
Five Fast Questions

*with Five Formidable Women
in the Collector Car World*



In honor of this special women's edition of *SHIFT*, we have decided to ask five formidable women within the classic car community the same five questions to highlight the individual perspective of each within the community. These women hold such titles as the chairman of the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, an emerging collector and advocate, the president of the Silver Ghost Association, and co-owners of the top collections in the world, and we are thrilled to include them in this issue.

CAROLINE CASSINI

Caroline Cassini grew up in the collector car world and started going to concours with her parents at the age of three. She always had a piqued interest when it came to the restoration process and has always had heavy involvement when it came to the color and fabric selection for her father's restorations. Caroline has recently started judging at numerous concours and is currently the corporate secretary of the first annual Edison Concours d'Elegance, which will be making its debut in October 2015.

Q. What was the first car you ever owned?

My first car was given to me by my grandmother when I turned 17. It was a Mercedes-Benz C-Class. It was not my first choice, but I certainly appreciated my grandmother's generosity. The day I got my license was one of the most exciting days of my life! I was up at 6 o'clock in the morning on my 17th birthday to ensure that I was the first person at the Department of Motor Vehicles to take my test.

Q. How did you become involved in the classic car hobby?

I was truly born into the classic car hobby, as I started attending concours shows with my parents at the age of three. My true passion first started because of my close relationship with my father and my eagerness to be involved in the picking

of colors and fabric during the restoration process of his cars. As time went on, my interest began to peak as I became more aware of the importance of the historical nature of the pre-war automobile. The classic car hobby is more than just a "hobby"; the people involved are actively preserving the essence of the automobile for future generations.

Q. What has been the highlight of your involvement in the classic car community or your best experience to date?

The most relishing car experience I have had thus far is the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in 2013, when my father won Best of Show with his 1934 Packard Convertible Victoria. I had heard stories about my parents' prior win in 2004 with their 1938 Horch 853A Erdmann & Rossi Sport Cabriolet and always wished that I was there to experience that with them. I had spent many hours with my dad debating colors, fabric, and leather, as well as researching the extraordinary history and uniqueness of the car. It was spectacular to have our hard work recognized with the Best of Show award.

Q. If you could pick your all-time favorite car, what would it be and why?

My all-time favorite car would have to be a 1938 Bugatti Aravis Drophead Coupe. When I was eight years old, my father took me to the RM Auto Restoration shop for the first time. Rob Myers greeted me and my father and asked if we would like to take a spin in a Bugatti. Without any hesitation, my father and I immediately accepted his offer. Rob Myers took the wheel, and as we drove down the Canadian streets, I was immediately hooked. This car was the car that literally and figuratively opened my eyes to the whole experience of the antique car hobby.

Q. What advice would you give enthusiasts looking to get involved in the collector car world?

Get in touch with Rob Myers! With that being said, it is so important to be in contact with someone you know you can trust when first getting started in this hobby. You need to make sure that you do your research when you are looking to buy a car. As the saying goes, "you can't judge a book by its cover," and that truism certainly applies when purchasing a collector vehicle. It is also important to surround yourself with people in the hobby that have your best interest at heart and are willing to go the extra mile in order to get you where you want to be.



