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CHEVY BEL
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ALL
OUT
DETAIL



Jada
1973 Ford Bronco



Automodello
'54 Buick Skylark



Maisto
2021 Ford
Bronco Wildtrak

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1:24
SCALE
DIE-CAST

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RACING

CONGRATS ON
A GREAT YEAR!

11
SERGIO PEREZ

1
MAX VERSTAPPEN

1/43
Die-cast Metal



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editor's letter



We're excited to ring in the new year, because a new year means new castings and new colorways of our favorite vehicles! 2022 was huge for the die cast industry, but 2023 looks like it's going to be even bigger thanks to the ongoing resurgence of die cast collecting. We can't wait to see what new releases will be dropped and what new custom die casts will be created.

In this issue, we go vehicle feature-heavy and take in-depth looks at a wide collection of die casts spanning different genres and scales. Our cover cars are all about speed; one is a classic and the other is as modern as it gets. The Bburago Bugatti Bolide is a 21st century hypercar, while the Auto World '57 Chevy Bel Air next to it is a beloved mid-century classic.

We also examine a couple of Ford Broncos—again, one

modern and one classic—made by Maisto and Jada, respectively. If you're a dragster fan, you'll love seeing what Auto World did with the 1973 Blue Max Mustang Funny Car. It's as realistic as can be. We also take a nostalgic trip with Automodello's '53 Buick Skylark. It sure is an elegant beauty.

By the way, we are looking to show off our readers' rides, and that means yours! If you have a custom or rare die cast that you'd like to "Show & Tell," let us know! We want to see what you got! We urge you to submit one of your die casts to show and tell in a future issue of Die Cast X by tagging us on Instagram with our handle, @diecastx. Give us a follow there too, won't you?

As mentioned in our previous issue, our overhaul of DCX is a work in progress. Stay tuned; our revamp of Die Cast X is just getting underway. We hope you enjoy this issue as much as we enjoyed working on it.

Until next time,
Jerry Tsai
Editorial Director





FROM A-TO-Z

Johnny Lightning debuts a range of new Classic Gold!

Classics are new again! Our latest release of Classic Gold continues the trend bringing new castings you need! Developed from the ground up, our brand-new Nissan 300ZX brings incredible detail with an opening hood, detailed engine, and true-to-scale 1:64 body. The new additions continue as the 1986 Ford Mustang SVT and '69 Mercury Cougar join Johnny Lightning as well! Recent additions are back with the '82 Mazda RX-7 and 2012 Chevy Corvette in new colorways. Last but not least, we round out the release with the 1962 Plymouth Savoy Max Wedge!

Classic Gold 2022 Release 2 - #JLCG029

- 1984 Nissan 300ZX - **NEW CASTING!**
- 1982 Mazda RX-7
- 2012 Chevy Corvette Z06
- 1969 Mercury Cougar Eliminator - **NEW CASTING!**
- 1986 Ford Mustang SVT - **NEW CASTING!**
- 1962 Plymouth Savoy Max Wedge - **NEW ENGINE!**

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**1:64
SCALE**



**Classic Gold 2022 Release 1
#JLCG028**

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SHOWROOM

NEW RELEASES & FIRST LOOKS

BY DCX STAFF

01



02



03



04

01 JADA NEXT LEVEL I LOVE THE...70'S 1979 FORD F-150

The "I Love The..." collection is inspired by American design styles throughout the decades. Each 1:24 die cast vehicle is highly detailed and crafted to authentically reflect the styling cues from its respective decade. With fully functioning doors, hood and tailgate, and groovy era-inspired decals, this 1979 Ford F-150 will pick you up.

Scale: 1:24

P/N: 31609

MSRP: \$19.99

URL: jadanextlevel.com

02 MAISTO 1986 CHEVY MONTE CARLO LOWRIDER

Released under the Maisto Design Series, this 1986 Chevy Monte Carlo Lowrider is painted in metallic blue with intricate pinstriping. The 1:24-scale car features a die cast metal body and opening doors and hood as well as a detailed interior. The boulevard—and your display shelf—will never look the same with the addition of this lowrider to your collection.

Scale: 1:24

P/N: 32542BL

MSRP: \$22.99

URL: 3000toys.com

03 JOHNNY LIGHTNING ZINGERS! STREET FREAKS 1972 FORD MAVERICK

Loud graphics, hot customs, and sizzling flames have returned to the Johnny Lightning lineup with the Street Freaks! Whether you're into high speed and blown engines, the secret underworld of car culture, or insane flame paint jobs, these freaks will fuel your need for horsepower.

Scale: 1:64

P/N: JLSP229B

MSRP: \$8.99

URL: autoworldstore.com

04 CMC FERRARI 275 GTB/C IN CALIFORNIA BLUE

1966 saw Ferrari launch the 275 GTB/C on a completely new chassis that Mauro Forghieri had designed for a dual-purpose racecar. Designated as Tipo 590A, it was lighter and stronger than the standard 275 chassis. A total of twelve 275 GTB/C Scaglietti Berlinetta Competizione cars were built by Ferrari's racing department at Maranello, each being outfitted with a voluptuous Pininfarina-designed body.

Scale: 1:18

P/N: M-239

MSRP: \$694

URL: cmcmodelcarsusa.com



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GARAGE IN TOWN"



05 AUTO WORLD RAT FINK GA- RAGE WITH 1:32 TOW TRUCK SET

Open 24/7—it's the R.F. Gas-N-Go Garage and Towing and Recovery Tow Truck. This 1:32 garage and its companion tow truck are full of irreverent Rat Fink graphics. This Rat Fink garage façade has a drive-through canopy with premium and regular gas pumps on the island. It's sure to catch the eye of Rat Fink collectors looking to add to their finkish paraphernalia and all things Ed Roth.

Scale: 1:32
P/N: AW317
MSRP: \$59.99
URL: autoworldstore.com

06 ACME 1:18 SMOKEY YUNICK'S BEST DAMN GARAGE IN TOWN SHOP SIGN

Looking for a really cool prop to add to your 1:18-scale diorama? Look no further than ACME's scale garage shop sign. This highly detailed sign is perfect to pose next to your 1:18-scale vehicles. (Car shown not included.)

Scale: 1:18
P/N: A1800148
MSRP: \$49.95
URL: acmediecast.com

07 GREENLIGHT COLLECT- IBLES 1:18 1954 TOKHEIM 350 TWIN GAS PUMP "SHELL OIL"

We've got dioramas on the mind and this 1:18-scale vintage gas pump fits the bill perfectly. Pull your die cast up to this pump to refuel after a night of cruising the strip. Includes highly detailed replica twin pumps and accurate Shell Oil livery.

Scale: 1:18
P/N: GL14120-C
MSRP: \$12.49
URL: diecastdirect.com

08 TECNOMODEL FERRARI F40 GTE 1996 PRESS VERSION RED LIMITED EDITION

Available for pre-order for an April-May 2023 delivery date, this is a stunning replica of the Ferrari F40 GTE as it was presented to the press in 1996. It features real rubber tires, true-to-scale detail, and a detailed exterior and interior. This model is made of resin and does not have any openings. (Pre-production sample shown.)

Scale: 1:18
P/N: TM18-286E
MSRP: \$279.99
URL: diecastmodelswholesale.com



1947 Cadillac
Series 62 Cabriolet
1:18 - 315 - \$109.99

1949 Mercury Eight Coupe
1:18 - 318 - \$109.99



1955 Hemmings
Chevrolet Bel Air
1:18 - 1283 - \$109.99

1967 Hemmings Camaro
1:18 - 1288 - \$109.99



New York State Police
1996 Ford Bronco XLT
1:18 - 19121 - \$79.99



Showroom Floor Series 2 - 1:64 Scale - 68020-A thru F
\$6.99 each, CASE(6) - \$39.99, MASTER(48) - \$309.99



2022 NTT Indy Car Series
1:18 - 11148-72 - \$74.99

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1:50 - 2923 - \$249.99



Liebherr T 284
Mining Truck
1:50 - 2766-02 - \$429.99



Dockery Ford - Mark Donohue
1965 Shelby G.T. 350R
1:18 - A1801864 - \$139.99



1982 Chevrolet K5 Blazer
Highlander Edition
1:18 - A1807711 - \$139.99



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63010-A



JLSF025-B-CASE



51470-A



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>>>>> **UPCOMING ARRIVALS!** <<<<<



First Gear 1:34
Freightliner
2018 Cascadia Day Cab
with Fontaine Traverse
Hydraulic Trailer

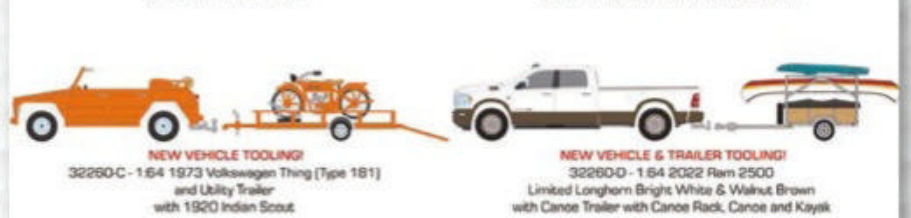


First Gear 1:64
Kenworth
T880
Rogue Dump
& Dump Trailer

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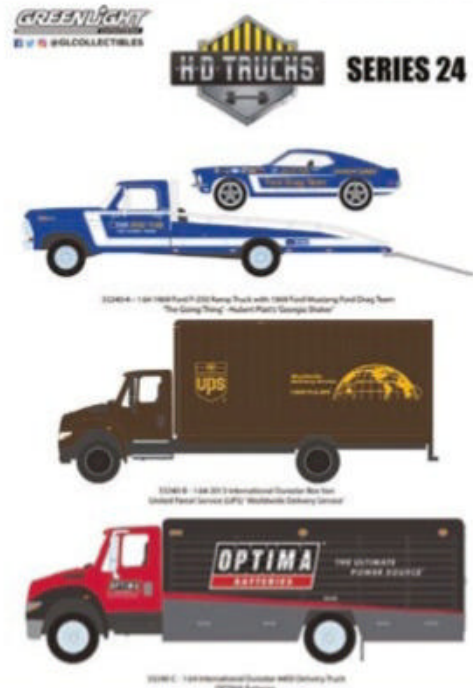
Greenlight 1:43
1968 Dodge Bengal Charger
Tom Kneer Dodge, Cincinnati, OH



Greenlight 1:64 Hitch & Tow Series 26 Assortment



Auto-Lift 1:64
M2 Machines
1:64 2-Pack
Release 23



Greenlight 1:64
HD Trucks
Series 24
Assortment

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>>>>>>>>> NEW ARRIVALS! <<<<<<<<<<



GT Spirit 1:18
2021 Ford Mustang Mach 1
Handling Package Race Red with
Black Stripes Limited edition 20 999
pieces Worldwide SKU:GT 351



Kyosho 1:18
Toyota GR Supra RZ RHD White
SKU: KSR18045W



Kyosho 1:12
Shelby Cobra 427 S/C Viking Blue Metallic
SKU: 08633VBL



ACME 1:18
1964 Buick Riviera Custom Cruiser
Cosmic Dust Green Metallic with White Interior
"Southern Kings Customs" Limited Edition to 400 pieces Worldwide
SKU: A1806305



Greenlight 1:18
1969 Ford Baja Bronco #56
"Purolator" Tribute Edition "Artisan Collection"
SKU: 19104



ACME 1:18
1970 Chevrolet K5 Blazer Medium Blue Metallic with White Top
"1970 Dealer Ad Truck" Limited Edition to 1020 pieces Worldwide
SKU: A1807704



First Gear 1:64
Mack Super-Liner 60" Sleeper Cab Truck
with Talbert 5553TA Tri-Axle Trailer Orange and Black SKU: 60-1234



Greenlight 1:64
"Estate Wagons"
6 Piece Set
Series 7
SKU: 36040SET

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SHOW & TELL

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT!

Die Cast X loves to see our readers' rare and customized die cast rides. If you have a rare collectible or custom die cast that you'd like to "show and tell" in a future issue of DCX, submit your ride at: www.diecastxmagazine.com/dcx-readers-collection.

In this edition of Show & Tell, we asked our readers to send us pictures of some of their favorite vehicles in their collections and we received a fantastic response. Let's see what our readers have to Show & Tell!

AIDAN PARSONS

Location: Phoenix, Arizona

Instagram: @AP.Diecast

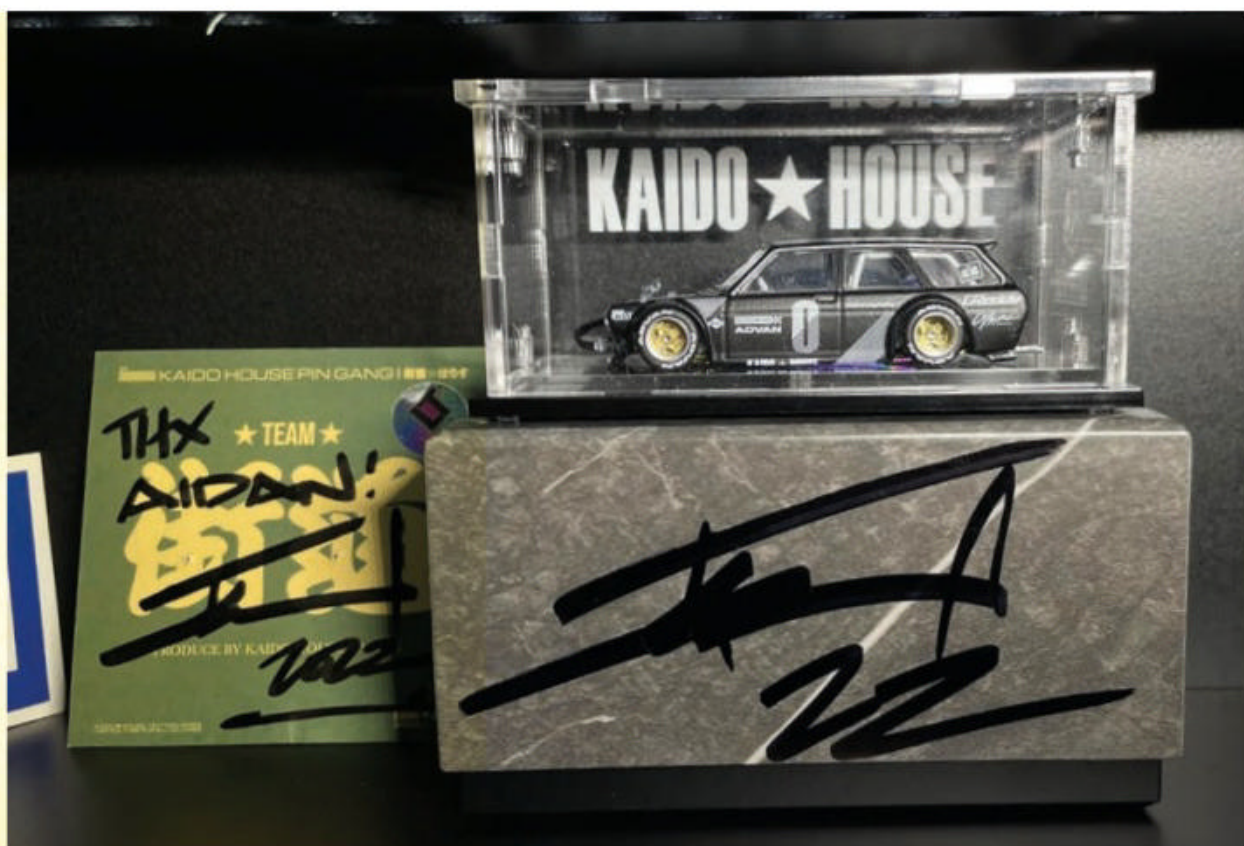
Brand: Kaido House

Series: Custom

Model: BLKLTD4 Custom

Scale: 1:64

From The Owner: "This custom BLKLTD4 is one of the top pieces in my collection because of the story behind it, a mirror-less car turned into a custom masterpiece and the start of a new die cast journey!"



JASON T.

Location: Los Angeles, California

Instagram: @absolute_ziro

Brand: Hot Wheels

Series: Mainline

Model: Honda Civic EG hatch

From the Owner: "This custom Honda Civic EG Hatch by my friend Dominic (@aloha_kine_customz) is currently one of my favorite customs in my collection. The stance, wheel selection, livery and decals just fit perfectly with the car. And did I mention it rolls very smoothly?"



JEFF KATTINE

Location: Independence, Kentucky

Brand: Hot Wheels

Series: Flying Colors Redline

Model: Z Whiz

Scale: 1:64

From The Owner: "I collect the Z Whiz because I had one as a child and it was one of my favorite Hot Wheels to play with. As I grew up and learned the history of the 240Z and the Z Whiz, my drive to own as many variations of it as possible started me down the proverbial rabbit hole. This particular White Enamel Redline Z Whiz came from the Mike Strauss collection and is one of three carded examples known to exist. The gray thoroughly loved Z Whiz is the original from my childhood."

JAMIE PEARSON

Location: Levin, New Zealand

Brand: Hot Wheels

Series: Night Stalker Customs by Chris Walker

Model: Volkswagen Drag Bus

Scale: 1:64

From The Owner: "This amazing and very special custom is one of only four that were made for the NZD team here in New Zealand. I was very lucky to be able to add one to my forever collection and it gets displayed front and centre for everyone to see. I love the colour, the design, and how good a story this piece has. It's always a cool piece to talk to people about."



THE FLAGSHIP

**AUTOMODELLO ONE24 1954
BUICK SKYLARK**

TEXT BY MICHAEL GREY
IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

There's a reason why the Buick nameplate gained such popularity from the 1930s through the 1940s. The marque innovated the automotive industry with new engine and transmission designs and backed up that technology with eye-pleasing styling. During the post-war period, Buick continued turning out popular cars that are still sought-after today.

One of the most collectible Buicks today is the Skylark. Original survivors and fully restored examples are known to have sold at auction for north of \$200,000. To mark Buick's 50th anniversary in 1953, the Roadmaster Skylark was offered as the brand's top-of-the-line convertible. Much of the Roadmaster Skylark was hand-built and many of its parts were crafted especially for the car. The limited-edition convertible was positioned as Buick's ultimate personal luxury vehicle, blending every aspect of luxury and sportiness in the brand's repertoire.





SPECS

BRAND
AUTOMODELLO

SERIES
ONE24

MODEL
1954 BUICK SKYLARK

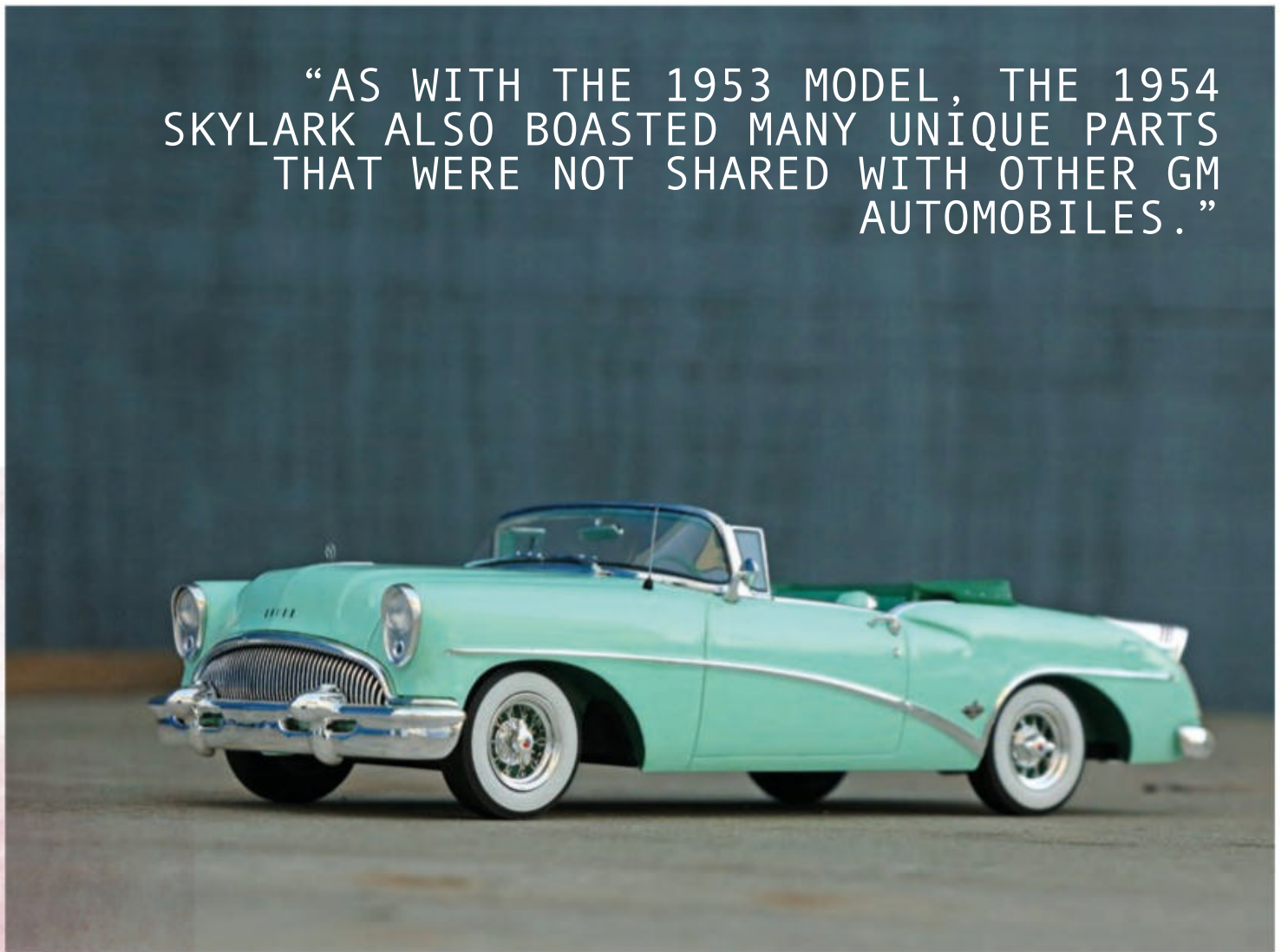
COLOR OPTIONS
LIDO GREEN, ARCTIC
WHITE (ENCOMIUM
EDITION), MATADOR
RED (ENCOMIUM
EDITION)

SCALE
1:24

MSRP
\$249.95 (ENCOMIUM
EDITION: \$299.95)

URL
AUTOMODELLO.COM

“AS WITH THE 1953 MODEL, THE 1954 SKYLARK ALSO BOASTED MANY UNIQUE PARTS THAT WERE NOT SHARED WITH OTHER GM AUTOMOBILES.”



The 1954 Buick Skylark is one of the most collectible cars of its make. Some have auctioned for more than \$200k.





The Skylark comes in a beautiful, multi-tiered display box that comes with paperwork about the car and a hand-signed and numbered certificate of authenticity.



Automodello includes parts to display the Skylark with its top in the up and down positions.

As with the 1953 model, the 1954 Skylark also boasted many unique parts that were not shared with other GM automobiles. For example, it had unique sheet metal stampings for its elongated wheel cutouts and new semi-barrel trunk, along with a new Buick hood ornament. What differed was that the 1954 model was based on the smaller Buick Century convertible platform, which was five inches shorter than the newly upsized 1954 Roadmaster's 127-inch-wheelbase chassis.

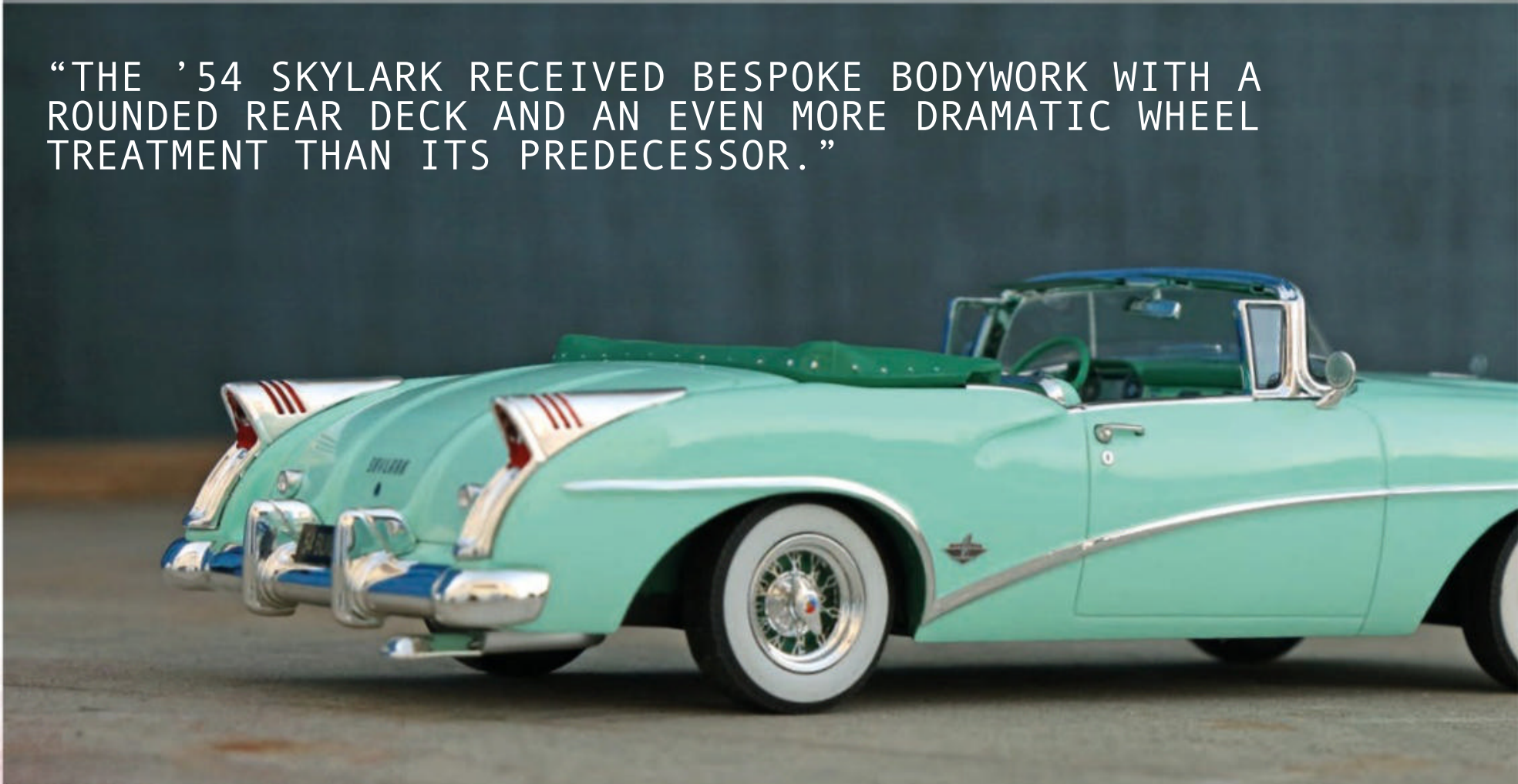
The '54 Skylark received bespoke bodywork with a rounded rear deck and an even more

dramatic wheel treatment than its predecessor, with teardrop-shaped cutouts that allowed the inner wheel wells to be painted a contrasting color. Filling those unique wheel wells were 15-inch-diameter Kelsey-Hayes faux knock-off wire wheels. Being a mid-1950s car, its wheels were appropriately wrapped in a set of wide whitewall tires.

The 1954 Skylark was equipped with a powertrain that consisted of Buick's top-spec 322-cubic-inch "Nailhead" V8, which produced 200 horsepower, and a smooth-driving Dynaflo



“THE '54 SKYLARK RECEIVED BESPOKE BODYWORK WITH A ROUNDED REAR DECK AND AN EVEN MORE DRAMATIC WHEEL TREATMENT THAN ITS PREDECESSOR.”



This limited-run model is available in Lido Green, Matador Red and Arctic White colorways.

transmission. Even though the Skylark was packed to the hilt with features, it was a slow seller for Buick, moving only 836 units. In contrast, that's less than half the number made in 1953. Basing it on the smaller chassis with the price tag of a larger car is said to be its downfall. The sparse sales ended the Skylark name until it eventually made a comeback in 1961. Slow 1954 sales and low production numbers also mean that the 1954 model Skylark has become one of the most collectible Buicks today.

Automodello recognizes the collectability of the 1954 model, as it was the final Skylark to hold the prestigious position as Buick's flagship. The die cast experts have released it as a part of their 1:24-scale collection, aptly called ONE24.

Only up to 199 Standard Edition replicas in Lido Green with a two-tone green interior have been produced. The company also produces an even more exclusive Encomium Edition Skylark that has been painted in Arctic White and Matador Red in numbers of only up to 54 each. Each Skylark replica features a removable CanvasTouch convertible top to better showcase the highly detailed interior. Every Skylark is hand-numbered and comes mounted to a decorative plinth that makes it easy to display.

Speaking of display, Automodello's presentation of this ONE24 model is incredible. The Skylark comes in a beautiful, multi-tiered display box and also comes with paperwork about the car as well as a hand-signed and numbered



The Skylark looks just as good with its top up.



Many fine details such as an antenna, hood ornament and door handles are accurately represented.

certificate of authenticity. The second tier of the box, found below the car and its display stand, includes provisions to hold detailed recreations of the Skylark's soft-top in both its rolled down and fully deployed positions. Both versions of the top can be placed on the rear of the car, but the top does not snap in place.

The highly detailed Lido Green '54 Skylark as shown here is simply beautiful and available in very limited quantities. As mentioned, there are also even more limited editions of this Skylark available from Automodello, so don't miss out. Their collectability and value are sure to match their impressive detail. If you're looking for a 1950s flagship to park in your display case, this rare Buick convertible is a must-get.

BRONCIN' BUCK

JADA JUST TRUCKS 1973 FORD BRONCO

TEXT BY JAMES YORK
IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI



Classic SUVs are making a big-time comeback not only on the car show circuit, but back on the trails as well. When you're around one, it's easy to see why. They have the look of a bygone era that many of us miss. Overlooked for years, classic SUVs are admittedly not as sexy as classic sports cars, but they do maintain a certain look and feel about them that is irresistible to automotive aficionados and laymen alike.

Jada Toys agrees and has released the 1973 model Ford Bronco under their Just Trucks line of die casts. Jada's Just Trucks line pretty much explains what it's all about... just

trucks. Released in three scales, including 1:64, 1:32 and 1:24, the Just Trucks line covers trucks of all sorts, including modern as well as vintage pickup trucks, SUVs, Jeeps, and even monster trucks.

If it's a truck or even a truck-like vehicle, Jada probably has it in their Just Trucks line. We got ahold of one of the company's latest releases, a gloss-gray 1973 Ford Bronco in 1:24 scale. We were excited to see what this classic SUV was all about.

Simply put, Jada's die cast replica of the '73 Bronco is a real looker. Painted in a high-



At 1:24 scale, this Bronco features a detailed front end along with authentic Ford logos and badges.

The glossy gray paint is highlighted with black body graphics.

“FOR THOSE WHO LIKE A MORE OFF-ROAD LOOK, AN EXTRA SET OF ALL-TERRAIN TIRES AND BLACK WHEELS COMES WITH THE BRONCO.”



Jada's Just Trucks line of die casts are fun to collect and play with.



This Bronco comes with an optional set of wheels and tires, allowing you to swap them out for a different look.



This die cast features opening doors and an open cockpit with cargo area.



gloss gray paint scheme, this classic looks like it could pull into a classic car show and easily win the SUV category. The Bronco features a detailed interior and two opening doors as well as an opening hood. Opening either door reveals seats and a reasonably detailed cockpit complete with steering wheel and instrument cluster.

The 1:24-scale die cast comes complete with details such as a chrome bumper, authentic Ford logos and graphics, side mirrors, and even a full-size spare on the tailgate. We really like the boxy look of the Bronco's all-metal body.

For those who like a more off-road look, an

extra set of all-terrain tires and black wheels come with the Bronco. The extra set of wheels and tires include their own dedicated wheel and tire rack, a set of extra axles and a screwdriver. To swap the wheels, simply pull off the stock wheels and press on the alternate set.

With a street price of well under \$30, Jada's Just Trucks series vehicles are understandably popular with truck fans and die cast collectors alike. With so many new truck releases being dropped all the time, it's easy to see why they disappear off store shelves as soon as they're restocked. If you happen to see one out in the wild, don't hesitate to snap it up.

SPECS

COMPANY
[JADA](#)

LINE
[JUST TRUCKS](#)

MODEL
[973 FORD BRONCO](#)

SCALE
[1:24](#)

URL
[JADATOYS.COM](#)



TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

PURE- BLOODIED

BBURAGO BUGATTI BOLIDE

To automobile enthusiasts, the name Bugatti instantly conjures up images of cutting-edge design, elegant luxury and outright speed. Its sculpted-bodied supercars are works of art inside and out and readily catch the attention of anyone who sees one in person. A Bugatti's looks is what draws you in, but it is its engineering that really places Bugatti vehicles on another level.

Bugatti is a storied brand with an interesting history. The name sounds Italian, because its founder, Ettore Bugatti, was indeed Italian-born, but the company was actually founded in 1909 in Germany—in Molsheim, Alsace, to be precise. Without getting into a protracted history lesson about the Alsace region, which traded hands between Germany and France more than a few times over



SPECS

BRAND
BBURAGO

MODEL
BOLIDE

SCALE
1:18

URL
BBURAGO.COM

the last hundred years, all we need to know is that at one point the city of Molsheim ended up on the French side of the border. This was when Bugatti became known as a French carmaker.

Bugatti found great racing success in the 1920s and 1930s, and its racetrack successes helped firmly establish the marque's racing heritage, which is

still celebrated to this day. But after the death of its founder in 1947, the brand lost its way. After eventually going out of business in 1963, Bugatti experienced a couple of revivals, passing through different corporate hands, and as of 1998 finally found a home at Volkswagen Group.

By all accounts, the modern incarnation of Bugatti



The Bugatti's aerodynamic surfaces are scaled down and recreated in detail.

has been a triumph in terms of brand revival, car design and production prowess. Over the years, Bugatti has turned out some of the best-known supercars and hypercars to date, even beating out traditional heavyweights such as Ferrari and Lamborghini in terms of limelight, performance benchmarks and customer orders.

The French luxury car manufacturer presents a new and unique vehicle concept that looks to turn the supercar and hypercar worlds upside down—the Bolide. The design of the Bolide began with a simple question. What if Bugatti developed a radically light, completely new concept around its iconic 8.0-liter W16 engine? The answer is what you see before you. Well, its detailed replica is what you see before you, that is.



Bolide's aero disc wheels and sculpted ground effects look like works of automotive art.



“BUGATTI FOUND GREAT RACING SUCCESS IN THE 1920S AND 1930S, AND ITS RACETRACK SUCCESSES HELPED FIRMLY ESTABLISH THE MARQUE’S RACING HERITAGE, WHICH IS STILL CELEBRATED TO THIS DAY.”



Pop the doors up to get a better look at Bolide’s detailed interior.



“THE FRENCH LUXURY CAR MANUFACTURER PRESENTS A NEW AND UNIQUE VEHICLE CONCEPT THAT LOOKS TO TURN THE SUPERCAR AND HYPERCAR WORLDS UPSIDE DOWN...”

The Bugatti Bolide is an experimental study that is designed to be a *Pur Sang* (that’s French for pure-blooded) that impresses with high performance, low weight and a driving experience unlike any other. In fact, Bugatti compares driving the Bolide to riding on a cannonball. Bolide is a track-only hyper sports car that features Bugatti’s celebrated W16 engine, which is derived from its series production powerplant, combined with a minimalist body engineered for maximum downforce. The Bolide promises an unprecedented and ultimate driving experience—which is to say reduced, raw, authentic.

When it came time to reproduce this thoroughbred for the die cast world, Bburago stepped up to the plate to create an absolutely stunning 1:18-scale version of the concept car. Bburago’s replica features an all-metal body that meticulously and accurately reproduces the Bolide’s lines. The scale model’s two-tone paint is finished in a

luxurious gloss topcoat that’s further detailed with metallic highlights.

This static Bolide replica certainly is eye-catching. Some of the details that we discovered include simulated carbon-fiber surfaces, intricate cockpit details and more. The die cast model measures about 10 inches long and has fully functioning steering and opening doors. The hypercar sits on aero disc rims that are wrapped in rubber slick tires. The view through the windows reveals a complete two-seater interior, scaled down in exacting detail with low-profile racing seats, steering wheel, quad exhaust system and more.

If you’re looking for Bugatti’s latest hypercar to add to your 1:18 garage, Bburago’s Bolide is a perfect choice. With its slick body panels and iconic Bugatti front end, it’s a stunner to be sure. Thanks to Bburago, this is one amazing concept car that you get to own.

The Bugatti hypercar features sleek and aggressive aesthetics.



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RED HOT CRAWLER

MAISTO 2021 FORD BRONCO WILDTRAK

TEXT BY MICHAEL GREY

IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

Ford's latest generation of Bronco has heralded a major shift in the balance of power between off-road vehicle makers. For decades, Jeep has owned the space for fun vehicles that can take their owners far beyond paved roads. That is, until just a few short years ago when Ford came up with a worthy challenger to the venerable Jeep Wrangler. Ford's Bronco has stepped up to go toe to toe with Jeep, vying for the loyalty of off-roaders everywhere.

The Bronco is a revived name that comes from a long and proud line of SUVs that have worn the nameplate. While previous Broncos had the ability to go off-road, this latest generation of truck takes what was previously a secondary use for the vehicle and makes it its main purpose.





SPECS

BRAND
MAISTO

SERIES
SPECIAL EDITION

MODEL
2021 FORD BRONCO
WILDTRAK

SCALE
1:18

URL
MAISTO.COM

This Bronco has the ability to flex its suspension.



Here's a look at the Wildtrak's detailed underbelly.



The latest generation Ford Bronco is a good-looking SUV for sure.



This latest Bronco is now a full-fledged off-roader that has factory options for turn-key go-anywhere systems such as electronic locking front and rear axles, position-sensitive dampers, and 35-inch large-diameter tires, just to name a few available off-road features. The world situation being what it is, however, dictates that if you want a Bronco, especially in Wildtrak trim, you'll need to get in line and, even worse, pay a premium mark-up. The Bronco is a popular truck for good reason and plenty of buyers are in line for it.

Luckily for us, you can add one to your die cast garage thanks to the good folks over at Maisto. When it came time to reproduce the Bronco Wildtrak in die cast, Maisto held nothing back

in creating this absolutely stunning 1:18-scale version of the hot SUV. Maisto's die cast replica features an all-metal body that faithfully reproduces the Bronco's muscular lines. Also, the scale replica's Ford Race Red paint is finished with an accurate high-gloss topcoat.

This static recreation of the Bronco certainly is eye-catching. Some of the details that we found include accurate cockpit details, a molded plastic hard top, a detailed chassis with exhaust system and more. The die cast model measures about nine and a half inches long and, as is common on Maisto Special Edition cars, has fully functioning steering and four-wheel suspension. We found that the suspension travel is enough to



“WHILE PREVIOUS BRONCOS HAD THE ABILITY TO GO OFF-ROAD, THIS LATEST GENERATION OF TRUCK TAKES WHAT WAS PREVIOUSLY A SECONDARY USE FOR THE VEHICLE AND MAKES IT ITS MAIN PURPOSE.”



The Bronco's rear door opens to fit your scale gear into.



This off-roader's silhouette is simple yet eye-pleasing.





Realistic features such as opening doors and a full-size spare tire adorn this die cast.



“WHEN IT CAME TIME TO REPRODUCE THE BRONCO WILDTRAK IN DIE CAST, MAISTO HELD NOTHING BACK IN CREATING THIS ABSOLUTELY STUNNING 1:18-SCALE VERSION OF THE HOT SUV.”

arrange the die cast in realistic-looking off-road poses.

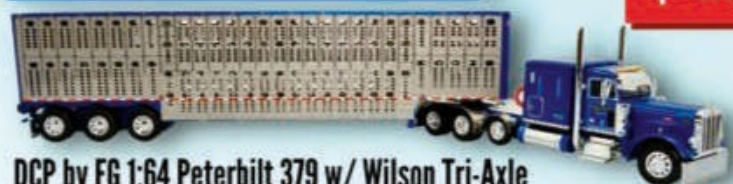
The SUV's realism continues with authentic recreations of the Wildtrak's rims that are wrapped in treaded all-terrain rubber tires. Also accurately reproduced is Ford's front-end treatment of the Bronco's grille and headlights. The replica also has opening passenger doors and rear door. The view through the windows reveals a complete interior, scaled down in

exacting detail with accurate seats, steering wheel and more. Maisto's Special Edition series die casts traditionally come mounted on a plastic display stand and this one is no different.

If you're looking for the latest iteration of the Bronco to add to your 1:18 garage, we'd say that Maisto's Ford Bronco Wildtrak is a perfect candidate. The fit and finish of this die cast is on par with Maisto's other offerings and makes for a great display piece.



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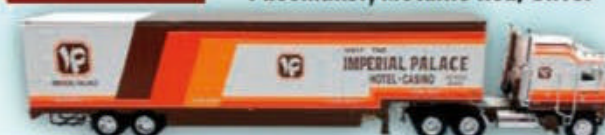
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Auto World 1:18 1959 Cadillac Eldorado Ambulance



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the x-factor

ON THE MOVE

**DRIVING FMS MODEL'S
1:18-SCALE CHEVROLET K10**

TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI





SPECS

TYPE
READY TO RUN RC KIT

SCALE
1:18

MSRP
\$169.99

URL
FMSMODEL.COM

What a great-looking K10. FMS specializes in making drivable, detailed models.



This K10 is our favorite Chevy C/K series replica, in both die cast and RC styles.

Most of the vehicles we cover in DCX are static in nature. These scale miniatures that we are enamored with are all about representing realism and detail. But what is more realistic than a model that actually moves? Here's where FMS Model comes in. FMS produces vehicles that are essentially highly detailed drivable models that look as good as any die cast or plastic model-kit.

A good example is the company's ultra-realistic Chevy K10 pickup. It not only features interior and under-the-hood details; it can be driven around via a radio transmitter and even has working lights, too. Chevy's C/K series of pickups were offered for an astonishing 40 years over four generations, the final edition being released during the 2000 model year.

The C/K may be unavailable at Chevy dealers now, but thanks to FMS, their greatness lives on in the scale collector world. Fans of Chevy's C/K family of trucks can revel in the detail-packed RC pickup that FMS has released. This third-generation Chevy

the x-factor

K10 is a highly detailed RC vehicle that's as detailed as any static model we've had the pleasure of examining up close.

FMS's RC version of this beloved truck comes already built and ready to run (RTR) in a period-correct, two-tone red-and-white paint scheme with plenty of chrome accents. This RTR kit also comes complete with a transmitter and batteries. All you need to do is to drive it.

This officially licensed Chevy K10 features a hard plastic body with accurately molded metal-plated details such as a detailed grille, front and rear bumpers, side mirrors and more. This two-toned truck runs on classic metal-plated wheels as well,

with soft all-terrain-pattern tires that are suitable to run on any type of terrain.

The K10 measures 12.75 inches in length and is finished in an outstandingly accurate 1:18 scale. The vehicle's realistic foundation is based on a sunken frame and metal ladder girder chassis. All this is topped off with aluminum frame rails and a working multi-link suspension system.

The K10's hood and tailgate can be opened. Looking through its windows reveals an ultra-realistic interior. That interior boasts accurate seats and dashboard details that even include detailed gauges. Popping the K10's hood reveals a 050-type motor, power switch and battery hidden in its engine bay. Just open the hinged hood for full access. LED lights are included with the K10 and its headlights, turn signals and reverse lights activate as you drive. The lights are some of our favorite features on this ready to run truck.

FMS replicates the Chevy K10's iconic silhouette in exacting scale.



Driving this RC truck is as fun as you might imagine. Working lights make it that much more realistic.



The pickup's tailgate can be lowered for loading long pieces of cargo.



The K10's body is protected by an anti-scratch coating, so even after driving it around you can dust it off and display it as new.

As you can see, FMS did a wonderful job with the Chevrolet K10's accurate scale looks and life-like

detailed features. It's a highly detailed model that offers the benefit of being able to be driven like an RC vehicle, and we really enjoyed not only driving it, but looking at it, too.



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DOCTOR YES

**AUTO WORLD 1957 CHEVROLET
BEL AIR CONVERTIBLE FROM
JAMES BOND'S DR. NO**

TEXT BY JAMES YORK
IMAGES BY MICHAEL GREY

Is any car more iconic than the 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air? It's an icon of not only an era of automotive history but of an entire decade as well. From its instantly recognizable tailfins to its handsome chrome-clad grille and sculpted headlight assembly, the entire construct is simply one of the most beautiful cars to have ever hit the road.

The '57 Bel Air was not only a hit with car buyers of the time, but it also caught the eye of moviemakers, too. You may recall that the Chevy played a part in Sean Connery's first outing as James Bond in the movie "Dr. No." In the 1962 film that launched the James Bond saga, Connery's Agent 007 battles mysterious Dr. No, a scientific genius bent on destroying the U.S. space program.

As the countdown to disaster begins, a sharply dressed Bond must go to Jamaica to

confront the megalomaniacal villain in his massive headquarters on Crab Key Island. Mr. Jones, sent by No's personal army, SPECTRE, offers James Bond a ride at the airport in a black 1957 Bel Air Convertible with a red interior.

Bond already knows that Jones is an impostor, but willingly gets in the car with the nervous would-be assassin. Of course, if Mr. Jones hadn't been driving such an impressive American car, Bond may have just called him out right there at the airport and been on his way... but even 007 can't turn down a ride in an iconic 1957 Bel Air.

On a lonely country road a fight ensues, and Bond manages to overwhelm Jones, who ultimately kills himself by biting down on a cyanide cigarette. James Bond, the sophisticated British government agent, then gets behind

Plenty of chrome and simulated brightwork give this Bel Air a regal look.



“THIS 1:18 SCALE DIE CAST REPLICA FEATURES PLENTY OF REALISTIC FEATURES THAT WE’VE COME TO LOVE ON AUTO WORLD’S RELEASES.”

the wheel of this beautiful American classic and elegantly sets the standards of the Bond film formula for plenty of movies to come. This particular car has been faithfully recreated by Auto World in 1:18 scale and is now available for not only fans of the car, but also for those of 007.

This 1:18-scale die cast replica features plenty of realistic features that we’ve come to love on Auto World’s releases. The Bel Air Convertible is painted with a glossy coat of black paint and comes complete with a realistic-looking (albeit plastic molded) two-tone red and silver interior. We’re especially impressed by the detailed dashboard with its stainless-steel-look features. The car has opening doors and hood, which reveals a highly detailed engine within the engine compartment. The front wheels are steerable and its chassis is fully realized as well.

On a side note, we thought we should point out that, as with many of Auto World’s 1:18-scale releases, this Bel Air comes in frustration-free packaging that we absolutely love. The car is ensconced in a clear plastic cradle that not only





The '57 Chevy features a detailed engine bay.



This die cast has opening doors and hood as well as working steering and suspension.

SPECS

BRAND
AUTO WORLD

SERIES
SILVER SCREEN MACHINES

MODEL
JAMES BOND 1957
CHEVROLET BEL AIR
CONVERTIBLE

SCALE
1:18

P/N
AWSS134

URL
AUTOWORLDSTORE.COM



The high-gloss paint job looks great when it gleams under the light.

This Bel Air features the same color scheme that is seen in the 1962 Bond movie, Dr. No.

“THE ’57 BEL AIR WAS NOT ONLY A HIT WITH CAR BUYERS OF THE TIME, BUT IT ALSO CAUGHT THE EYE OF MOVIEMAKERS, TOO. YOU MAY RECALL THAT THE CHEVY PLAYED A PART IN SEAN CONNERY’S FIRST OUTING AS JAMES BOND IN THE MOVIE DR. NO.”





Both the front grille and chassis are realistically recreated to scale.

The Bel Air's fully detailed interior includes realistic upholstery.



protects it during transit but also allows us an unobstructed look at it even in its packaged form. Unlike with other manufacturers, removing the Auto World car from its packaging did not require a screwdriver and there was no foam to deal with. Now, back to the car.

The Chevy Bel Air, especially in its 1957 model year form, has been a dream car of ours since we were very little. We're glad that Auto World has recreated it in all of its glorious detail for us to collect and add to our scale garage. We're sure that not only fans of the Bel Air and James Bond would agree, and we imagine even Dr. No would be saying yes to this die cast.

close-up



THE GLUE THAT BINDS US

**DELIVERING HAPPINESS THROUGH DIE CAST
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

TEXT AND IMAGES BY FIREBALL TIM LAWRENCE



KEN AND DAYLE ROATH GALLERY

FIREBALL TIM LAWRENCE

Fireball is owner of Fireball Publishing, works as a concept artist and is as diehard an automotive enthusiast as they come. He's been in the movie, TV and commercial business since 1981 and has a line of successful automotive-based coloring books. You can follow him on Facebook @fireball.tim and find his books on Amazon.com at: tinyurl.com/fireballcolor.



Fireball autographs some of his coloring books for fans at an event.

I'm very fortunate to draw cars for a living, whether it's for movies or our latest coloring book. It's an addiction to the creative process. So, any chance to dream up ideas for movie cars, die cast or conceptual art of any kind... I'm on it.

When I was in high school, I carried a stack of index cards around with me wherever I went. It allowed me to quickly sketch ideas for whatever my mind brought me. I got sent to detention more times than I can count for drawing in the back of class. Imagine, getting in trouble for what you end up doing for a living. Hinky.

And although my brother sold all my die cast at a garage sale because he got mad at me, the never-ending creative spark led me to new adventures over the years where now I get to have a lots of fun building worlds of cars. Especially die cast...

Most of my friends are die cast collectors of some sort. From regular Joes to big-cheese celebs, if you love cars in any way, then there's a 100% chance you have some die cast in your garage or office. It's the glue that binds us and pulls us together as one. It's the thing that removes all separation of race, creed, color or gender. No one cares whether you're black, white, girl, boy, other, alien or vampire. Die cast is the only thing that matters.

Jay Leno loves cars in all of their varied forms—including die cast.



In fact, I believe strongly that if we took a bunch of Hot Wheels to our enemies, wherever they are, they'd become our friends. So... what we really need in this world is a president who digs die cast. Anyone got any ideas?

In Star Wars they have the Force, an energy that flows through all and binds all together. In the real world, we have the blisterpack. Far more powerful



DETAILED RTR 1/12 RC CAR

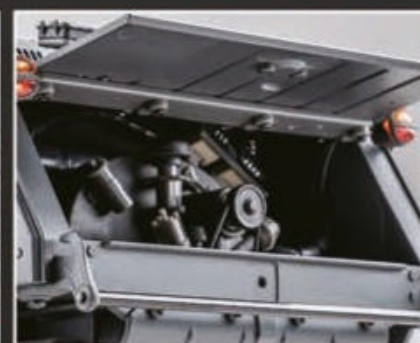
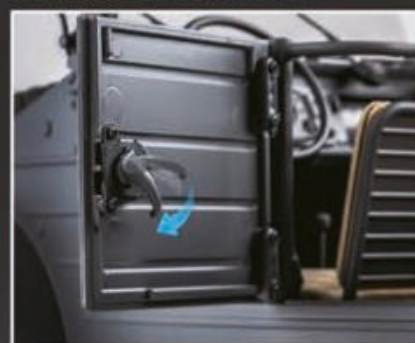
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TYPE 82 KUBELWAGEN



Four openable doors as well as mechanical locks

Engine Accessible Hatch



Realistic power switch



Large luggage compartment with an openable hatch



<https://www.fmshobby.com/>

close-up

Here's just a small sample of Fireball's vast die cast collection.

Fireball's collection can be viewed at The Murphy Auto Museum.



Larry Wood strikes a pose with a Hot Wheels die cast.

Famed Porsche customizer Magnus Walker is a die cast fan too.



than the Force, it could obliterate Darth Vader's clutching grip with ease. Just hand him a Barbie RV and watch as he cowers in coolness.

I've created several die-cast-based coloring books and have plenty more planned. And I'd love to see some of the cars within them become actual die cast someday, but until then, the world inches closer to peace as we share our collections, recent

finds, variations and lost redlines.

For this holiday season, it's our sincerest desire to deliver happiness through die cast. Whether from the cars themselves, my coloring books, car shows, swap meets or Target finds... giving love toward our passions increases love toward all things. So, give love in abundance. And watch as love comes back to you... in die cast. Fireball out!

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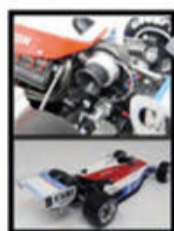
R18035 ... \$249.99 *resin cast sealed body
1988 PC17, Winner Indianapolis 500, Rick Mears



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LEGEND OF THE BLUE MAX

**AUTO WORLD'S LEGENDS OF THE
QUARTER MILE BLUE MAX 1973 FORD
MUSTANG FUNNY CAR**

TEXT BY JAMES YORK
IMAGES BY MICHAEL GREY



Quarter-mile-trouncing Funny Cars are some of the quickest and loudest cars to ever launch off the drag strip line. They're built for one thing only, and that's going ultra-fast in the quarter mile. Auto World has recreated one of the racing legends of the 1970s in 1:18 scale, a 1973 Ford Mustang Funny Car they call the Blue Max.

The legend of the Blue Max spans several years and it has worn various liveries over its famous history. In the beginning, the Blue Max didn't have a name or its distinctive German cross. Harry Schmidt hired Don Hardy to build a Ford Mustang for the 1969 season with a staggering powerplant built by famed engine builders the Ramchargers.

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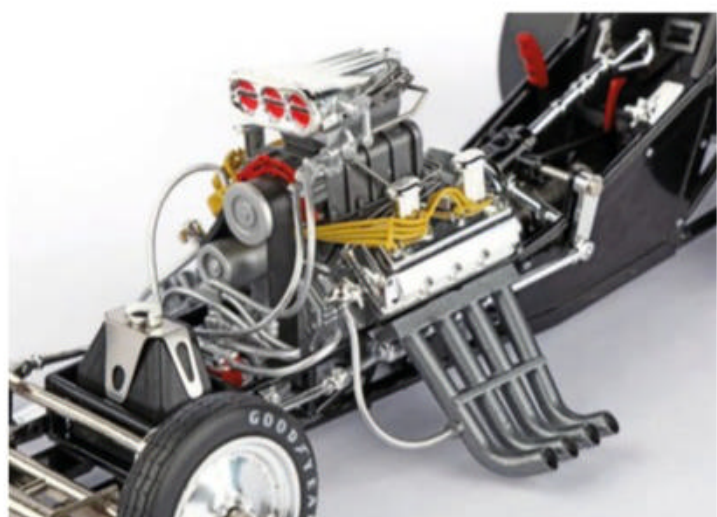
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A year later, Schmidt added the distinctive Blue Max regalia, debuting at the 1970 NHRA Winter Nationals at Pomona, California, where it set top speed of the meet for Funny Cars at 203.61 mph. The new look and notable speed were

the Blue Max's introduction into the Funny Car history books.

While Schmidt was the one who gave the sport the Blue Max Funny Car, it was Raymond Bea-



Realistic slick drag tires and a parachute can be found on the Mustang's rear end.

A die cast brace is included so the Blue Max can be displayed to show off its accurate replica engine and chassis.



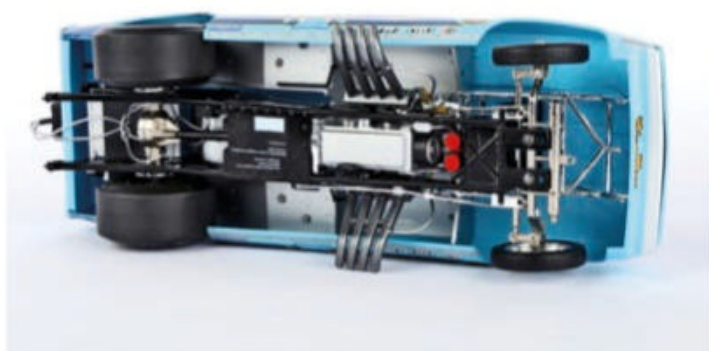
“THIS HIGHLY DETAILED AND LIMITED-EDITION FUNNY CAR MINIATURE FEATURES A RARE VERSION OF BLUE MAX’S ICONIC LIVERY...”

Blue Max as a household name. This replica of the 1973 Ford Mustang Blue Max, as driven by Richard Tharp, is a fantastically collectible addition to Auto World’s Legends of the Quarter Mile replica lineup.

This highly detailed and limited-edition funny car miniature features a rare version of Blue Max’s iconic livery along with sought-after details such as an accurate die cast tube chassis, plumbed and wired engine and rubber Goodyear braided drag slicks, as well as a serialized

dle who furthered the Blue Max’s fame with his sensational battles against drag strip rival Don Prudhomme in the mid-1970s. These epic drag battles resulted in three consecutive world championships in 1979, 1980 and 1981, helping secure

The details don’t stop on the topside. The chassis is also packed full of great details.



Auto World's Blue Max looks fantastic from pretty much any angle.



“NOT ALL OF US ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE SEEN BLUE MAX BATTLE ON THE STRIP, BUT LUCKILY FOR US, AUTO WORLD HAS RECREATED IT IN DETAIL...”





chassis. The accurate plastic body comes off the chassis so that all of the car's details can be studied up close. A die cast brace is also included with the Funny Car so that it can be displayed with the body up and the chassis and engine exposed.

Not all of us are fortunate enough to have seen Blue Max battle on the strip, but luckily for us Auto World has recreated it in scale detail, right down to its plumbed and wired engine and fully detailed chassis. Funny Car fans and drag racers alike should be clamoring to add this replica to their collections.

SPECS

BRAND
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SERIES
LEGENDS OF THE
QUARTER MILE

MODEL
BLUE MAX 1973 FORD
MUSTANG FUNNY CAR

SCALE
1:18

P/N
AW299

URL
AUTOWORLDSTORE.COM

Highly detailed graphics adorn this replica of the legendary Funny Car.

BUILT IT YOURSELF

MAISTO ASSEMBLY LINE 1:24 FERRARI FXX K

TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI



Custom die casts seem to be popping up all over the place, and we're loving it. We see it on social media, on YouTube, and even at our local shops and collector meets. It's official; the die cast customization movement is here to stay. We're fans of repainting, adding and creating parts to personalize your die cast, and we think it's one of the most exciting things to happen to die cast in a long while.

The amazing work that hobbyists perform on their die casts is impressive to say the least. There really are some talented artists among us die cast enthusiasts. If you're interested in trying your hand at die cast customization but don't know where to start, we have good news for you.

Maisto's Assembly Line catalog of die casts is here

to offer a first step into the customization world. For seasoned customizers, the line offers a quicker starting point for creating a customized ride. The company's Assembly Line series of cars and trucks allows one to customize a die cast with ease. To be clear, the vehicles offered under the Assembly Line moniker are considered model-kits, but don't let the "model-kit" name fool you. Maisto's kits are well-detailed die cast vehicles, but they come disassembled for you to complete.

As noted, Maisto's kits come completely disassembled and include a screwdriver and fully illustrated instruction sheet. If you've ever built a Lego kit or assembled a piece of furniture, you have what it takes to put this kit together. We got a chance to take one of their Ferrari FXX K kits out for a spin to see how it all comes together.



Maisto includes an instruction sheet and screwdriver with its Assembly Line series die casts.

The 1:24-scale Ferrari FXX K's body is sculpted beautifully and accurately.



This model is painted with high-gloss paint and is finished from the factory with realistic graphics and badges.

close-up

The kit comes with the metal body, plastic chassis and interior foundation, as well as plenty of detailed trim pieces such as clear plastic taillights, rear view mirrors and even a decal sheet. Also included are eight wheels and four tires. The extra wheels can be swapped out as customization options. Once we had the parts all laid out, we were ready to get building.

The 1:24-scale Ferrari features a sleek body that comes expertly painted and complete with translucent plastic windows and a highly detailed engine compartment. We noticed that detailed Ferrari badges and graphics come preprinted on the body, which is a nice touch. The parts come pre-trimmed and do not require any further finishing. The FXX K is assembled without the use of glue in only six steps. Pieces were snapped and screwed in only.

The instructions were straightforward and easy enough to understand, but we do wish the illustrations were larger for easier viewing. The FXX K comes with two sets of accurately replicated wheels, one set in satin silver and the other in chrome.

The advantage to the Assembly Line series when it comes to customizing is that the vehicle comes pre-disassembled, ready for new paint, graphics, and any other changes that one can imagine to be applied before assembly. Disassembling other die casts may require drilling and runs the risk of broken pieces. Although we assembled the Ferrari according to the factory specs, we could have easily repainted it, added interior details, and heck, maybe even added 3D-printed parts if we really wanted to get creative. The customization options are limited only by your imagination.

If you're thinking about entering the die cast customizing world, Maisto's Assembly Line provides a perfect entry point for you to play with and explore. The line covers a wide range of vehicles not limited to the Ferrari featured here. We were so excited about customizing these die casts that we also picked up a Ford Bronco Badlands and a '67 Mustang GT to see how creative we can get with them. If you're looking to personalize a die cast, we suggest trying out one of these kits.

SPECS

BRAND
MAISTO

LINE
ASSEMBLY LINE

MODEL
FERRARI FXX K

SCALE
1:24

URL
MAISTO.COM



Maisto Assembly Line kit parts are neatly supplied for problem-free assembly.

THE DIE-CAST COLLECTOR & CUSTOMIZER AUTHORITY

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rear view

Radio Control

BIGGER & BETTER THAN EVER! TEXT BY DCX STAFF

Expo 2023



Come out to RCX 2023 to see both real and scale vehicles and more!

You don't want to miss the world's biggest and best RC and hobby show! The Radio Control Expo, better known as RCX, returns March 18 and 19, 2023 to the Fairplex in Pomona, California. Be sure to join your fellow scale vehicle enthusiasts for a fun weekend where you'll see the latest in scale cars, trucks, drones, planes and boats. If it drives, flies or floats, it will be there!

This year's show promises nonstop action. You'll see expert Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) pilots in the Flight Zone as well as RC monster truck and drifting demos, FPV racing, RC racing, rock crawling, and Try-Me tracks. Plus,

your favorite retailers like Horizon Hobby will be there to show off their latest planes and accessories. You'll also have a chance to win great door prizes and get huge discounts on the gear you need! And as a bonus, RCX attendees will also have free access to the California Overland Adventure Expo, happening at the same time at the Fairplex.

And while you're there, be sure to stop by the Air Age Media booth to say hello to your favorite Die Cast X staff. Look for discount codes in future issues and on our Facebook page, then pre-order your tickets at RCX.com. We'll see you in Pomona!

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Lotus Esprit S1 - James Bond 007
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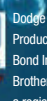
007™

Auto World is proud to replicate this Lotus S1 submarine car as seen in *The Spy Who Loved Me*. It was fondly referred to as "Wet Nellie" as a tribute to Bond's auto gyro "Little Nellie" from *You Only Live Twice*. Its many gadgets include wheel arches that transform into fins, a small periscope, missile launcher from the rear deck, underwater mines, black dye from the back, and torpedoes from the front. As well as being amphibious, the highly armed car has cannons that spray cement on to pursuing vehicles. This 1:18 die-cast is replicated as the famous submarine, but we've also included the chassis parts and instrument panel to turn it back into the Lotus Esprit sports car!

1:18 SCALE
OVER
10" LONG

Die-cast Features:

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- Opening Doors, Hood & Trunk
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