" cars: partners to great names of cinema and even main "actors" in Seventh Art classics.

From *Laurel and Hardy's* Ford T to the boosted machines in *Fast and Furious* without forgetting the De Lorean in *Back to the Future* and the DB5 Aston Martin in *Goldfinger*, automobiles have always been omnipresent in films. Main actor in *Herbie* or in *Christine*, they complete the hero's panoply in a countless number of films, and in all kinds of cinematography. Everyone remembers the Cadillac Eldorado in the *Corniaud*, the Ford Mustang in *Un Homme et une Femme* and *Bullitt*; film-lovers have certainly not forgotten the "Chinese Eyes" Silver Cloud Rolls Royce in Antonioni's *Blow Up* and Michel Piccoli's Alfa Romeo Giulietta in *les Choses de la Vie* of Claude Sautet.

Cinema has extensively used the motor racing theme: the films *Grand Prix* and *Le Mans* are perfect examples of the type. In the public's mind, the actor Steve Mc Queen is the best personification of a Driver; for the simple reason that he was one, and a talented one. He took the "Le Mans" project right to the end with a result, still considered today, as the best motor sport documentary ever made.

The cinema theme will also be omnipresent at Le Mans Classic in 2010. Namely through the theme of the Club Contest: this year the classic car clubs are invited to recreate their best film scenes. The best sets and productions will be decided at the end of the week-end by the jury of the contest.

The public will be able to admire, amongst others, the Ferrari 250GT California Spyder of *The Moon in the Gutter*, the Ford GT40 of *Le Mans*, Detective Jerry Cotton's E-type Jaguar or Laurel & Hardy's Ford T.

On the track, the exciting battles anticipated between Porsche 917 and Ferrari 512 will bring back those filmed, exactly 40 years ago, during the shooting of the film *Le Mans*.

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