

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Bonhams & Butterfields' third annual Los Angeles sale of collectors' motorcycles and memorabilia. We are delighted again this year to be at the renowned Petersen Automotive Museum, where the current exhibit features property formerly owned by Steve McQueen, a man known for his passion for motorcycles and racing. It is therefore particularly exciting to offer for sale the *ex-Steve McQueen* 1933 Matchless Silver Hawk, as one of many fine machines from the Bob Schanz motorcycle collection that is the centerpiece of this November 12th sale. Included in the many spectacular machines featured in Bob's collection, there is a grouping of Brough Superior motorcycles championed by an SS100.

We are also pleased to present a collection of motorcycles and spare parts consigned to us from South Africa, featuring a 'barn find' 1939 Vincent HRG 'Series A' Rapide, the 'Holy Grail' of motorcycle finds. The collection features approximately fifty unrestored motorcycles with examples from Vincent, Norton, Triumph and Harley-Davidson, in addition to a multitude of hard-to-find spare parts, some still wrapped and boxed in their original packaging.

Beyond the scope of these two important collections, this year's sale is punctuated by a number of individual consignments worthy of note. Motion picture actor and well-known biker, Laurence Fishburne, has consigned to the sale an assortment of motorcycles from his collection, including his Ducati 916 from the movie *Fled*. Single owner consignments include a 'time warp' 1913 Flying Merkel Twin with original paint and a pre-war German production racer, the 1938 BMW R51SS. With a reputed dozen or so examples of the R51SS known to exist, this machine with its superb provenance and substantial history file, is a must for any serious collection of German racing machinery.

Together with my colleagues Malcolm Barber and Andrew Reilly, I welcome you to this important sale. Bonhams & Butterfields look forward to greeting you and answering any question you may have on the gathered lots.

**Mark Osborne**  
Vice President

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**Bonhams**  
& BUTTERFIELDS

