



Sotheby's

RM SOTHEBY'S TIMELINE

1976

The RM Group of Companies begins operations in a small garage in Chatham, Ontario, Canada with Rob Myers as founder and sole employee. Equipped with basic tools and a penchant for Old World craftsmanship, Myers' reputation for quality work begins to spread throughout the market.

1979

RM is officially incorporated as a registered company and moves to a larger facility in Chatham-Kent, Ontario to accommodate its growing business and expanding list of restoration projects.

1987

Following several years of working with Rob Myers organizing car deals, Dan Warrener joins RM in a sales capacity, becoming a partner in 1988.

1988

In addition to the thriving restoration business, the company establishes a new sales division, known as RM Classic Cars, Inc., which offers some of the world's finest restored vintage automobiles.

1989

Mike Fairbairn joins Rob Myers and Dan Warrener as a partner in the still small but emerging company.

1992

The first RM auction takes place in Toronto, Ontario. The sale eventually evolves into Canada's largest indoor car auction, attracting more than 40,000 people annually.

1994

Two new mainstream auctions are added in Michigan and participation in the famous Meadow Brook Concours d'Elegance lands RM in the catalogue auction business. Annual sales for the RM Group of Companies propel to more than \$20 million.

1997

Rapid growth begins with the acquisition of the Monterey Sports Car Auction in Monterey, California—the world's largest sports car auction.

1999

RM begins a new auction, Vintage Motor Cars at Amelia Island, in conjunction with the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance in Florida. Total sales for the RM Group of Companies surpass \$75 million annually, making it, by far the largest commercial enterprise in the collector car world.

2000

RM Auctions expands its in-house services to provide the discerning car collector with an unparalleled, complete experience, including appraisal, acquisition, restoration, sales, and collector car auctions.

RM chooses the prestigious Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa for its latest catalogue auction. The debut Arizona auction is an immediate success, realizing nearly \$7 million in sales in four hours.

2001

RM Auto Restoration earns its first Best of Show at the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance with the 1930 Mercedes-Benz SS Erdmann & Rossi Roadster owned by Arturo and Deborah Keller.

2002

RM develops its own in-house design and advertising department to handle the growing volume of printed materials needed for its expanding services, including its award-winning catalogues.

Boca Raton is selected as the site of RM's latest auction venture. Held on the exclusive Royal Palm Polo Grounds in Boca Raton, Florida, this new event attracts the attention of the affluent South Florida car collector market.

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NORTH AMERICA +1 519 352 4575 **EUROPE** +44 (0) 7738 883 259



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2004

RM celebrates its 25th anniversary with a huge classic car weekend where it all began, in Chatham-Kent, Ontario, from July 16–18. Complete with a car show, a Concours d'Elegance, entertainment, and special guests, the "Classic Car Capital of Canada" comes together to raise money for youth-related charities in the community.

The 1938 Horch 835A Erdmann and Rossi Sport Cabriolet, owned by Judge Joseph C. Cassini III and Margie Cassini of West Orange, New Jersey and restored in a two-year project by RM Auto Restoration, takes the coveted Best of Show honors at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. This marks the second time in four years RM Auto Restoration receives the event's top award.

2005

RM Auctions facilitates another outstanding showing at the 20th annual Monterey Sports and Classic Car Auction, with sales totaling \$31 million. This was the largest single offering in the history of the famed Monterey weekend, setting a new world record for a two-day auction of vintage automobiles. The sale saw an exceptional 91 percent of cars sold, with seven cars achieving individual million-dollar-plus results.

2006

RM expands its international footprint, establishing operations in London, England. Max Girardo is appointed Managing Director of the new European division.

RM Auto Restoration wins Best of Show honors at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance with the 1931 Daimler Double Six 50 Sport Roadster, owned by Robert E. Lee. The victory marks RM's "triple crown", an honor recognizing three wins in one year among the top concours events. The win also marks the first time that a restoration company has won Pebble Beach three times in six consecutive appearances.

2007

RM Auctions' newly formed European Division holds its inaugural sale, in association with Sotheby's, at the legendary Ferrari factory in Maranello, Italy. This remarkable auction achieves a record-breaking \$46 million in sales with 98 percent of all lots sold. RM continues its transatlantic successes with its debut London auction entering the history books as the largest collector car auction ever held in the United Kingdom.

2008

RM Auctions makes automotive history, yet again, with its second Ferrari: Leggenda e Passione sale in Maranello, Italy, where a 1961 Ferrari 250 GT SWB California Spyder, formerly owned by Oscar-winning actor James Coburn, sells for €7.040.000 (\$10,894,400 USD). This sets a new world record for the most valuable motor car ever sold at auction.

2009

RM marks its 30th anniversary with another record-breaking sale in Maranello, Italy, this time smashing the all-time world record price for a motor car sold at auction with the sale of a 1957 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa for €9.020.000 (\$12,402,500 USD). The €9 million sale price represents almost €2 million (\$1.5 million USD) more than the previous world record, which was set at the same sale in 2008.

2010

RM continues to firmly place its stamp on the European market with the introduction of a new sale in Monaco. Held during the same weekend as the Grand Prix Historique de Monaco, the sale features an unparalleled line-up of important and historic automobiles joined by select memorabilia, recording €33 million (\$45 million USD) in sales.

RM Auto Restoration continues its winning streak at the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance when the 1933 Delage D8S de Villars Roadster, owned by The Patterson Collection of Louisville, Kentucky, is named Best of Show. The win represents RM Auto Restoration's fourth triumph at Pebble Beach.

2011

The RM Group of Companies, incorporating RM Auctions and Auctions America, achieves in excess of \$300 million USD in annual sales.

As part of the company's continued European expansion strategy, RM assumes the esteemed role as the official auction house of the celebrated Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este, hosting its debut sale on the shores of Lake Como, Italy. To maintain the exclusivity of the event, it is held every other year on an alternating basis with the company's Monaco auction.

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2012

The RM Group of Companies generates more than \$360 million USD in auction sales. The impressive tally includes the sale of more than 3,000 vehicles at 20 separate events in four countries.

RM's private and estate collections division enjoys significant growth, hosting five standalone single-vendor sales at various locations across the United States and Europe.

2013

The RM group of companies realizes an exceptional \$442 million in auction sales and clinches a fifth 'Best of Show' win at the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance with the 1934 Packard Twelve Dietrich Convertible Victoria owned by Judge Joseph C. Cassini III and Margie Cassini.

In addition to a blockbuster \$125 million Monterey sale, the year is highlighted by the momentous Art of the Automobile exhibition and sale, presented by RM Auctions in association with Sotheby's in New York City in November. The first major collector car auction to be held in Manhattan in over a decade, the sale achieves nearly \$63 million in just two hours of spirited bidding.

2014

The RM group of companies celebrates its 35th anniversary in the collector car business with its best performance to date: \$470 million in auction sales. The year is headlined by a \$143.4 million extravaganza in Monterey, California in August, a new benchmark for a collector car auction.

RM holds its first auction in Paris during the world-famous Retromobile week in February, a milestone in the continued growth of its European arm. It also cements its reputation as the leader in collection sales; the Sam Pack Collection, presented in November in association with Auctions America, represents RM's 30th private collection sale in 35 years of business.

2015

RM Auctions and Sotheby's announce the formation of a new strategic partnership as Sotheby's acquires a 25 percent ownership interest in the company, which will henceforth be known as RM Sotheby's. The partnership unites the two companies for the full calendar of future automobile auctions.

The RM group of companies posts a market-leading \$593 million in auction sales, of which RM Sotheby's is singularly responsible for \$525 million. The impressive tally is led by an exceptional \$172.9 million in Monterey, a new record as the highest grossing collector car sale of all time. Among other highlights of Monterey week, the Pinnacle Portfolio generates \$75.4 million to set a new benchmark for a private collection sale, while RM Auto Restoration clinches its sixth Best of Show at the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance with the 1924 Isotta Fraschini Tipo 8A F. Ramseier & Cie Worblaufen Cabriolet owned by The Patterson Collection.

Overall, RM is responsible for 15 of the top 25 automotive auction sales of the year, led by the ex-Works, ex-Fangio 1956 Ferrari 290 MM, which sells for \$28.05 million in New York. The impressive price ranks it not only the top automotive auction sale of 2015, but the most valuable car sold in RM history.

2016

The RM group of companies continues to build its strong foothold on the global collector car market, posting \$450 million in auction sales, including \$380 million by RM Sotheby's.

The season is again highlighted by record-setting results at Monterey, including the top two sales of this year's Monterey auction week. Leading the charge, the 1956 Le Mans-winning Jaguar D-Type, XKD 501 races to an impressive \$21.78 million, entering the history books as the most valuable British car ever sold at auction. One of the most anticipated auction vehicles in recent memory, CSX 2000, the very first Shelby Cobra, comes to market for the first time, selling for \$13.75 million—a benchmark for an American car at auction.

Among other standout achievements, the company achieves game-changing results for Porsches at its 10th anniversary London sale, and stuns the market with its presentation of Duemila Ruote—the largest automobile collection sale ever staged in Europe. The multi-day auction in Milan attracts unprecedented global interest (3,000+ bidders from 57 countries), doubling pre-sale expectations at a remarkable final €51.26 million (\$54.85M USD).

The year ends on a high note as RM partners with Ferrari for an exclusive charity sale of a one-of-a-kind LaFerrari. Offered from Ferrari's own collection, bidding on the unique hypercar reaches \$7 million to set a record for a 21st century automobile at auction. Proceeds from the sale benefit earthquake victims in Central Italy.

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