

## **MULLIN AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM TO PREMIERE IN 2010**

**RARE FRENCH CAR COLLECTION AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING – TWO BUGATTI MODELS, UNSEEN FOR 50 YEARS, TO PREMIER AT PEBBLE BEACH RETRO AUTO PLAZA**

July 31, 2009 - Los Angeles, Calif. – Automobile enthusiasts are pleased to learn that the Mullin Automotive Museum, located in Oxnard, California, is scheduled to open in early 2010. The museum will showcase over 100 classic French cars from the golden age of French design. Founded by businessman, philanthropist and well-known car collector Peter Mullin, the museum will pay tribute to the sublime styling and superb engineering of the French automobile. As a precursor to the museum's opening, Mr. Mullin will host a tent at the 2009 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. The tent, which will be located on the upper field at the retro auto plaza, will display two Bugatti automobiles, neither of which have ever been previously available for viewing in this country. The tent will be open from 9 AM to 6 PM, Thursday through Sunday.

The car collection of the Mullin Automotive Museum will comprise rare French-built automobiles covering several decades and numerous marques: Bugatti, Delage, Delahaye, Hispano Suiza, Talbot-Lago, Voisin and many other famous French manufacturers from the era will all be on display. Many of these great French "beauties" have won prestigious awards at concours d'elegance events throughout the world. Also on view will also be famous French race cars, all of them past winners of historic races, such as the Grand Prix de Pau and Le Mans.

Of particular historic interest will be a recent acquisition: the Schlumpf Reserve Collection. These cars, which include rare, unrestored Bugattis, have never before been available for viewing in the United States. This collection has a special draw for those interested in the history of the French automobile. The Schlumpf Reserve Collection was inaccessible for decades due to legal battles between the Schlumpf heirs and the French government.

The museum will also be home to examples of exquisite decorative art from the turn of the 19th century through the art deco era, demonstrating the relationship between automotive design and broader stylistic movements. On display will be furniture designed by Carlo Bugatti, father of Ettore Bugatti, as well as examples of art deco furnishings, paintings, sculptures and light fixtures.

The 46,821-square-foot museum building was previously owned by legendary newspaperman Otis Chandler, who once housed a collection of vintage automobiles and motorcycles in what is now the revamped museum structure. Mr. Mullin purchased the building in 2006 and began an extensive remodel utilizing the talents of architect David Hertz. Mr. Hertz, founder and president of Studio of Environmental Architecture of Santa Monica, has designed a museum incorporating elements that reference the past as well as the present. The museum, currently being constructed by Interscape Construction, will include a roof garden, theater, gift shop and archives. A special feature of the museum will be its distinctive "green" design. A photovoltaic roof system will capture energy, making the building virtually independent of traditional sources of power.

The museum is supported by the Mullin Automotive Foundation, an organization designed to assist nonprofit public charities dedicated to the study, preservation and public display of classic automobiles. Directors include Peter Mullin, chairman, and board members Bruce Meyer, Richard Adatto, David Sydorick and Stewart Reed.