



CONCORSO D'ELEGANZA
VILLA D'ESTE

dal
1929

MEDIA INFORMATION

21 May 2023

Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este 2023

“Best of Show”: Duesenberg SJ wins the Trofeo BMW Group at the Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este 2023.

+++ Festive finale of the world's most traditional beauty contest for historic automobiles at Lake Como +++ International jury of experts selects the Duesenberg SJ as the overall winner +++ Three-day festival of elegance and timeless beauty on four wheels celebrates enthusiasm for automobility, the joy of driving and technical excellence with a large audience.

Munich / Cernobbio. We're all looking back on the glittering days spent beside the magical shores of Lake Como. The wonderful grounds of the Grand Hotel Villa d'Este created a fantastic stage for the exquisite diversity of historic automobiles contesting this year's Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este. The exclusive beauty contest for Historic Cars enthralled the numerous visitors and international press world present at the event between 19th and 21st May. They were all rewarded with eight irresistibly appealing award classes – and one glorious overall winner.

A Duesenberg SJ Speedster styled in the coachwork design by Gurney Nutting from 1935 won the contest. On Sunday, the proud owner, William Lyon, was presented with the prestigious winner's prize Trofeo BMW Group – Best of Show – by Helmut Käs, Head of BMW Group Classic und President of the Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este, and Wilhelm Schmid, CEO of A. Lange und Söhne. Alongside the dazzling trophy, the winner selected by the Jury also received a unique model of the 1815 Chronograph in white gold. The exquisite watch was created by A. Lange und Söhne exclusively for the winner of the Best of Show.



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Gary Cooper, Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, James Cagney and many other stars drove a Duesenberg during the 1930s as well as Jay Gatsby in the remake of "The Great Gatsby". The founders of the company Fred und August D senberg emigrated to the USA from Westphalia (Germany) in 1880. Successes in motor sport quickly made their name popular. Duesenberg – now written with ue – self-assuredly positioned itself at the top end of the market with a small series of exclusive models. The crowning glory came in 1932 with the extravagant SJ model. As much as 320 hp was available when the supercharger kicked in and this propelled the huge car to around 220 km / h (140 mph). The turn of phrase "it's a Duesy" was coined as a synonym for the quality of the vehicles.

The Public Referendum voted for the Ferrari 250 GT Spyder California from 1961 with its elegant coachwork by Pininfarina/Scaglietti. This makes the Historic Car owned by Jonathan Hui, Keybridge Collection, Hong Kong, this year's winner of the Coppa d'Oro Villa d'Este.

A further highlight was the first-time award of the Trofeo Il Canto del Motore for the most beautiful symphonic sound of an engine. Jonas Kaufmann, one of the greatest tenors of our time, presented the prize to Christophe Count d'Ansembourg from Belgium as a salute to the impressive sound emanating from his Porsche 917 K from 1970.

This year, the public audience was finally able once again to experience all the joys of the festivities on the shores of Lake Como. Since the Public Day at Villa d'Este was a sell-out long before the beginning of the festive weekend, the extensive parkland of Villa Erba offered fans and guests an event on the Saturday that is part of the scene in Munich in the form of Wheels & Weissw rscht – or: Amici & Automobili. The members of the numerous BMW Clubs present celebrated automobility in many different dimensions with more than 160 vehicles and 6.000 visitors.



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The Sunday was also extraordinarily diverse with the Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este Public Day – Il Festival that attracted more than 9.000 visitors. The attractions on offer ranged from the breath-taking performance by the dancer Yoann Bourgeois and the exhibition marking 100 Years Le Mans with legendary racing cars from an entire century through to the magnificent parade of all the award classes in the Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este 2023. The Public Day represented a joint celebration of the shared enthusiasm for automobility, sheer driving pleasure and superlative engineering achievements.

This year's edition of the prestigious beauty contest for classic cars was also defined by numerous celebratory moments. Two award classes were dedicated to impressive anniversaries of automobile culture with "Porsche at 75: Delving into the Stuttgart legend's iconic and eccentric back catalogue" and "A century of the 24 hours of Le Mans: Heroes of the most famous race in the world".

We are already looking forward to welcoming you at our rendezvous between 24th and 26th May 2024 on the shores of Lake Como. Until the time comes round again and we can announce the first details of the next edition, we invite you to reminisce about this year's Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este on our Instagram and Facebook channels.

The following is a listing of the "Best of Show" as well as all class winners and Mention of Honor vehicles in each of the eight historic automobile judging classes, each including build type, body designer, year of production and owner:

Trofeo BMW Group

Best of Show by the Jury

Winner: Duesenberg SJ, Speedster, Gurney Nutting, 1935, William Lyon, United States.

Coppa d'Oro Villa d'Este

Best of Show by Public Referendum

Winner: Ferrari, 250 GT Spyder California, Spyder, Pininfarina/Scaglietti, 1961, Keybridge Collection, Hong Kong.



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Concorso d'Eleganza Design Award

For Concept Cars & Prototypes

by Public Referendum

Winner: Pagani Huayra Codalunga, Coupé Longtail, 2022.

Class Winners and Mentions of Honour

CLASS A

The Fast and the Formal: Pre-war high speed Luxury

Class Winner

Chrysler Custom Imperial CL, Convertible Sedan, LeBaron Carrossiers Inc., 1933, Jack Boy Smith Jr., United States.

Mention of Honour

Lagonda V12 Rapide, Drophead Coupé, James Young, 1938, Adrian Burr, Great Britain

CLASS B

Grande Vitesse: Pre-war Weekend Racers

Class Winner

Delahaye 145 Coupé Chapron, Coupé, Henri Chapron, 1938, Peter & Merle Mullin, United States.

Mention of Honour

BMW 328, Roadster, BMW, 1937, The May Collection, Germany.



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CLASS C

Incredible India: The dazzling Motoring Indulgences of the mighty Maharajas

Class Winner

Duesenberg SJ, Speedster, Gurney Nutting, 1935, William Lyon, United States.

Mention of Honour

Rolls-Royce Sports Phantom Prototype, Experimental, Jarvis of Wimbledon, 1928, Alexander Schaufler, Austria.

CLASS D

Porsche at 75: Delving into the Stuttgart Legend's iconic and eccentric Back Catalogue

Class Winner

Porsche 901 Prototyp "Quickblau", Coupé, Karmann, 1963, Alois Ruf, Germany.

Mention of Honour

Porsche 356 Pre-A, Cabriolet, Reutter, 1954, Al Barbour, United States.

CLASS E

Granturismo: Experimenting with the post-war European GT

Class Winner

Ferrari 330 GTC Speciale, Coupé, Pininfarina, 1967, William E. Heinecke, Thailand.

Mention of Honour

Alfa Romeo 6C 2500 SS Berlinetta Riva "La Serenissima", Berlinetta, Carrozzeria Riva, 1950, Stephen Bruno, United States.



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CLASS F

That 'made in Italy' Look: Styles which conquered new Worlds.

Class Winner

Maserati A6G/54, Berlinetta, Zagato, 1956, Jonathan & Wendy Segal, United States.

Mention of Honour

Ferrari 212 Export, Berlinetta, Vignale, 1951, Brian Ross, United States.

CLASS G

A Century of the 24 Hours of Le Mans: Heroes of the most famous Race in the World

Class Winner

Ferrari 250 GTO, Berlinetta, Scaglietti, 1962, David MacNeil, United States.

Mention of Honour

Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa, Spider, Fantuzzi, 1959, Peter Goodwin, United States.

CLASS H

Here comes the Sun: 'Topless' done differently!

Class Winner

Ferrari 250 GT Spyder California, Spyder, Pininfarina/Scaglietti, 1961, Keybridge Collection, Hong Kong.

Mention of Honour

Citroën SM Espace Heuliez, Targa Coupé, Henri Heuliez, 1971, Thierry Dehaeck, Belgium.



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Special Prizes

Trofeo BMW Group Ragazzi

By Young People's Referendum

Winner: Ferrari 288 GTO, Berlinetta, Scaglietti, 1985, Horst Koester, Germany.

Trofeo dei Presidenti

By President of Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este /

Chairman of Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance / Chairman of Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

Winner: Ford GT40, Coupé, J.W. Automotive Engineering, 1968, Rob Walton, United States.

Trofeo BMW Group Classic

For the most sensitive restoration by the Jury

Winner: Rolls-Royce, Silver Wraith Drophead Coupé, James Young, 1949,
Yohan Poonawalla, India.

Trofeo Rolls-Royce

For the most elegant Rolls-Royce by the Jury

Winner: Rolls-Royce, Sports Phantom Prototype, Experimental,
Jarvis of Wimbledon, 1928,
Alexander Schaufler, Austria.

Trofeo Vranken-Pommery

For the best iconic car by the Jury

Winner: Porsche 901 Prototyp "Quickblau", Coupé, Karmann, 1963,
Alois Ruf, Germany.



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Trofeo ASI

For the best preserved post-war car

Winner: Aston Martin, DB2 Coupé, Saloon, Aston Martin Coachworks, 1950, Stephan Hofmann, Germany.

Trofeo Auto & Design

For the most exciting design by the Jury

Winner: Ford, GT40, Coupé, J.W. Automotive Engineering, 1968,
Rob Walton, United States.

Trofeo il Canto del Motore

For the best engine sound by the Jury

Winner: Porsche, 917 K, Coupé, Porsche, 1970,
Christophe Count d'Ansembourg, Belgium.

Trofeo Automobile Club Como

For the car driven from farthest away

Winner: Alvis, Speed 25 SC, Two Seater Open Tourer, 1937,
James Sprague, United States.



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Additional information is available here all year round:

Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este app for iOS and Android

Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este website:

<https://www.concorsodeleganzavilladeste.com/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/concorsodeleganza_vde/

BMW Group Classic media download server for assets:

<https://www.bmwgroupclassic-downloads.com/Events/>



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The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services.

The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2022, the BMW Group sold nearly 2.4 million passenger vehicles and more than 202,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2022 was € 23.5 billion on revenues amounting to € 142.6 billion. As of 31 December 2022, the BMW Group had a workforce of 149,475 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.

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