

TOP MARQUES MONACO 2009

BY MILES REUCROFT

Top Marques is the show for the appasionata of the super car. Here you'll find the rarest and most impressive automobiles. They defy the global recession with their inherent style and luxury. This is definitely a show for the serious lovers of exceptional cars

The Top Marques show is returning to Monaco's Grimaldi Forum this April for the seventh edition of this, the world's only live supercar show. The event marries the design and power of its exhibitors with the ambition and wealth of its visitors to deliver a stunning show for car enthusiasts and aficionados alike. For the manufacturers the show represents an opportunity to show case its latest models and designs to an intimate crowd of potential clients in one of the most prestigious locations on earth. All of the mainstream manufacturers such as Mercedes, BMW, Porsche, view the show as an opportunity to show off their most exclusive and desirable

products. For many other companies such as Prindiville Prestige (see The Paddock issue 18), PPI Automotive Design and Innotech, the show is a chance to showcase their upgrade packages. These companies take an existing model of luxury car and improve it, or upgrade it, as we investigated with Prindiville's Lamborghini LP640. So for the very latest and greatest in automotive design and technology look no further than the ultra exclusive Top Marques show 2009.

The show is the brainchild of Lawrie Lewis who wished to combine



the principality's motoring heritage with a motor show of the status worthy of the venue. Only the rarest and most exclusive automobiles are invited to rumble up along the Salle Ravel and into the Grimaldi Forum. This year's edition will be a recession defying showcase of what the world's top automotive manufacturers are still creating. The most exciting prospects on display will include the Wiesmann GT MF 5, the Pagani Zonda Cinque and the road-legal version of the racetrack-only Pagani Zonda R, Prindiville Prestige's uniquely packaged Lamborghini LP640, the Caterham R400, the Innotech Corvette C6 from the Czech Republic, the PPI Audi R8 Razor by PPI Automotive Design, the official world premiere of the new Spanish roadster; AD Tramontana R of which there will only be 12 in production, the Bugatti Veyron Vincerò (only three produced) with a boosted power output of 1,109 hp, French manufacturer Lazareth in the Wazuma quad, the KTM-X-BOW and Gumpert's aggressive Apollo that accelerates from 0 to 200 km/h in less than nine seconds.

Besides these wonderful and exuberant machines there is also room for environmental issues at the Top Marques show. In this day and age the majority of car manufacturers are attempting, and producing, more eco-friendly models. With an emphasis on using new fuel sources such as electricity and bio fuels to power their cars, the manufacturers are aiming to install these new devices whilst maintaining as much of the original power as possible.

These cars are an investment in the future and this area of technological advance has come on leaps and bounds in recent years. Models on display at this year's Top Marques show will include the new Koenigsegg "Quant" electric car that relies upon solar power to deliver the trademark power and style of Koenigsegg, the new Lumeneo Smera electric 2-seater, eRUF's electric Porsche 911 that is capable of outputting approximately 200 hp, Italdesign's Quaranta, of which the hood and roof are equipped with solar panels, the much fêted Tesla Roadster, Lexus will be present with their groundbreaking advanced Lexus Hybrid Drive system and Ronn Motor Company is bringing the Scorpion, with the H2GO™ Hydrogen On-Demand (HOD) fuel injection system.

All of these unique models will be on display under roof. What makes the show truly unique, however, is the presence of the Top Marques pit stop's 1 and 2 outside the Grimaldi Forum. Potential buyers of these luxury supercars will be given the opportunity to test drive one of the 35 vehicles around the World famous Monte Carlo Formula 1 circuit. This is a privilege that is not afforded by any other motor show and has endeared Top Marques to buyers and vendors alike. The opportunity to get so close to so many unique models makes this show what it is – one of the World's best. Unlike most other shows the cars on display are highly exclusive and those fortunate to gain entry are exclusive too. This is not a show for just anybody, it is a show for those who are serious about supercars. 🇲🇦

