

MICHAEL FURMAN PHOTOGRAPHER



As a young boy, Michael Furman first picked up a camera to photograph a 1963 Corvette Split Window Coupe. And thus began a sixty-year love affair with cars and cameras.

Michael studied photography at the prestigious Rochester Institute of Technology, earning a Fine Arts degree in 1974. Upon graduation, he opened his studio in his native Philadelphia, and built a successful business shooting still life assignments for major advertising and corporate clients. But it was a long-standing love of cars that led him to the challenge of shooting cars in the studio.

While shooting new cars for the major manufacturers, Michael was asked to shoot a number of vintage automobiles and motorcycles. He instantly became enamored with these elegant forms; this new path leading to his position as the most sought-after photographer of significant automobiles in the world.

Michael's notoriety grew with the publication of his first book, *Motorcars of the Classic Era*. It was received with public and critical acclaim, leading to the immediate work on a companion title, *Automobiles of the Chrome Age, 1946-1960*. These photographic essays are unique to the publishing world in that they celebrate the beauty and history of the world's most iconic cars in studio imagery. *Speed, Style and Beauty, The Cars of the Ralph Lauren Collection* proved to be a tremendously popular book as it was published in concert with the exhibition at the Museum of Fine Art, Boston in 2005 and at The Louvre in 2012.

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Many books have followed with publisher Coachbuilt Press, working with many of the finest automotive authors and historians including Beverly Rae Kimes, Winston Goodfellow, Ken Gross, Jonathan Stein, Richard Adatto, Donald Osborne, Randy Leffingwell and Robert Cumberland.

Released in August 2009, *The Spirit of Competition*, presents the legendary collection of Dr. Frederick Simeone whose sports-racing cars include milestones in automotive competition history. *The Art of Bugatti: Mullin Automotive Museum*, is the first of three titles that comprise the catalog for Peter Mullin's museum of French cars in Southern California.

Among Michael's most recent titles, *Automotive Jewelry, Volume One: Mascots • Jewelry* and *Automotive Jewelry, Volume Two: Bespoke Mascots* brings his attention to the unique art form that has adorned the automobile since its inception. As photographic essays, Michael has elevated these "small sculptures" to the level they so richly deserve.

Limited edition book project for Taschen (Germany) and Assouline (New York) have provided very unique and exclusive insight into the highest levels of the collector car world.

Upcoming book projects include *Bugatti Type 59*, to be released at RetroMobile in Paris, January 2025; *The Collection of Sam and Emily Mann*, 2025; and *Dash Clocks* to be released in 2026.

Major exhibitions have included *Michael Furman* at The Automotive Hall of Fame in 2005, *Legendary Italian Automobiles* at the Alden B. Dow Museum in Midland, Michigan and in 2011 The Ralph Lauren exhibit in Paris. Michael's work was also exhibited at the Beijing Auto Museum in Beijing, China in 2015 and 2016, and the Toronto International Auto Show in 2017.

Michael is a regular guest lecturer at art colleges and professional gatherings across the United States. He has also been honored by *American Photographer*, *Communication Arts*

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and *PhotoGraphis*, *Auto Aficionado*, *Automobile Quarterly*, *Automobile Magazine* and *The International Historic Motoring Awards*.

Michael is a founding board member and former creative director of the Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. He is a long-standing sponsor and supporter of the Pebble Beach

Concours d'Elegance; The Quail: A Motorsports Gathering and Carmel-by-the-Sea events; The Elegance at Hershey, The Concours of Elegance in London and The Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. He has judged at many of the world's most significant events including Pebble Beach, Hershey, Radnor Hunt, Hilton Head, St. John's, Cobble Beach, Edison, Newport, Miami and Santa Fe, among others.