

DETAILS

AUGUST 2005

KNOW+TELL

RIDES

A 1965 Carroll Shelby Cobra.



AUTOAUCTIONS

SO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A LIMITED-EDITION LAMBORGHINI, maybe an Aston-Martin, and not having any luck on Craigslist? Some cars are so exotic they can be sold only like the works of art they are—at high-class auto auctions. Erase any image of the repo mart with the concertina-wire-topped lot. Go where the collectors roll out their rarities, like September's Rand/Workman Fine Motor Auction in Manhattan, and you'll find that dream 1957 Jaguar Roadster or a supercharged MG coupe with just 100 miles added since restoration.

These aren't for browsers; it costs \$100 to kick the tires at some high-end auctions. But if you're ready for the vintage ride of your life, do your homework before you raise a gilded paddle. Look for a wild card like a celebrity owner—say, Mike Tyson—to punch up the pedigree. "Originality means money," says Bradford Rand, president and CEO of the Rand/Workman auction, which features the heavyweight's 1997 Bentley Continental T Turbo. Arrive early, Rand says, or show up late, when platinum cards are maxed and "heavy hit-

ters have left the building." The exotic-car game does have its bargains. British sports cars are hot in California. Buy one in Florida, where the heat makes them run like Army jeeps, and you might find a deal. "As people moved out of the stock market, they started picking up artwork, gold, and real estate," says Dick Tobin, who runs seminars on investing in collector cars. "Classic cars are finding their way into that category. Muscle cars are returning 10 times what mutual funds are, and old Packards are considered as safe as gold."

- AUGUST 19
Concorso Italiano Auction
Vintage Car Auction
Seaside, CA
www.kruseinternational.com/auctions/monterey05
800-968-4444
- AUGUST 19-20
The Monterey Sports
& Classic Car Auction
Monterey, CA
www.rmauctions.com/events/MO05.cfm
800-211-4371
- AUGUST 26-28
Corvettes at Carlisle
Carlisle, PA
www.carsatcarlisle.com/schedule/corvette/index.asp
717-243-7855
- SEPTEMBER 9-11
Rand/Workman Fine
Motor Auction & Luxury
Lifestyle Expo
New York, NY
www.randworkman.com
212-645-4505

HIGHWAY 61

The ribbon of soul-soaked asphalt from New Orleans to Memphis carried the blues out of the Mississippi Delta and helped birth rock and roll.

the juke joint Po' Monkey's, Poor Monkey's Lane, Merigold, MS; 662-748-2254 | It's just a beat-up shack on a gravel road, but this venue is one of the last strongholds of raw Mississippi blues. Old Willie Seaberry, the proprietor, keeps an unpredictable schedule; call and check whether it's open before making the pilgrimage.

the vista Bluff Park, Broadway Street, Natchez, MS | High on the western edge of this antebellum town are some of the best views of the winding Mississippi. Grab a chair at sunset and watch the paddleboats on Twain's watery muse.

the pit stop Lusco's, 722 Carrollton Avenue, Greenwood, MS; 662-453-5365 | The best Creole fare for miles. Eat gumbo, T-bones, or catfish in one of the curtained booths, and summon your waitress with a buzzer—just how plantation owners called for moonshine during Prohibition.



the classic | 1967 JAGUAR E-TYPE

Long-nosed and low to the ground, the E-Type has been turning heads for four decades. Its seamless profile oozes British refinement, but the 150-mph top speed is pure London punk. The leather interior frames a console lit up by a spy-movie array of switches, and the baritone exhaust will shake the crumbs off your crumplet. Even more amazing, it's available for between \$25,000 and \$35,000.