



Top: Heading into Chartres on day three are the Squadra Storico's 8C and 1900 Spider, an XK120 and a Mustang. Above: In Dijon, day two, are a '57 Corvette, '60 DKW 1000Sp, '59 Austin-Healey 100-6, '74 Saab 96 V4, '66 Lancia Flavia 1.8i Pf Coupe, '63 Renault Dauphine and a '61 Olds Starfire.

Ferrari 340 MM piloted by Giannino Marzotto. The first of the two Spiders competed in several sports car races through 1953 but didn't achieve success until "El Maestro" piloted it to the GP win in Merano.

Driver-side entry (on the right) on the two-seater is via a short, lightweight door. Co-drivers throw a leg over the aluminum bodywork on the left side and sink into their half of a cockpit divided by a broad transmission tunnel. Flat-cushioned, leather-clad perches put legs straight out in front of both crew. Twin headrests lead back to an actual, functional trunk.

Switch on the mags, make sure the fuel-pump toggles are correct, turn the key and a few judicious boots of the throttle bring the iron-block/aluminum-head I-6 to life. The unit breathes through six, count 'em, six single-barrel carburetors, producing 275 hp or more at 6500 rpm. The power is routed through a five-speed non-synchro transmission to the rear wheels. An independent suspension with coil springs and stabilizer bar takes care of motion up front. Out back there's a de Dion rear with coil springs and "convergent struts."

Weighing a tad more than 2,000 pounds, the tube-framed racer accelerates impressively, emitting a glorious howl as the revs climb. Top speed is listed at 155 mph. I never

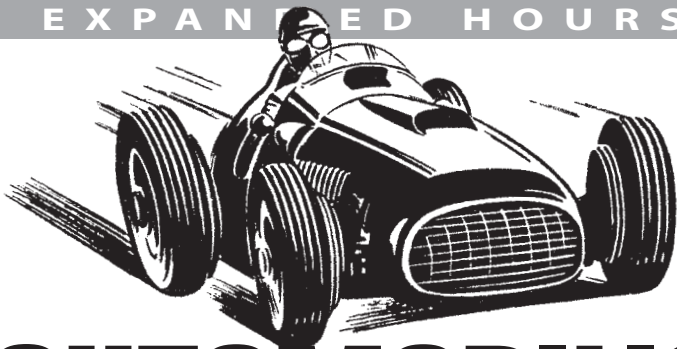
explored that limit but opportunities to experience a big chunk of the priceless beast's performance were plentiful. On hand to help me discover the wonders of the 3000 CM was official Automobilitismo Storico pilot and noted Alfa collector, Axel Marx.

I'll own up to the fact that I was already enthusiastic about Alfas from previous experience, but being exposed to the potent combination of the Squadra Storico and Marx pushed me over the edge. Even the most jaded would be hard pressed to emerge from an encounter with this pair uninfected by the *Alfisti* bug. Why?

Consider this. The exceedingly rare 6C 3000 CM was joined for the Raid Suisse 2007 by two more beauties from the Automobilitismo Storico, which—like Fangio's ex-mount—rolled straight off the floor of the marvelous Alfa Romeo Museo in Arese, Italy, and into the rally. The museum's 1932 8C 2300 Le Mans (one of only nine produced) came out to play along with its 1954 1900 Sport Spider (one of two made). How many museums would allow three of its treasures to be taken from safe confines and entered in an event with an inherent level of risk? How many would make these pieces of history accessible to journalists?

Not many, not many at all. But for Alfa Romeo the public display and celebration of its heritage is as important as

EXPANDED HOURS



AUTOMOBILIA

MONTEREY THE INTERNATIONAL EXPO

Concours/Historic Race Week

TUESDAY, August 12, 2008 • 10 am to 6 pm

WEDNESDAY, August 13, 2008 • 10 am to 7 pm

The largest automobilia show in America, and the only time during Concours Week to find these 45+ top international dealers in a single venue. Shop early for finest selection and beat the crowds!

Enjoy the relaxed indoor setting while buying *only original* vintage posters, photographs, rallye plates, badges & pins, hood ornaments, signs, original art, display items, scale models, literature & books, signed items, postcards, stamps, unique scarves/ties/shirts, etc.

Embassy Suites-Main Ballroom – US 1 & Rte 218
just north of Hwy 68; easy access and free parking

www.AutomobiliaMonterey.com



VintageAutoPosters.com

finest selection ~ guaranteed original

Searchable categories with photo & detailed description.

International sales & purchases ~ member IVPDA

online store at: www.exoticar.com
Call for Free Color Catalog

EXOTICAR

MODEL COMPANY, INC

Thousands of diecast models, clothing & accessories

800.348.9159
339.502.6071 fax

08411R 1/18 Ferrari F40 \$84.99

8184R 1/18 Ferrari 308 GTS QV
Red, Yellow \$84.99

08046CS 1/18 Shelby Cobra 427 SC
"Carroll Shelby" \$74.99

M063 1/18 1924 Bugatti Type 35
\$249.99
15" Long
W/ Working Gearbox & Engine Sound

08392A 1/18 Ferrari 575 GTC
Primer Black, Red, Yellow \$84.99
Over 1000 pcs.

M036 1/18 1961 Ferrari 250 GT SWB;
Red Yellow \$239.99

76165 1/18 Mercedes CL550 Coupe \$109.99

KY808164B 1/18 365GTB4 "Sebring"
\$115.00

KY808164E 1/18 365GTB4 "Lemans"
\$115.00

09213 1/18 Audi R8 Blue, Pearl White
\$84.99

77991 1/18 Porsche 997 GT3 RS
Orange, Silver, Green \$94.99

M056 1/18 Ferrari 500 F2 \$239.99

L7126 1/18 Ferrari FXX Schumacher's
Car \$299.99
Super Detailed w/
Special Metal Base

1811021 Alfa Romeo 8C
Silver Red \$29.99

100920 1/18 Bentley Continental GT
Silver \$139.99

1001395306 1/18 1930 Bentley
Blower 4.2 Lemans Green \$279.99

K7633 1/18 Elite Maserati MC12
Pearl White w/ Blue \$84.99

MINICHAMPS

KY208611P 1/12 Lamborghini Countach LP400
18" Long \$399.99

FR018928 Ferrari "Scuderia" Sunglasses \$245.00
FR05173 Ferrari "Scuderia" Sunglasses \$295.00
FR02731 Ferrari "Granturismo" Sunglasses Schedoni Leather frame, Red or Tan \$420.00