



# Fabulous Forgotten Collections

Christian Martin

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- Exploration of hidden automobile treasures, from Ferraris to Talbot Lago, witnesses of a bygone era
- Artistic shots of rare strength and romanticism
- Very valuable treasures
- Sleeping beauties - investigations and discoveries of rare or untraceable cars
- Ferrari 250 GT California Spyder by Alain Delon, untraceable for 40 years
- Delahaye bodied by Chapron, Talbot Lago T26 signed Saoutchik,
- Renault and Citroën from the 1920s abandoned in fields - forgotten cars covered in rust and lichen

The always astonishing stories of hundreds of dream cars covered in dust found in barns in the French or Belgian countryside, or stranded in open fields, overgrown with weeds, hidden for more than 50 years. "We found one of three Maserati A6G 2000 Berlinettas bodied by Frua, dating from 1956. And then, under piles of magazines, we discovered something even more exciting... a Ferrari 250 GT SWB California Spider, with obscured headlights, a car which belonged to Alain Delon, who was photographed on several occasions at the wheel – accompanied, in 1964, by Jane Fondä

That's not all: Maserati A6G 2000 Gran Sport, Facel Vega Excellence, Hispano-Suiza H6B, Bugatti 57 Ventoux. Several Talbot-Lago, Delahaye and Voisin – the list of classic automobiles, forgotten for decades is incredible. In 2015, the Baillon collection, a "lifetime work", was sold at auction for more than 25 million euros by Artcurial. Mi urbex-mi automobile collection: nuggets of inestimable value in their abandoned state before restoration.

What is most impressive is the sheer number of cars stored in barns or scattered across meadows overgrown with shrubs.

Christian Martin immortalizes these mechanical marvels and brings them to life through striking photographs. This enthusiasm is reflected in his photographs, presented for the first time in this book.

Text in English and French.

**Christian Martin**, born 1954, graduated from the French Institute of Photography, class of 1972. Assistant at the Carnot studio, he then began to sell paintings at Place du Tertre and in the USA. In 1979 he became Francis Giacobetti's assistant and collaborated with *Lui* magazine from 1980 where he took charge of the auto section. His collaborations extend to numerous fashion and automobile magazines. He also works for manufacturers such as Peugeot-Citroën, Audi, Opel, BMW. Christian Martin is the author of around ten books devoted to his automobile passion.

