



Ferrari 250 TdF made  
£4.76 million at RM  
Sotheby's Battersea sale

## RM's eurovision night

**Y**ou can't really call a sale where nearly £16.7m changes hands disappointing, but more than a quarter of that was accounted for by RM's Ferrari 250 TdF catalogue cover car.

A nice example with period race history, it sold for an all-in £4.76 million, mid-estimate and market-correct.

Second biggest seller was also a Ferrari, a left-hand drive 250 GT Lusso from a French owner that made £1.23m.

But a lot of the other star cars in Battersea didn't sell – including collector staples like a Mercedes-Benz 300 SL and a Ferrari Daytona

Spider – on a night when 27 per cent of the 75 cars on offer failed to find new homes. Of the 55 that did sell, a fair chunk – nearly a third – went for below their low estimate. That seems to be a running theme this year – high estimates but lowered seller expectations.

It cannot have helped that the Concours of Elegance event this sale is partnered with was this year held in Edinburgh, but the cosmopolitan nature of the sale was also notable. RM was obviously expecting a widely European rather than home-based audience as only 21 of the cars on offer carried a UK registration.

### IN BRIEF



#### ARTCURIAL HEADS EAST

Paris-based auction house Artcurial is to hold an auction in Hong Kong on October 5-6, which alongside artworks will include a 1961 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Roadster. MD Matthieu Lamourea says, 'We are proud to bring this wonderful car to Hong Kong and will for the first time offer at auction a collectors' car in Asia.' Estimate is £850,000-£1.25m. This sale is bound to fuel speculation about China opening its doors to the import of classic cars, though experts feel this is still several years in the future at the least.



#### BENTLEY FOUND IN HOUSE

Vintage car specialist William Medcalf has unearthed a 1928 Bentley 4½ Litre Drophead in Kew, dismantled and spread around the deceased owner's house. Having pieced it all together, from the engine block in the hallway to the body panels on the garage roof, Medcalf has reassembled the car leaving everything exactly as found, apart from replacing some of the body's wood frame that had rotted away and making it run again. It has now been put up for sale. See [themedcalfcollection.com](http://themedcalfcollection.com) for details.

#### DEBUT SALE FOR CLASSICS CENTRAL

It isn't easy breaking into the crowded classic auction market, but Classics Central now has a first sale under its belt. The firm rounded up 52 cars for its debut at Bedford Autodrome, selling 30 for a sale rate of 58 per cent. The bigger-ticket lots proved hardest to sell, and the top result on the day was £14,575 for a 1970 Citroën DS20 Pallas. Smartly bought for slightly below bottom estimate, it had been restored six years ago and had a pretty two-tone turquoise and ivory interior.

Classic Central founder Justin Lazic was upbeat about the experience, 'The free parking and indoor venue were big hits with the buying public and we already have 15 lots consigned for our next sale on Sunday November 8.' See [classicscentral.co.uk](http://classicscentral.co.uk) for details.



1970 Citroën DS20 Pallas sold for £14,575 at Classics Central's first sale



#### ACA'S GRAND DESIGN

At its November sale, Anglia Car Auctions hopes to pass a significant milestone – that of having sold more than 1000 classics in a year, which is 25 per cent more than it achieved in 2014. After four sales the running total is 900, and ACA is now busy consigning lots for this season's final sale. ACA's Rob George told us, 'We wanted to do something special for our 20th year, so this was a little target we set ourselves. We're also giving away a classic car in a free prize draw at the November sale.'