

JDI'S SECRET RALLY CAR • 40 YEARS: PORSCHE 924 TO 968



# Octane

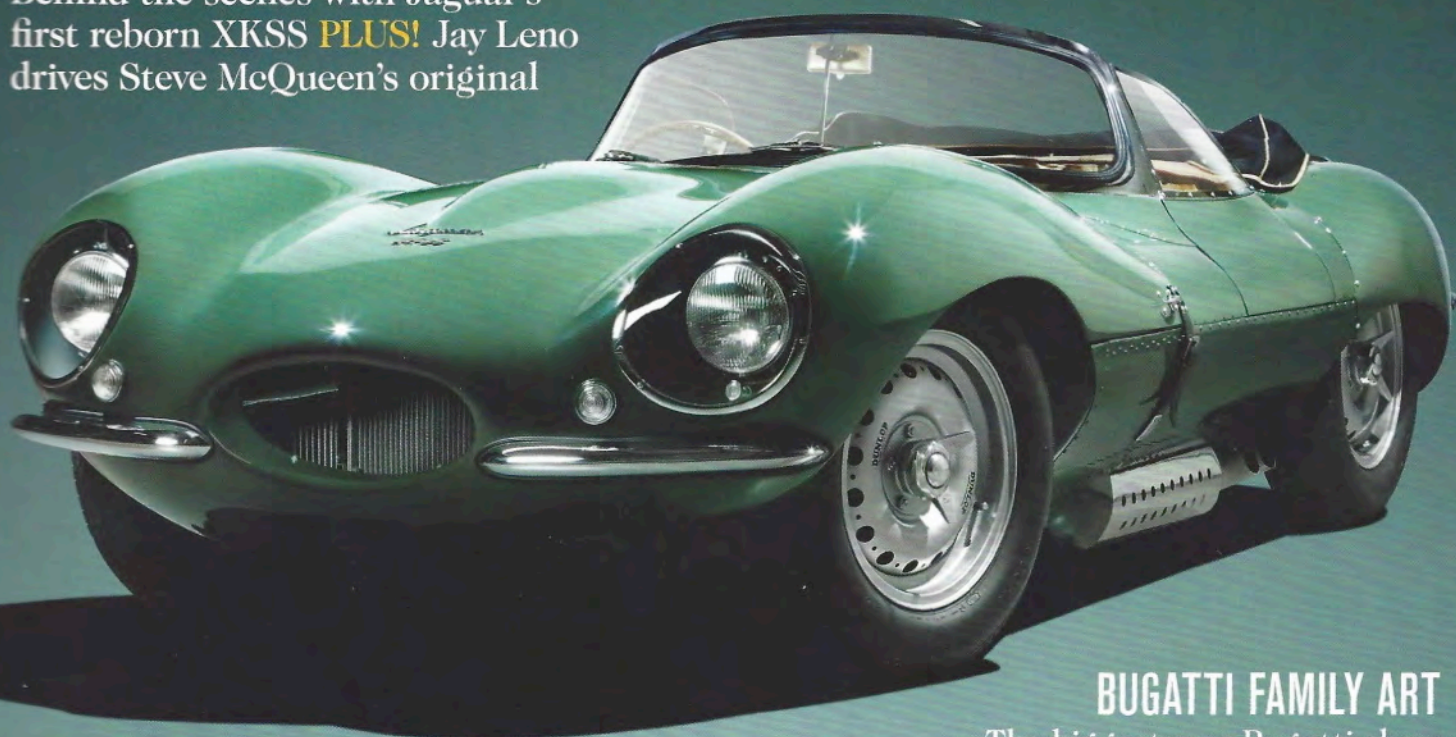
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CLASSIC & PERFORMANCE CARS

JAGUAR'S NEW

# XKSS

Behind the scenes with Jaguar's first reborn XKSS **PLUS!** Jay Leno drives Steve McQueen's original



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Maserati 3500 GTi Touring



Maserati 3500 GT



Scuderia Azzurra Workshop



Matthias Hinze



Lukas Mühlemann



Michael Maasmeier

## Vintage Cars in Top Condition

They shouldn't just look good, they have to be technically superior: this is the philosophy Scuderia Azzurra lives and breathes when restoring classic Maseratis, Lancias and Alfa Romeos

**T**he French writer, Françoise Sagan, once said money may not buy happiness, but she'd rather cry in a Maserati than on a bus. If she were still alive today, she would surely let her emotions run wild in a classic Maserati by Scuderia Azzurra – the symbol of automotive passion par excellence.

Enthusiasm for exclusive vintage cars, the joy of car design from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, the quest for authenticity and perfect restoration – that is Scuderia Azzurra's mission, as well as what makes it the number one choice for vintage Italian cars in top condition.

The avant garde creations by Italian designers such as Vignale, Frua, Giugiaro, Bertone, Pininfarina, Touring and Zagato, and the innovative technology of Italian car manufacturers such as Alfa Romeo, Lancia and Maserati combine to make the most fascinating cars automotive engineering has produced to date.

The passion for precisely these classics transcends national borders, and brought together Matthias Hinze, Lukas Mühlemann and Michael Maasmeier, the partners of Scuderia Azzurra, a few years ago. Whether in Zurich, Cologne, Nice or Lisbon, they share a common hobby and enthusiasm for premium vintage cars. Impeccably restored cars rebuilt exclusively to their original condition has always been a personal goal of the partners. They not only pour this passion into their private lives as collectors but also into Scuderia Azzurra.

This innovative and international company, based in Cologne, Germany and Lisbon, Portugal, is a first-class specialist in restored cars. Each of the three founders, Matthias Hinze, Lukas Mühlemann and Michael Maasmeier has enjoyed successful careers in internationally renowned companies at management level. This expertise, combined with their 30 years of deep passion for vintage cars, led to Scuderia Azzurra.

"We have exceptionally high standards when it comes to the restoration of a classic car. In addition to bodywork, we also rebuild the engine, transmission and electrical systems so they are as new," explains Matthias Hinze.

The passion of the former manager of Metro in Portugal is his attention to detail. Like his partners, his pursuit of

authentic restoration and attention to even the smallest detail are what drive him. After all, vintage cars aren't just a hobby for the trio but also their true passion.

"Knowing that we don't compromise when it comes to restoring cars, we know that we can offer our services on the international market in good faith." Thus, their passion for their own collections has extended to the international and exclusive sale of vintage cars.

The vintage cars get their new shine in Alcubideche, on Portugal's Atlantic coast, where they are restored to original state down to the last detail and then put on display in top condition. Potential buyers can, however, choose a model from Scuderia Azzurra's stock of cars that are already in an early stage of restoration, so that they can make special requests when it comes to their personalised car.

Highly skilled experts restore the stylish classics with technical know-how and the right eye for all details involved in Italian design and Italian technology. Michael Maasmeier, an entrepreneur in the media industry, sums it up: "We base all details which go into the cars on their original states and want to offer more than just selling vintage cars. That's why we only sell cars in concours condition."

This approach has been confirmed by independent experts from Classic Data. All cars currently for sale were awarded the top mark of 1. Lukas Mühlemann, the third passionate collector and co-founder of Scuderia Azzurra, was a former partner at McKinsey & Company for many years before becoming Chief Executive of Swiss Re and Credit Suisse. "I've always dreamt of perfection and at Scuderia Azzurra we can live this dream: I've found two like-minded people in Matthias and Michael who also value first-rate restored cars. When it comes to the condition of our cars, we make no compromises."

### SCUDERIA AZZURRA

FOUNDED IN 2013. SCUDERIA AZZURRA IS BASED IN COLOGNE, GERMANY AND LISBON, PORTUGAL. THE COMPANY SPECIALISES IN SELLING CLASSIC ITALIAN CARS THAT HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY RESTORED IN-HOUSE – FROM BODIES AND ENGINES TO TRANSMISSIONS RIGHT THROUGH TO ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS. WWW.SCUDERIA-AZZURRA.COM