

Ascott Collection celebrates the 24 Hours of Le Mans and 40 years of Group C

The 24 Hours of Le Mans and Group C cars will once again be star features on the Ascott Collection stand, with the Porsche 917 K81, a LANCIA LC1 and a LANCIA LC2. These are cars that personify a transition period in the history of endurance racing and the advent of Group C, whose fortieth anniversary we are celebrating this year.

Ascott Collection is a French company set up by Xavier Micheron in 2014 which specializes in trading collector competition cars, and which exhibits each year at the Retromobile trade show. As its name suggests, Ascott is also a collection of historic competition vehicles defined by innovation, performance, and authenticity. The cars in the collection, notably the turbine-powered Howmet TX, are regularly entered in historic races by the company's founder.

- **1981 PORSCHE 917 K81: A Group 6 car designed for just one year's competition**

Porsche and the Kremer brothers took advantage of the announcement that Group 6 was being replaced by Group C from 1982 onwards to build the very last Porsche 917 ever made and enter it in the 24 Hours of Le Mans. It was driven by two legends of Le Mans, Bob Wollek and Henri Pescarolo. This 917, with its crystal-clear history, is eligible for Le Mans Classic Plateau 6 event, and could make a remarkable comeback there with its future owner.



Porsche 917 K81

- **1982 LANCIA LC1: A Group 6 car in the transition to Group C**

For Group C's first year of existence (1982), the FIA still allowed Group 6 cars to compete, provided they had an engine capacity of under 2.0 litres. This was how the sublime LANCIA LC1 saw the light of day. Ascott Collection is now offering chassis #LC1-0002 for sale. It is one of four works cars to be built and entered in the Sports Car Championship and the 24 Hours of Le Mans, in 1982. It won one leg of the championship at the Nürburgring and twice finished second. Several famous drivers have shone behind the car's wheel: Riccardo Patrese, Michele Alboreto & Rolf Stommelen. It is Lancia Classiche certified and is eligible for Group C and the Le Mans Classic.



LANCIA LC1

- **LANCIA LC2 de 1983: A rare Group C car powered by a Ferrari engine**

Chassis #LC2-0001 is a works LANCIA MARTINI RACING car entered in the Sports Car Championship in 1983 & 1984 and in the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1983. It was driven by several famous drivers: Jean-Claude Andruet, Henri Pescarolo and Alessandro Nannini. It was the most emblematic Italian Group C car and the leading opponent to the Porsche 956, capable of getting up to 400 km/h down the Mulsanne straight. During its career, this LC2 achieved two podium positions and a pole position. It is eligible for the Group C Racing Series and the Le Mans Classic.



LANCIA LC2

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