



REDLINE

GUILD OF **MOTURING ARTISTS**

SPRING 2025



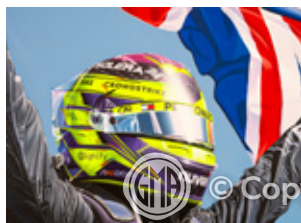
Featured Artist **RAY WEST 19**



RETROMOBILE PARIS

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www.motoringartists.com

Welcome

to the Spring 2025 edition of Redline. I hope that everybody reading this had a good Christmas and New Year. Time passes quickly and we are almost 3 months into 2025 already! A quarter of the way through the 21st century! For sure, we are now in a time of great change, most notably, from the GMA point of view, grappling with the arrival of AI. This thorny subject has been the subject of much discussion, and some guidelines have been thrashed out. The Chairman has informed members of what is permitted, and what isn't.

This issue's Featured Artist, Ray West, is definitely not using AI, and has recently received awards for his work, so well worthy of inclusion in this spot. I hope you like his work as much as I do.

Jonny Ambrose has supplied an article about his recent one-man show at the RAC Club. Several of our membership have now had successful shows at this prestigious venue, and we will soon be having the third annual GMA show there. This is proving to be very useful for promoting the Guild, as well as the various members who have been invited to hold individual shows there as a result. Of course, Redline will continue to report these shows as time goes by, and updates will appear on the website.

It would seem that this Winter has been a bumper time for car shows of various types, and this issue includes reviews of the F1 Expo in London, that is travelling the World (next stop Buenos Aires), Retromobile in Paris, and the Autosport Show at the NEC, Birmingham. As well as interesting cars of various ages, at these shows, there was plenty of automotive art too.

We have a packed Gallery in this issue, which I'm sure will be appreciated. Again, guaranteed free from AI. There are also all the other regular features of the ArtyFacts Quiz and Star Photo. Plenty to pass the time rather than go out in the cold of the Northern Hemisphere at this time of year, or the hot Summer for those of us on the other side of the planet.

I hope that you will all enjoy this Redline, and I anticipate a comprehensive report of another successful RAC show in the next issue.

Regards **John Napper**

ArtyFACTS by Barry Hunter

1. What was Ayrton Senna's family nickname?
2. What art name is given to blurring or 'smoking-off' the transition between colours?
3. Which driver raced a black pin-striped Mk1 Escort with great success in the 70's with 'Run Baby Run' on the front?
4. Which cracking BBC TV series recently celebrated the achievements and rivalry between the three super-star artists of the Italian Renaissance?
5. Who is the current World Rally Champion?
6. Which London art exhibition has been so popular that the National Gallery ran at least one unprecedented all-night session to satisfy demand?
7. Which French manufacturer altered the dip-stick reading on it's vehicles to undermine reliability during the Nazi occupation in World War 2?
8. Which famous French artist suffered from a congenital bone disease which meant his body developed normally, but after fractures, his legs never grew above child length? He became particularly famous for his posters.
9. Who is the current Ferrari F1 team principal?
10. Which Russian-French painter, illustrator and graphic artist of Jewish origin escaped occupied France in World War two? He lived in New York City for seven years before returning to France in 1948. He died in 1985, aged 97 in Saint Paul-de-Vence.



Committee Members

Richard Neergaard: Chairman
richardneergaard@gmail.com

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David Purvis: Administrator
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Steve Goodwin: Webmaster and Redline Art Editor
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John Napper:
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David Ginn:
davidginn@btinternet.com

WhatsApp

The Guild of Motoring Artists now has a WhatsApp group for members.

If you are not already signed up to this group, please contact one of the administrators, Richard Neergaard and Sean Wales (details above) and you will be sent a link.

Website

<https://motoringartists.com>

Email Steve to submit photos and new or updated information about yourself and your work.

Facebook

<https://facebook.com/Guild-Of-Motoring-Artists-112345913727808/>

The Guild of Motoring Artists has a Facebook Page to which members are welcome to contribute. It is linked to the GMA Instagram page so a post on one will appear on the other.

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/motoringartists/>

The Guild of Motoring Artists has an Instagram page to which members are welcome to contribute.

To be included, please submit 2 jpegs to Sean. Hashtags are also required for each picture. E-mail Sean to submit contributions or for more information.

Retromobile

REVIEW



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JONNY AMBROSE

Paris in winter still exudes a certain romantic charm for most tourists; the lure of colourful patisserie catching the eye from inside an unassuming side street boulangerie or the most intense fresh coffee sipped by beautiful Parisians. For automobile aficionados, and auto art connoisseurs alike, the evocatively named Porte de Versailles is the lure in early February each year; the venue for Retromobile.

Having bumped into Magneto supremo David Lillywhite on the rattling metro to Retromobile, I dutifully joined the long general queue as David disappeared through the media entrance with ease. My previous visit was as an exhibitor (pre-Brexit), and I now rued that the exhibitor entrance wasn't viable this year either. However, the long cold wait for this major classic car show is very worthwhile, accompanied by the occasional waft of a Gauloise in the air.

Retromobile signals the start to the European car event year ahead – THE place to lust over shiny classic metal in an unhealthy way, but also the place to be to catch up with clients and contacts. With my artist hat on. (woolly variety, not beret), I was also here to see other artists showing new works in the 'artist village' – a large cluster of artist spaces within the main Hall 1.

I was interested to see how UK based artists Jean-Yves Tabourot, and Alastair Gibson got on with the customs paperwork (sleep inducing bedtime reading suggestion: UK import/export Carnets). Also exhibiting were old artist comrades Stanley Rose (France based, possibly on a long term exchange scheme with Jean-Yves), and Austrian artist Klaus Wagger and their latest works did not disappoint. I was particularly drawn to French sculptor Antoine Dufilho's stunning 3d works in a large area bookended by life size 'sliced' sculptures of a Ferrari 250 GTO and a 1990s F1 car.



Amongst many French artists, some with impossibly large canvases, was Hubert Poirot Bourdain. His strong graphic images, with deep black lines separating bold colours, really stood out as something fresh. Another marvel of the artists' area is the eclectic sculpture from Nys Herve's inventive mind – charming works, diligently crafted, and often bringing a smile of approval for the sheer audacity of his creativity. There is however, something here for all tastes.

Another great find was the joint stand by artists Rafael Varela and Esteban Serassio, who travelled all the way from Argentina. You may have seen Rafael's expressive works gracing the cover of Tazio magazine. Estaban's sculptures are bronze but some painted and worn away creating an alluring patina.

Beyond the village, vast displays by the main European classic dealers duel for one-upmanship on who can create the best display. The UK was chiefly represented by neighbouring Fiskens, and Griardo & Co, with Joe Macari nearby. Aside from the finest race and road cars, these stands can be summed up as having the best tartan, best coffee, and best ice cream respectively.

Elsewhere, Simon Kidston themed showspace was 'the vault', with white central McLaren F1 commanding attention, inside a forcefield ring of red laser beams (actually a mile of red cord).

A highlight was the neighbouring Bugatti stands of Ivan Dutton, and three Type 59s, with possibly the most beautiful wire wheels ever. Designer Marc Newson (see Roadrat issue 5) had created the sculptural 'slipcase' for the latest book on this car – a thing of beauty in its own right.

Continuing the 1930s Bugatti theme were two further child-size driveable art offerings of Bugattis, but neither by Bicester Heritage based Hedley Studios (formerly Little Cars). Ex F1 driver Pierre-Henri Raphanel had recreated the Type 52, itself a children's version of the Type 35, built at the Moslheim factory from 1927-36. The second was Tula Precision Ltd's Type 59 beautiful recreation, complete with those amazingly laced wheels. Why no-one has recreated the slightly less glamorous Type 32 'Tank' GP machines, I cannot fathom.





Emmanuel Zurini



Centrally, there are always some exquisite marble sculptures by the master Emmanuel Zurini on the Estampe Moderne & Sportive Galerie stand. A beautiful silver Maserati Mistral also graced this stand, with the Italian theme continuing on the neighbouring Kimera Automobili stand with their modern take on the classic Lancia 037 rally cars. Other modern gems were seen on the Renault stand, with their Filante and R17 concepts alongside the new R4 & R5, opposite their classic forebears.

All this visual overload, and I hadn't even reached the central attraction, and poster cover star, 'the DS on orange orbs' for want of a better description or 'DS Dix-Neuf, Ballons' (1959) for those with GCSE French. Set against a vibrant 1960s pastiche of coloured shapes, the whole display of DS' made for a fun and stylish main course, complete with wooden model and original drawings.



Did someone mention food? The exposition building fabric may resemble the nether regions of Birmingham's NEC, but catering wise, where else could you be served 'piece de boeuf, sauce poivre et frites du jour, avec du vin'. Paris is on another level.

FEATURE RETROMOBILE

Many classic F1 cars adorned the stage in Hall 2, comprising a french flavoured display from 1970s to 2010s Toro Rosso. Lesser-seen Matra, Renault and Ligier F1 machines were spotted, along with random sightings of the pretty 1992 BMS Dallara F1 car, and cohort peer Ferrari F92 with its achingly elegant sidepods. My geek mode was fully engaged at this juncture.

Once you battled past its Camembert scented 'sentry', Hall 3 housed many more affordable classics and 'youngtimers', a welcome antidote to the multi-million dollar collector machines of Hall 1. Still, there were plenty of high-end sportscars to be bid upon in the Artcurial auction. A gleaming silver Daytona and humbly cute Vespa 400 in pale turquoise vied for equal 'Italian Chic' billing.

Retromobile is also a haven for those who seek the random automobilia treasure. Models and books are plentiful, but the one-off gems that brought a smile were a wind tunnel buck of a Le Mans winning Peugeot, and a model diorama housed under a 1960s Ferrari bodyshell on the Halmo Automotive stand.

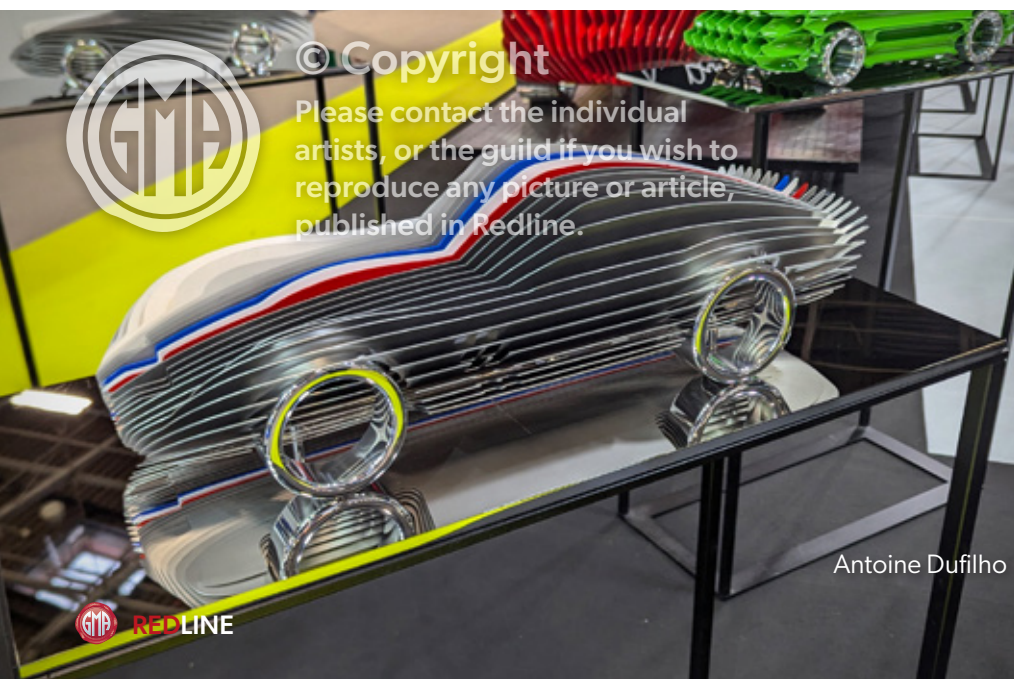
Almost as a sideshow, the vast array of red Ferraris, and more subtly attired



Mercedes, fill in the gaps between the oddities and rarities at Retromobile. It is easy to get blasé when you may have seen many of these at Goodwood's Festival of Speed, but when on carpet, not tarmac, they do still stun the senses. The Richard Mille stand always has a stable of Ferrari F1 cars, this year spanning Ickx's 1970 312B, Lauda's 1975 312T through to a less distinct Schumacher era design. Spotted elsewhere were Andretti's Ferrari 612 CanAm racer, and 312P sports prototype of similar vintage. Joe Macari's stand had a sumptuous Coda Lungo version of the Le Mans Alfa Romeo 33/2, reminding us that bright green accenting bright red can really work together.



Kimera Automobili



Antoine Dufilho

If you have not yet been, Retromobile won't disappoint you. But beware, forgiving footwear is a must for a Retromobile visit; I racked up over 10 miles of walking in a single day. The day was bookended with catching up with more grandee British motoring media, in the guise of Peter Grunnert of Roadrat, as we and mutual friends headed off into the evening, to sample more 'beouf au poivre' at a typically Parisian restaurant.

Au Revoir Retromobile
Jonny Ambrose

Gwynneth Baker

Little boy on a Manx Norton

A commission for a client in the USA who became a full time racer when he grew up.

Caran D'Ache Luminance 6901 pencils.



Joey Dunlop sketch

(26 time winner at the Isle of Man TT)

I started this as a 'demo' sketch at The National Motorcycle Museum Live event a few months back and somebody bought it (always a bonus!).

Pencil and graphite.

Kawasaki H2 engine detail

Acrylic paint on linen.





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Alex Sutchbury

Oscar Piastri winning his first race last year – The 2024 Hungarian GP. The second has an American theme with Nico Hulkenberg driving his Haas at the 2024 US Grand Prix. These pieces form part of my ongoing collection, visualising the colourful circuits on the F1 calendar.



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Phil Lightman

Honda CB600F Hornet 1998

The Honda CB600F Hornet was introduced in 1998. It is powered by a 599cc water-cooled in line four cylinder engine with six-speed transmission. It was not possible to use the 'Hornet' name in North America, as it was already trademarked by AMC / Chrysler.

I don't normally portray motorbikes, but this one belongs to my best friend, and I used his recent birthday as a deadline to get it finished. He recently bought another motorbike, so I have at least one more to do!

Land Rover 1948

This is the second ever production Land Rover, one of three production vehicles were completed in July 1948, making it older than some of the 1948 pre-production vehicles.

The vehicle was supplied by Steels of Cheltenham, a leading Rover dealer of the period, and remained on a local farm until the 1970s. The vehicle was restored in the 2000s and joined a collection of historic Land Rovers that I have been gradually portraying. It was sold at Bonhams Revival Auction in 2023.



Jaguar F-Type SVR Coupe

Painting recently done as a surprise birthday present for the owner





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Martin Smith

Lewis Hamilton

(British Grand Prix 2024)

Acrylic on Canvas: 140cm x 100cm



John Napper

Gone, but not forgotten

This is a 20cm square acrylic on canvas painting based on a photo that I took in 2019 when I visited the Jim Clark Museum and related area.

This is a bronze plaque that was added to the Jim Clark Memorial Clock in Churnside, in 2018.

Shan Fannin

Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GTV

Acrylic on Canvas_32x44

I'm celebrating 10yrs as a professional vehicle artist (no art degree, just stubbornness and a love for what I do) in February 2025.



Sterling Lee

Ferrari F430



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Greg Sterling

Porsche GT3 RS

I start with a heavy layer of Gesso, to add texture, and paint into the Gesso while it is drying as an underpainting. In addition to acrylic paint, I used alcohol-based markers for layout and detail.



David Purvis

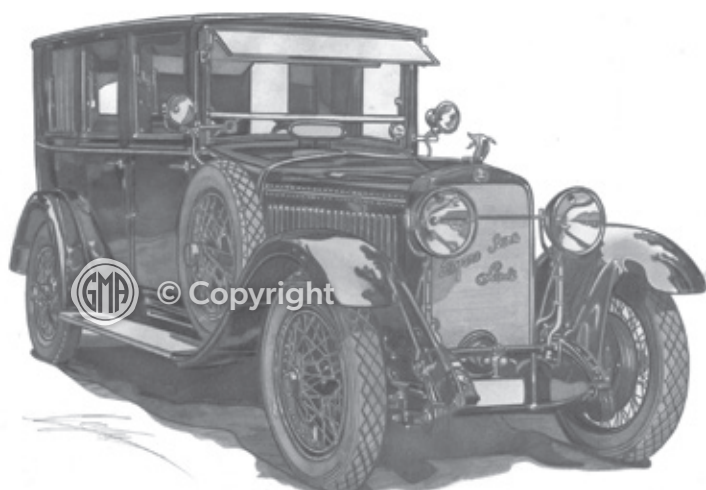
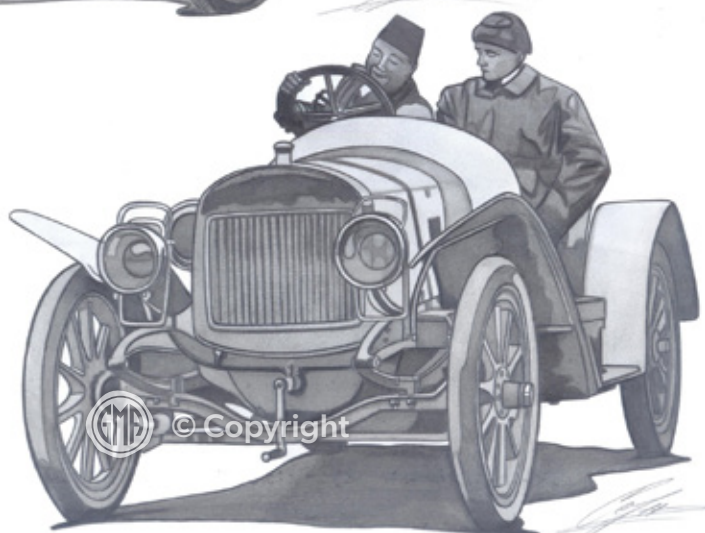
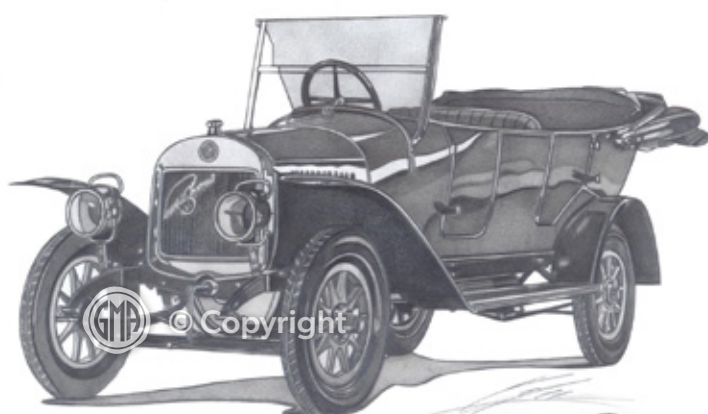
I wanted to get across the wide and sometimes bizarre selection and subject matter I get to paint – all during the last three months. TWR Jaguar XJS winning Spa, Tony's Royal Enfield my friend's brother in law, mad on old bikes, the local bowling club and its maintenance – all from separate references. Ben's Gold Wrap – his cars were used in music videos in London and Paris, brief descriptions and worked out that the bridge was Pont de Bir-Hakeim a combined road and rail bridge with the Metro overhead. Total cheat on width of the road and Eiffel Tower but customer loved it!

Norfolk Cottage fireplace, a present for relaxing in our friend's cottage.

Finally a couple of pieces for the forthcoming RAC exhibition, Le Mans 66 'Ford does it' – something I've wanted to create ever since watching Ford vs Ferrari a few years ago. Finally 'Motor Racing can be Dangerous', actually a commission I started 12 years ago, got a third of the way through without any payment and realized it was a scam. Found it again unfinished this Christmas and decided to finish it!







I was born in January 1987, in Dryanovo, Bulgaria. Since I was small child, I have been interested in automobiles. In 2005 I was involved in motorcycle accident. Six months later, I started drawing Laurin & Klement and Skoda automobiles as part of my recovery. Since summer 2006 I have been drawing every day. In 2007, 2008 and 2009, I travelled to the USA as a student. Work and travel. The visits helped me to grow as a person.

In 2023 I opened two exhibitions in Bulgaria. First, one in a private classic car museum called "Zlaten rozhen", and the other one in the national poly-technical museum in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Slowly, I was becoming popular, which led to the attention of Bulgarian society in the Czech Republic. After one year of preparations, I opened an exhibition in Laurin & Klement/Skoda's hometown of Mlada Boleslav, Czech Republic. High ranking officials came. The Bulgarian ambassador to the Czech Republic, politicians, representatives of the industry, business, Skoda Auto, Bulgarian and Czech society.

Currently, I am in touch with several classic car museums in the USA. Some of them are interested in organizing events for 2025.



Autosport International Show

VINCE EDMUNDS



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Under the guise of looking for other outlets to sell my automotive art, I decided to visit the Autosport International Show at the NEC in early January.

This is an annual show held at the NEC in Birmingham, England, for all of you who aren't aware of it.

The show is over 3 halls, and runs for 3 days, and is full of all things motor racing, including obviously F1 and Rallying, but also karting and a hall dedicated to modified and drift type cars, which personally I would rather go to the dentist for a root canal than spend any time looking at, but that's just me.

This year there was a dedicated Formula One through the age's exhibition, accompanied by a selection of Paul Oz embellished prints, and the man himself should you want a chat. The Race Car exhibition was excellent, with as you can see some beautifully prepared examples of F1 cars, my favourites being the Maserati 250F and the Ferrari D50, both gorgeously presented and great to see so close.

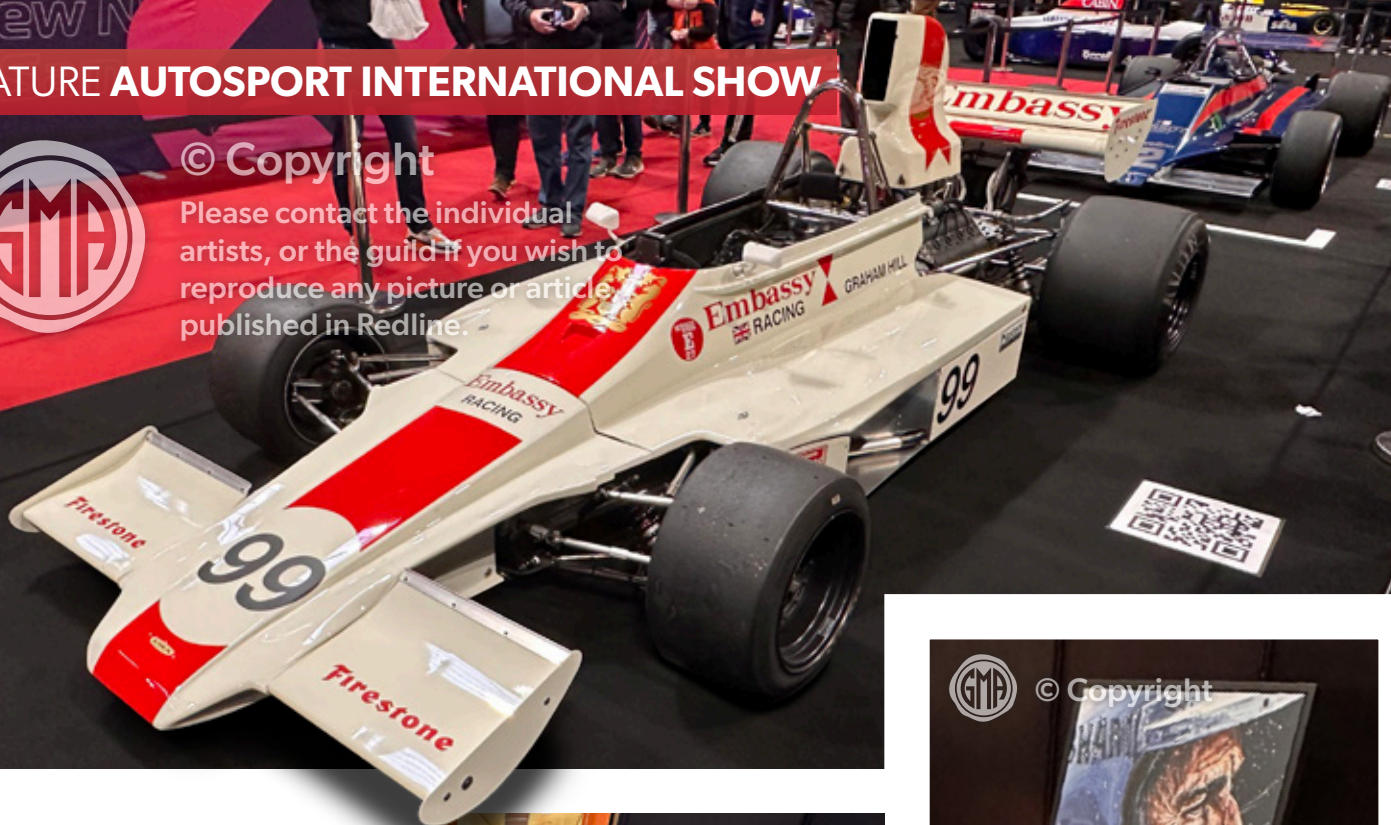
Personally, I didn't think the show had the right audience for my work, so I will not be exhibiting there next year, but other automotive artists I know did well there, it's just a case of horses for courses, I guess.

There were quite a few simulators set ups for sale as well as engineering companies selling everything from bespoke shocks to gearboxes and race engines, so a wide variety of race equipment if that's your thing.



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"drift type cars,
which personally I
would rather go to
the dentist for a root
canal than spend any
time looking at, but
that's just me"





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Latest pastel painting: Inside out

My artistic career began in the headmaster's office

I'm a strong believer that our adult lives are formed by experiences from childhood. I loved drawing from a young age and spent many hours copying cartoon characters and images from books, but one event stands out as triggering my belief in my artistic ability.

When I was about seven years old at school, I produced a very detailed drawing of a motorbike. When the headmaster saw it, he was so impressed, he put it up on his office wall! This meant the world to me. I felt proud to be good at art and my confidence went sky high.

I continued studying art through to A level. There were only two other students in my art class, and with guidance from our teacher Mr Turner, we pretty much taught ourselves at the back of a classroom while junior classes were being held. At school our artwork consisted mostly of still-life works using watercolour pencils, oil pastels and soft pastels. To this day I work exclusively on Pastelmat board with

soft pastels and pastel pencils. I've never painted with oils and only completed one acrylic painting.

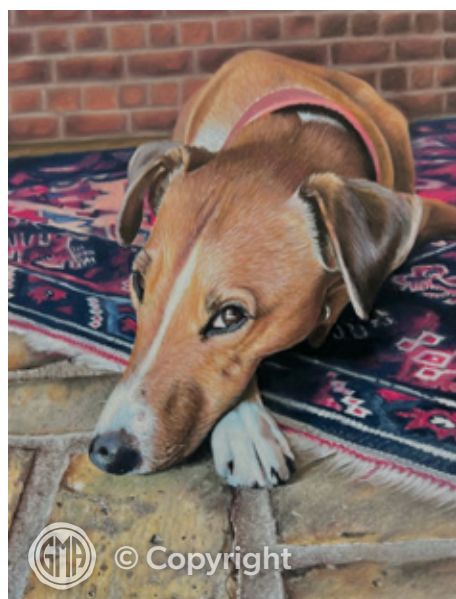
When it was time to decide what to do with my life after school, I considered art college, but I didn't have any encouragement and I was a timid teenager with a school sweetheart I didn't want to leave (luckily, she became and remains my wife).

In the 1980s, school career guidance was limited. We were given punch-cards with A to E questions that indicated jobs that we may be suited to. Sadly, mine didn't include Artist, it suggested I should be a banker, and I went on to work for Nat West Bank.





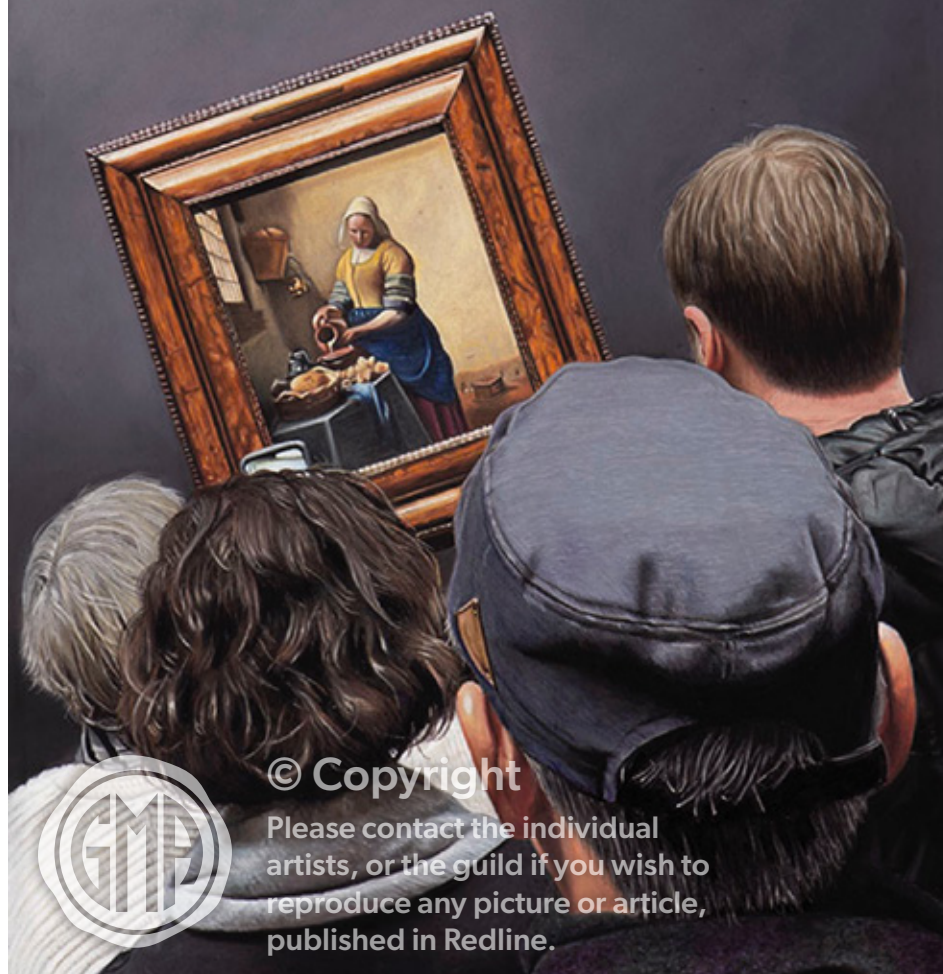
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My artistic wilderness

My career included working at a bank, a building society, a car finance company and over 25 years in the investment industry. This was also the time I was lucky enough to get married and have two amazing children.

I'd dabble with art a bit during holidays, sketching and using oil pastels mixed with white spirit recreating pictures from 'learn-to-paint' books to satisfy my creative urge.

Becoming a working artist

In 2019, my artistic journey took off when I started drawing portraits of sporting heroes in white pencil on black paper. A school friend (who sat next to me back when I was drawing that motorbike picture) asked if I could draw his favourite footballer as a family present. I did, and he paid me £30! A request for a dog portrait from a co-worker soon followed, painted using my old school water-colour pencils.

That Christmas my brother gifted me a full set of STABILO Carbothello pastel pencils, which I instantly fell in love with.

I was made redundant around the time COVID sent the world into lockdown. At the time it seemed unfortunate, but it turned out to be just the push I needed. I decided I didn't want to return to my old career, so I got a part-time job and set myself up as an artist offering commissions.

For four years I produced commissions, while focussing on developing my own style. I enjoyed opportunities to teach group and one-to-one art sessions and built old and new friendships with customers and other artists along the way.

I completed a renovation of my studio, upgrading to professional lighting, filming equipment and a custom-built hydraulic drawing table. My equipment list has significantly increased and in addition to Carbothello I now also use Fabre Castell, Derwent, Rembrandt, Unison, Generals (white) and Wolff's (carbon black) as my base brands.



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“I’m drawn to hyperrealism, and automotive art is a great vehicle for this type of creative expression”

Finding my artistic muse

In 2024, I made the decision to move towards creating more originals to build my portfolio. My aim is to create work I’m passionate about and develop a wide selection of original art for sale.

Significant inspiration has come in the form of mentorship from amazing eminent and master pastel artists, Michael and Julie Freeman, from New Zealand. Their guidance has helped me refine the quality of my work and establish an artistic pathway.

As part of developing my own works, I’ve used photography as a mechanism to explore ideas in novel ways. All of my painting references are from photos I’ve

taken myself. Two of my current themes include using spot colour to highlight the main subject and reflections to tell a story within an image.

I’m drawn to hyperrealism, and automotive art is a great vehicle for this type of creative expression. To me, cars are art forms in themselves. They are amazing subjects that can be depicted in many ways to create interesting paintings.

Motor shows like Goodwood continue to be exciting places to be inspired by the amazing array of vehicles on show. I met Manu Campa (@manucampart) there in 2023, and took on board his advice to ‘go big, go bigger’, so the size of my paintings has gradually increased, which also means the time taken to create them has increased as well, my larger paintings taking over 60 hours. I also do ‘research’ through TV car shows such as Bangers & Cash, WelderUP and Car Masters: Rust to Riches.

Attending Goodwood Revival in 2023 resulted in my pivotal painting titled ‘Reflecting on Goodwood’, a work inspired by an image of a restored 1948 Diamond T low loader with the front bumper reflecting the queue of people waiting to enter Goodwood.

‘Reflecting on Goodwood’ went on to win first place in the SAA Artists of the Year 2024 competition. It was brilliant to attend the exhibition’s private view to collect my award. As the SAA are now



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My abstract hyper-realism painting 'TONKIN' using my own reference photo from Goodwood Revival 2023 – shown here on show at the Pastel Society annual exhibition

owned by CASS Art, I had automatic entry into the final of the inaugural CASS Art Prize 2024 competition and exhibition at the Copeland Gallery in Peckham, where the work was purchased by a collector. This painting also had success in other competitions including first place in the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) 2024 Juried Fall Exhibition, the 'Parker Harris exhibition award' at the TALP Open 2024, an honourable mention with the Pastel Guild of Europe 2024 (PGE) and 'Outstanding Pastel Award Winner' Boldbrush April 2024. What a ride! Two other paintings had success getting into the final 50 of the British Art Prize 2024 and the UK Pastel Society Annual Exhibition 2025.

I'm currently working on two new portfolios of original works:

The first is a series of hyper realistic luxury cars on the streets of London. Each painting spotlights a vehicle in colour against a detailed black and white street scene. The works show how I'm intrigued not only by the cars, but also by the daily lives happening quietly around them.

My other portfolio focuses on the stories that can be found in car reflections, created

in a style I define as abstract hyper realism. I may be looking through a window into the interior of a car, and discover interesting reflections from the outside world, and the two merge to create a new way of seeing the subject. These paintings have, to date, been my most challenging, and my most rewarding.

Competitions and exhibitions will continue to be a focus through this coming year, and I hope to replicate my success. I have goals to become a Master Pastel Artist with the International Association of Pastel Artists (IAPS) and to be accepted as a member of the UK Pastel Society. I'm excited to have been asked to be a guest judge in a national art competition and to write about my work and experiences.

Moving forward, my aim is to paint motoring art that is different and unique, as well as expanding to subjects I find equally fascinating. My hope is that people will enjoy what I see and appreciate the quality of the detail I produce.

Please follow Ray on Instagram:
@raywestart

Paul Toogood

I have an exhibition of my work taking place in London at the Gallery House, 50 Baker Street, London. It will run for three months.

Of the many works on display I have two large A1 sized drawings in pencil pen and ink that will debut on opening night. The Aston Martin DB4 GT Zagato and the Jaguar D Type. All told there are 28 drawings displayed.

It was very well attended with the emphasis on my auto and portrait art.

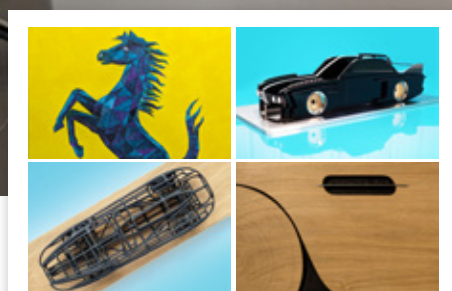


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Paul Toogood with his wife Kathy





30 years of Abstraction

by Jonny Ambrose

Friday 31 January to Friday 28 February

Since graduating in fine art sculpture in 1994, Jonny Ambrose has been creating elegant, contemporary automobile sculptures, abstract paintings and trophies (Mille Miglia 2024-present, The Quail Concours USA 2017-2022 and Porsche Motorsport 2022-present).

Clients include Morgan, MG, Porsche Motorsport, Bicester Motion, Octane, alongside private clients worldwide and international collectors. Aston Martin and Porsche in-house media have featured his sought after artworks.

Jonny has exhibited in Paris, California, Stuttgart, London, Glasgow and Frankfurt. In the UK, he has exhibited at the Royal Automobile Club, Sotheby's London, Goodwood, The Historic Motoring Awards, Hampton Court Palace, British Motor Museum and Silverstone. He is also a Judge at the Royal Automobile Club's Art of Motoring Exhibition.

This exhibition spans 30 years of creating motoring art, 'celebrating automotive artistry with graceful abstraction', inspired by aerodynamic forms, graphic patterns and car details. Artworks range from his 1990's 'Circuit Series' paintings, through to his sculptural series of the past decade, which continue to see him exploring new ways to portray motoring subjects. His minimalist sculptural artworks combine traditional, steambent wood craftsmanship with 'state-of-the-art' digital design processes and materials.

Ambrose's artworks grab attention for their elegant beauty, yet the viewer is drawn closer to study in detail, rewarded by the visual depth of the forms, views through a work or the playful maze of interweaving lines. He seeks to create fascination for the viewer; looking around a multilayered sculpture or uncovering the hidden relevance of every line and shape - creating alluring works of art to cherish at home.

For further information, or to purchase a piece of art, please email picturegallery@royalautomobileclub.co.uk or visit the Online Club Shop.

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Jonny Ambrose

Solo Exhibition at the RAC Club

My solo exhibition at the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall was a retrospective celebration of creating abstract automobile art over the past 30 years. The oldest works dated from 1996, and the newest from early 2025, ranging from abstract race circuit inspired paintings to 3d sculptural artworks that have been the focus of my practice over the past decade.

Since graduating in fine art sculpture in 1994, I have been creating elegant, contemporary automobile sculptures, abstract paintings and trophies inspired by aerodynamic forms, graphic patterns and car design. This show was a time capsule of different series of works through the years, charting how I love to explore new ways to portray motoring themes.

I always like to create fascination for the viewer; looking around a multilayered sculpture, or uncovering the hidden relevance of every line and graphic shape. This exhibition offered RAC members to get closer to study these works in detail, and be rewarded by both the visual and the physical depth of the forms, views through a work, and the playful maze of interweaving lines.

The main feature wall included my latest painting, a triangulated, faceted colour study of a prancing horse in acrylic, applied by palette knife. This was flanked by four abstract wall sculptures; two circuit themed map like works, balanced with two abstract oak abstract works, capturing the beauty of the oak's endgrain patterns.



GMA MEMBERS' NEWS ROUNDUP

Other walls were divided up according to different era works. Further circuit themed works featured two earlier series; a series of 2002 Italian road circuit artworks with a maze of white painted lines criss-cross the rad canvasses, describing the circuit's outlines, plus the aforementioned pair of 1996 vibrant circuit paintings.

Elsewhere, more recent 3d and framed relief sculptures were spotlighted; the 3d sculptural elements protruding from the surface, casting strong shadows.

The only works missing were examples of my sculptural trophies; the next one is currently being created for the winner of the Mille Miglia sister event, the Coppa Delle Alpi in Italy this March.

It was a great pleasure to exhibit all these works in one exhibition in London's hallowed Pall Mall Clubhouse, having previously exhibited in Paris, Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Glasgow, Goodwood, Hampton Court Palace, The British Motor Museum and Silverstone amongst others.







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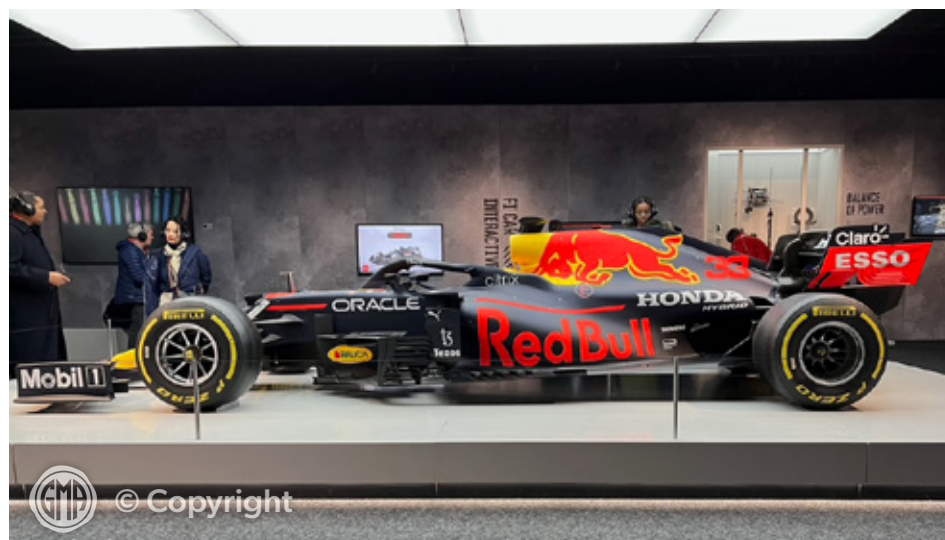
F1 The Exhibition London

RICHARD NEERGAARD

London's F1 Exhibition is set to close on March 2, but it has already been extended once, so cross fingers for another extension because it's absolutely worth visiting.

Although I visit the teams regularly and have toured their workshops and museums and have a number of parts, it is still a wow for me because of the quality of presentation, which is second to none.

They really made an effort to break F1 into bite sized pieces and explain each one with history, technology, innovation, and the characters behind it like Bernie, Enzo, Colin, etc. in great detail.



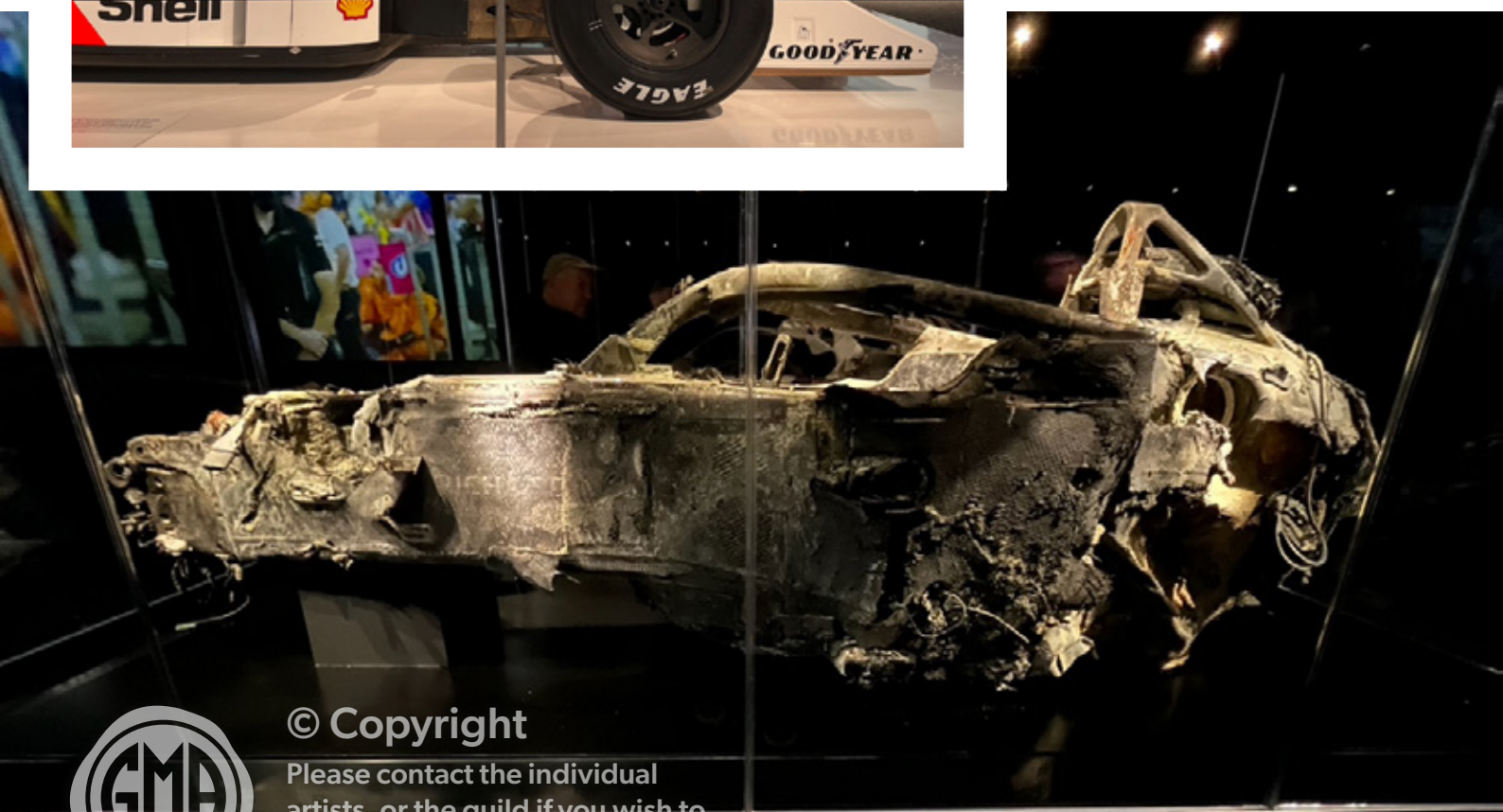
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Of course they have the most known cars and helmets and trinkets, but laying out the calendar of car development, the parts of the engine, transmission, suspension, brakes, aero, all with videos and real pieces, with unusually clear explanations. Mika talks you through his perfect lap of Spa while you follow on a screen and the track map which lights up. The highlight is Romain Grosjean's burned out car, which I have seen in photos, but there is nothing like looking at it in real life – shocking and breathtaking.



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'Icons of Porsche' exhibition, which took place in Dubai in December. This was a great event and there were many famous classic Porsche cars on display, including this Le Mans winner.

Arty FACTS ANSWERS

1. 'Beco', but don't ask me why!
2. Sfumato.
3. Dave Brody, Mr. very live-wire and ex BRDC President, who died recently at age 82.
4. 'Renaissance: The Blood and the Beauty', watch the three episodes on BBC iPlayer.
5. Belgian Thierry Neuville.
6. 'Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers'.
7. Citroën, God bless 'em!
8. Comte Henrie Marie Raymond de Touluos-Lautrec.
9. Frenchman Fred Vasseur.
10. Marc Chagall.



REDLINE

NEXT ISSUE

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