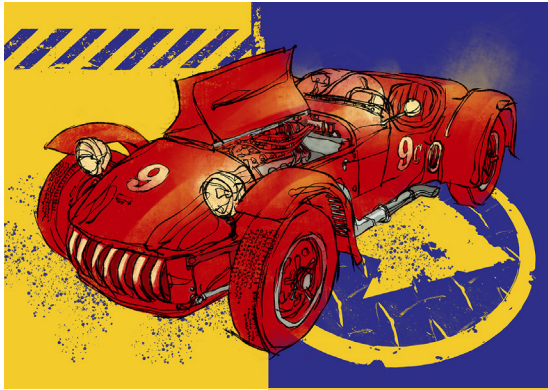


# CALIFORNIA ROAD RACERS

## A MULTIMEDIA ART PROJECT



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In the early 1950s an annual automobile race was run through the forests of Monterey California near Pebble Beach. The challengers drove to compete for the Del Monte Cup Trophy. The route was centered around the famous 17 Mile Drive.

- **It was a unique intersection of events** post-WW II where European economies were rebuilding, their auto industries were rebounding, and the traditional road races were resuming. The races were beginning to become popular in the US and the stars were the traditional Ferraris, Jaguars, and Porsches.
- **But the local boys thought they could take on the aristocrats** with machines they built in their home garages. The hot rod culture then was stripping down and modifying American iron to run full bore in a straight line. But for this contest they applied their talents to compete on the twists and turns of the road racing circuit.
- **This era spawned the rich tradition of American sports car competition.** That specific race in Monterey gave birth to an event that has become the granddaddy of automotive gatherings, the Monterey Car Week and Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.
- **I am launching an art project that celebrates this phenomenon.** I have met the owners and drivers and have produced a number of commissions depicting some extraordinary machines. The focus for the project will be on the sports cars that raced in the original series from 1950 to 1956, with particular emphasis on the American cars that challenged the Europeans.
- **I have attended many events in California and have sketched quite a few cars** on location at the Concours and Laguna Seca. Along the way I have been collecting stories and information from participants in the history. I want this project to emphasize the characters and their telling of events as well as picturing the cars. I have gathered enough anecdotal material to fill a book already, but I know there is much more to discover. The combination of stories and visuals will form the core of a colorful and dynamic experience.
- **The art is created digitally** and produced in limited edition on canvas, acrylic, and aluminum. Individual pieces will be offered to owners and fans who are devoted to the sport. As the project matures I will present it in whole at galleries and museums, and as displays at motorsports events and select automotive ceremonies. Ultimately, I will produce the collection in book and other graphic forms such as posters, banners, and supergraphics.
- **Since this is a work in progress I will be providing updates** via email and online posts to everyone who is interested. I welcome your feedback, and if you have a story of your own, please send it my way.

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