

THE DIE-CAST COLLECTOR & CUSTOMIZER AUTHORITY

DIECAST X

SUMMER 2024 | VOL. 20 | ISSUE 3

1969 MUSTANG & 1968
CHALLENGER R/T

LEADING THE CHARGE

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MUSCLE CARS

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WORLD**
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Release 1

JADA
Ghostbusters x
Transformers
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1/18
SCALE DIE-CAST



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1/18 SCALE DIECAST



www.bburago.com

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editor's letter



As one of the few remaining print magazines dedicated to the die cast hobby, we're proud to present a new format for you to enjoy. Longtime readers will recognize a more compact page presentation, but the number of pages remains the same. We're excited about this new sizing and hope you enjoy it.

Die Cast X is staffed with collectors and die cast enthusiasts. As such, we are always searching out like-minded individuals, and in this issue we visit the home of a die-hard die cast collector who has no fewer than 20,000 pieces in his collection. We'll bring you along on our visit later in these pages.

We also take detailed looks at a host of the latest drops from the likes of Jada, Auto World, CMC and DiecastTalk. Each featured die cast is very different from the others, and yet we can picture them right at home in our collection.

Join us for an insider's look at the 2024 Shizuoka Hobby show held in Shizuoka, Japan. We follow be-

loved hobby goods creator, Tamiya, to get a glimpse of what 2024 will bring us. We also get to meet Mr. Tamiya himself. You won't want to miss it.

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. If you have a rare collectible or custom die cast that you'd like to see in these pages, submit your ride at www.diecastxmagazine.com/dcx-readers-collection.

We hope you enjoy this issue as much as we enjoyed working on it. Stay updated between issues on the world of DCX through Instagram via our handle, @diecastx. Give us a follow there too, won't you?

Until next time,
Jerry Tsai
Editorial Director

LA
MAY



Jada



MAZDA RX-7 w/ SARU

1:24 SCALE DIE-CAST

3.5" DIE-CAST FIGURE



ARTIST BIO

Lee Aller, a Filipino artist based in Mandaue, has spent over a decade deeply engaged in the realm of toy customization. Beginning by customizing toys for various clients, including notable figures like athletes and celebrities, he later transitioned to creating his own line of collectibles. Influenced by street art and comics, Lee's style uniquely merges urban culture with playful creativity, earning him international acclaim. Collaborations with renowned street artists and icons highlight his versatility and appeal within the global art toy community. Noteworthy is Lee's distinctive approach of involving his children in his work, combining their creativity with his expertise. Lee's ability to swiftly transform character concepts into tangible toys epitomizes the seamless fusion of family, passion, and creativity in the art toy domain.



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DIE CAST X

EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

JERRY TSAI

MANAGING EDITOR

KARL FUNKE

CONTRIBUTORS

MICHAEL GREY, FRED MEDEL, JAMES YORK

DESIGN

HONEST KITTY STUDIO

DIGITAL MEDIA

WEB PRODUCER

CIRRATA

ADVERTISING

BEN HALLADAY

203.295.8852 | benh@airage.com

LEIGH GUARNIERI

310.594.2369 | LEIGH@AIRAGE.COM | @LGUARNIERI

CONSUMER MARKETING

MAST CIRCULATION SERVICES

PUBLISHING

GROUP PUBLISHERS

LOUIS V. DEFRANCESCO JR.,

YVONNE M. DEFRANCESCO

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

LEIGH GUARNIERI

FOLLOW US

ON FACEBOOK: diecastxmag

ON TWITTER: @DCXmag

ON INSTAGRAM: @diecastx

VISIT US ONLINE: DCXmag.com

COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO: DCX@airage.com

REPRINTS & LICENSING

WRIGHT'S MEDIA

airage@wrightsmedia.com

[877]652-5295

EDITORIAL

57 DANBURY ROAD, SUITE 202, WILTON, CT 06897

PHONE (203) 529-4635 EMAIL DCX@airage.com

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WHAT'S NEW AT **GREENLIGHT** collectibles?

GREENLIGHT
collectibles
HOLLYWOOD

1:64 #62030 - HOLLYWOOD SERIES 42

YELLOWSTONE



62030-A - 1:64 2013 Ram 1500 - County Sheriff
Yellowstone (2018 - Current TV Series)

AIRPLANE!



62030-B - 1:64 1970 Ford Club Wagon Ambulance
Airplane! (1980)

**FERRIS
BUELLER'S
DAY OFF**



62030-C - 1:64 1980 Checker Taxicab Yellow Cab #1793
Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986)

**PAWN
Stars**



NEW TOOLING!

62030-D - 1:64 1947 Dodge Power Wagon
Pawn Stars (2009-Current TV Series)

**COUNTING
CARS**



62030-E - 1:64 1967 Ford Bronco (Season 4 - E 16)
Counting Cars (2012-Current TV Series)

**NCIS:
HAWAII**



62030-F - 1:64 - 2018 Dodge Durango GT Blacktop
NCIS: Hawaii (2021-Current TV Series)

PRE-PRODUCTION SAMPLE - NOT FINAL
SUBJECT TO LICENSOR'S FINAL APPROVAL

ARTWORK IN PROGRESS: SERIES 43

62040-A | 1970 FORD BRONCO - HAWAII FIVE-O (1968-1980 TV SERIES)

62040-B | 1971 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO - THE CROW (1994)

62040-C | 1981 DODGE POWER RAM PROSPECTOR - THE A-TEAM (1983-87 TV SERIES)

62040-D | 1982 PLYMOUTH GRAN FURY - TRUE ROMANCE (1993)

62040-E | JAMIE DUTTON'S 2014 DODGE DURANGO - YELLOWSTONE (2018-CURRENT TV SERIES)

62040-F | 2015 FORD TRANSIT - COLD PURSUIT (2019)

HENDRICKS MOTORSPORTS TRIBUTES

30492 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
JEFF GORDON - MAY 29, 1994 - CHARLOTTE, NC

30493 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
JIMMIE JOHNSON - APRIL 28, 2002 - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CA

30494 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
CHASE ELLIOTT - AUGUST 5, 2018 - WATKINS GLEN, NY

30495 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
KYLE LARSON - MARCH 7, 2021 - LAS VEGAS, NV

30496 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
WILLIAM BYRON - AUGUST 29, 2020 - DAYTONA BEACH, FL

30497 | 1:64 1969 CHEVROLET CAMARO
ALEX BOWMAN - JUNE 30, 2019 - JOLIET, IL



PRE-PRODUCTION SAMPLE - NOT FINAL
SUBJECT TO LICENSOR'S FINAL APPROVAL

new releases

SHOWROOM

BY DCX STAFF

NEW RELEASES
& FIRST LOOKS

02



01



03



04



01 AMERICAN MUSCLE 1964.5 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE

Built with precision and care, this 1:18-scale replica of the 1964.5 Ford Mustang Convertible showcases the distinctive design of the original vehicle, faithfully recreating its classic lines. It is fully detailed with opening hood, doors and trunk and features an accurate engine bay and interior.

Scale: 1:18

P/N: AMM1312

MSRP: \$104.99

URL: autoworldstore.com

02 GCD TOYOTA GR COROLLA CIRCUIT EDITION BLUE FLAME

This Toyota GR Corolla Circuit Edition in Blue Flame by GCD is available as a U.S. exclusive on the DiecastTalk shop. Limited to 504 pieces, a raw chase model will be randomly inserted into orders for this die cast.

Scale: 1:64

P/N: DTGO032-BF

MSRP: \$29.99

URL: shopdiecasttalk.com

03 GREENLIGHT COLLECTIBLES 1947 FORD DELUXE CONVERTIBLE

This gem hails from Greenlight Collectibles' California Lowriders Series 5. The 1947 Ford Deluxe Convertible is presented in black with red graphics and highlights. Add this great-looking model to your lowrider or hot rod collection before it's gone!

Scale: 1:64

P/N: GL63060-A

MSRP: \$6.99

URL: diecastdirect.com

04 BBURAGO LAMBORGHINI SIAN FKP37

From Bburago comes the Lamborghini Sian FKP37 in 1:18 scale. It is finished in white with black accents and features a die cast metal body, opening doors, hood and trunk, a detailed interior, and it has full-function steering. Available for pre-order now.

Scale: 1:18

P/N: 15055-BF

MSRP: \$51.99

URL: 3000toys.com



05 CMC PORSCHE 904 CARRERA GTS #86

CMC has created the Targa Florio 1964 winning Porsche 904 Carrera GTS #86 driven by Pucci/Davis as a high-end replica. This die cast features superlative craftsmanship that takes model-making to completely new heights. Available for pre-order now.

Scale: 1:18
P/N: M-230
MSRP: \$707
URL: cmc-modelcars.de

06 BBURAGO 2020 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA GTA

Bburago presents this 2020 Alfa Romeo Giulia GTA finished in factory-correct Metallic Dark Red paint. This Italian sport sedan features plenty of details, including plenty of engine bay and interior details and opening doors, hood and trunk.

Scale: 1:18
P/N: G2-2-2-1048
MSRP: \$49.95
URL: awesomediecast.com

07 MAISTO 1993 CHEVROLET 454 SS

Maisto's 1:24-scale model of the 1993 Chevrolet 454 SS pickup truck features a die cast metal body, opening doors and hood and has a detailed interior. It is finished in red with black accents.

Scale: 1:24
P/N: 32901R
MSRP: \$17.99
URL: 3000toys.com

08 ACME 1969 CHEVROLET C-30 WRECKER

Porkchop's Chop Shop 1969 Chevrolet C-30 Wrecker is limited to 500 pieces worldwide and is built to 1:18 scale. This highly detailed truck features real rubber tires, steerable wheels, has a wired and plumbed engine, a detailed chassis, and is designed true to scale.

Scale: 1:18
P/N: GL-51539
MSRP: \$119.95
URL: diecastmodelswholesale.com

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SHOW & TELL

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT!

COMPILED BY DCX STAFF
IMAGES PROVIDED BY THE OWNERS

Welcome to the latest installment of Show & Tell! We welcome our readers to share their favorite vehicles from their personal collections with us so that we can help show them off to fellow Die Cast X readers. Let's see what our readers have to Show & Tell!

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.



TOM HEMRY

Location: Colorado Springs, Colorado

Brand: Greenlight Collectibles

Series: Muscle Car Garage

Model: 1969 Ford Mustang Mach 1

Scale: 1:64

From the Owner: "This was in a case of Greenlights I ordered years ago. I've never seen one just like it and cannot find anyone that knows anything about it. I thought the series was 1 of 100 total produced, but now wonder if it's 1 of 1!"





MARK BENSON

Location: Charlotte, North Carolina

Brand: Hot Wheels

Series: 2007 New Models

Model: '64 Lincoln Continental

Scale: 1:64

From the Owner: "The slab-side Continental is by far one of my favorite cars out there. When I saw this Hot Wheels at Target way back in 2006, I grabbed it, and it's been hidden in my desk drawer ever since. I take it out now and again to look at it and I'm always tempted to tear it out of its package and let it roll. Maybe one of these days."

DANIEL METCALF

Location: Gilbert, Arizona

Brand: Auto World

Series: American Muscle

Model: 1938 Buick Y-Job Concept Car

Scale: 1:18

From the Owner: "I've always been a Buick enthusiast, and when I saw this 1:18-scale model 1938 Buick Y-Job Concept Car I knew I had to have it! I took this picture at Freestone Park in Gilbert, Arizona, at sunrise in the summer of 2023. If you are interested in seeing more models from my collection, be sure to check out my Facebook page: /MetcalfModelCars."



readers rides

SHOW & TELL

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT!

COMPILED BY DCX STAFF
IMAGES PROVIDED BY THE OWNERS



WILL COTA

Location: Wichita, Kansas

Brand: Tomica

Series: Tomica Unlimited

Model: Back to the Future DeLorean (Time Machine) 07

Scale: 1:64

From the Owner: "In my opinion, the 'Back to the Future' DeLorean is the best movie car of all time. When I got a chance to pick up this direct-from-Japan die cast at a local shop, I had to snag it. This Tomica Unlimited edition die cast isn't all that detailed, actually, but it has very accurate scale and I like it for its rarity. And of course, it's a DeLorean Time Machine after all, so what's not to like?"





Mercedes-Benz EQ EQE - 1:18 - \$162.99
Opalite White Bright - 1023-41
Spectral Blue Metallic - 1023-21



Mercedes-AMG One Street
in Brilliant Blue
1:18 - 1032-21 - \$187.99



Mercedes-Benz EQA
Patagonia Red Metallic
1:18 - 1015-11 - \$99.99



1973 Jeep CJ-5 "Super Jeep"
1:18 - 19129 - \$69.99



1982 Ford Mustang SSP - 1:18 - 13676 - \$74.99
1980 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 - 1:18 - 13658 - \$69.99



1970 Dodge Challenger R/T 440 - 1:18 - 13667 - \$74.99
1971 Dodge Challenger R/T - 1:18 - 13668 - \$74.99



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2023 Nissan Z
1:24 - 32904RBK - \$17.99



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1:24 - 32544BK - \$22.99



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in Raven Black with Red Interior
1:18 - 1312 - \$104.99











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on display

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A 20,000 PIECE COLLECTION THAT COVERS LAND, RAIL AND AIR

TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

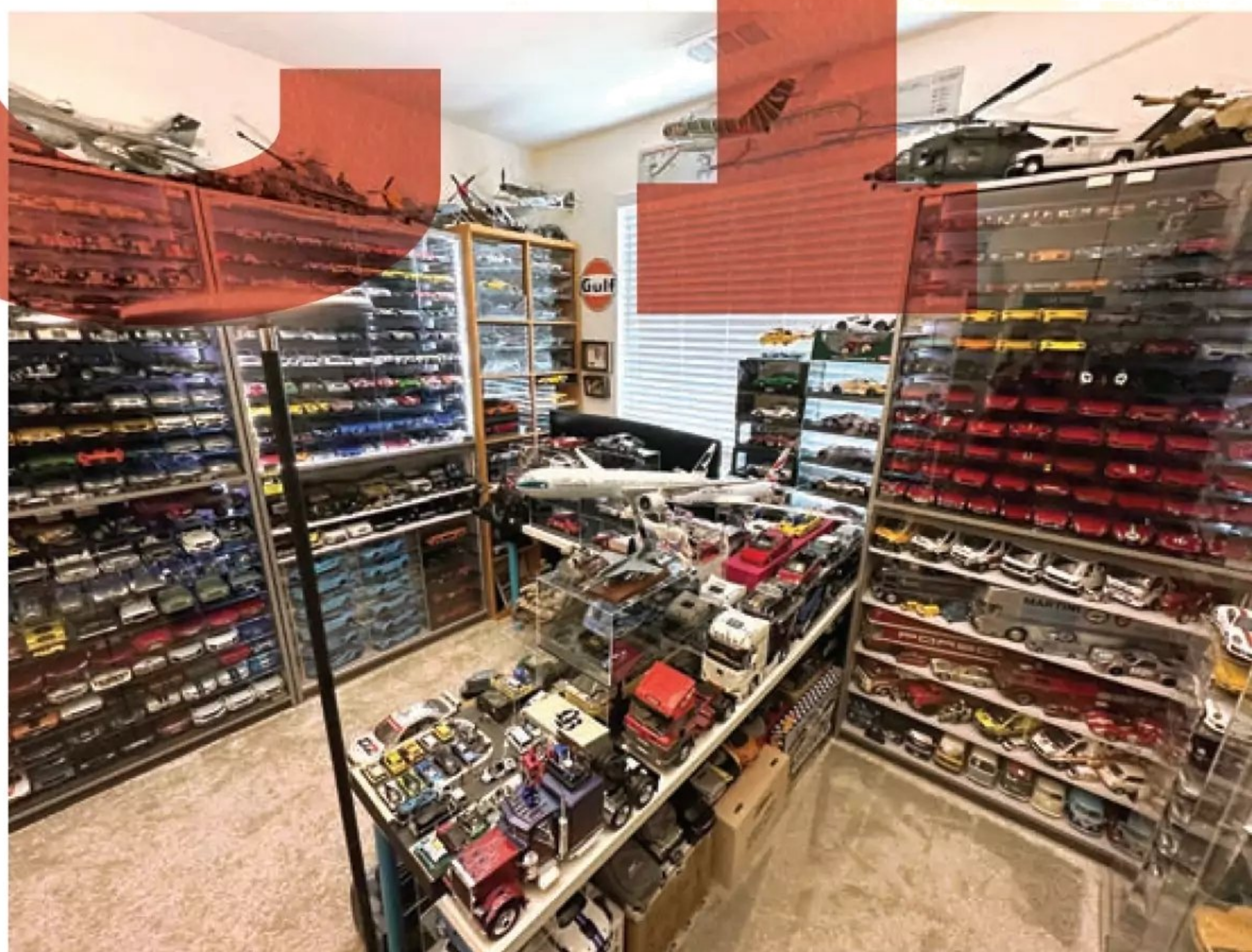
For some, die cast collecting is merely a light hobby. They pick up a few models here and there and add them to a modest stash. For others, however, it is an all-consuming lifestyle where the act of collecting knows no bounds, whose collections grow exponentially.

We recently visited a collector that brings new meaning to die cast collecting. Born in Hong Kong and relocated to the States over a decade ago, Issac is an avid pilot—yes, the guy flies airplanes for a living—who also happens to be a rabid die cast collector as well.

As for many of us, the hobby started really early for him. “I’ve been obsessed with



INTERVIEW



COLLECTOR STATS

NAME

ISSAC

NUMBER OF DIE CAST IN COLLECTION

20,000+

FAVORITE SCALE

1:18

IG

@FLYWITHISSAC

Issac's die cast bus collection mainly covers types that are driven in Hong Kong.

“THE COLLECTION CONTAINS HEALTHY AMOUNTS OF PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES —THERE’S EVEN A HEAVY DOSE OF BUSES AND EVEN A SMATTERING OF TANKS.”



on display



“I LIKE THE REALISM OF DIE CAST, HOW THEY SHOW THE CARS’ MECHANICS AND DESIGN.”

die cast collecting since I was five years old,” he explains. “I started collecting model buses from Hong Kong and airplane models made by Herpa and Gemini Jets, then eventually model cars in 1:18 and 1:64 scale.”

We asked what drew him to die cast and his reply sounds mighty familiar, since we agree with his reasons. “I like the realism of die cast, how they show the cars’ mechanics and design,” he tells us. “It’s something you can play with and look at without paying the price for the 1:1. You can have a complete collection of a series of cars or airplanes without taking up a lot of space.”

Issac’s collection contains healthy amounts of planes, trains and automobiles—there’s even a heavy dose of buses and even





If it has wheels, Issac will collect it. He especially likes cars that display rich details such as fully realized engines and interiors.

Although the collection spans multiple rooms, much of the collection isn't on display due to the scarcity of space.

a smattering of tanks, too. While we observed vehicles of all scales, he told us that he's a fan of 1:18-scale models from AUTOart, CMC and the older Kyosho stuff. In 1:64, he enjoys the models from MiniGT, GCD, Kyosho, Tarmac Works, Hot Wheels and Inno.

Of all the road-bound die casts, he likes 1:18s the most. He explains: "I prefer full open die cast models in 1:18 scale. It shows the best detail compared to other scales. You can see the engine and interior, which replicates what the actual car looks like. For example, the CMC McLaren

SLR hood opens like the real car's, sliding forward before lifting up. In real life, you probably will never be able to open up an SLR's engine bay, or even touch one. Some 1:18-scale models use real leather or cloth to replicate the seats.

"As a collector, I collect everything, and I have over 100 resin models. However, if I have a choice between a resin or full open die cast model, I would always pick the die cast. This may offend some collectors, but I think resin models are overpriced and overrated. Understanding what the actual cost of making resin models is, how

on display



It not only consists of cars and trucks; Issac's collection features some very rare aircraft and trains, too.

“JUST COLLECT WHAT YOU LIKE. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT IS A CHEAP OR EXPENSIVE RARE MODEL.”

difficult it is to keep the windows from not popping out, and also the lack of detail in many spots inside the model, I do not think resin models are worth \$500+. The only brand that doesn't have such issues is Frontiart. All other high-end or lower-end resin models have this inevitable prob-

lem. I consider myself lucky that I live in a rather dry environment; I rarely have any paint rash problems, which die cast models always have.”

As we wound down our visit, we asked Issac for some words of wisdom. “Just collect what you like,” he told us. “It doesn't

We spotted quite a few custom-made dioramas, each packed full of vehicles on display.





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NEW! 1969 Chevrolet Corvette Coupe (Silver) (1:18 Scale) #NOREV189032 - \$104.95	NEW! 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray (Light Blue Metallic) (1:18 Scale) #NOREV189050 - \$104.95	NEW! 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray Cabriolet (Black) (1:18 Scale) #NOREV189055 - \$104.95	NEW! 1972 Chevrolet Corvette C3 Stingray (Blue) (1:18 Scale) #KK-181222-BL - \$99.95
NEW! 1972 Chevrolet Corvette C3 Stingray (Green) (1:18 Scale) #KK-181221-GR - \$99.95	NEW! 1968 Cadillac DeVille Closed Convertible (Blue/White) (1:18 Scale) #KK-180314-BL - \$99.95	NEW! 1981 Lotus Esprit Turbo w/Skis (Red) [Movie Version] (1:18 Scale) #KK-181192-RD - \$99.95	NEW! 1981 Lotus Esprit Turbo (White) [Movie Version] (1:18 Scale) #KK-181191-WH - \$99.95
NEW! 1982 Lamborghini Jalpa 3500 (Removable Hardtop) (Black) [Movie Version] (1:18 Scale) #KK-181284-BK - \$99.95	NEW! 1982 Lamborghini Jalpa 3500 (Removable Hardtop) (White) (1:18 Scale) #KK-181282-WH - \$99.95	NEW! 1982 Lamborghini Jalpa 3500 (Removable Hardtop) (Red) (1:18 Scale) #KK-181281-RD - \$99.95	NEW! Figure - James (Tuxedo) (1:18 Scale) #KK-FIG019 - \$42.95
BEST SELLER The Green Hornet Black Beauty (Black) (1:18 Scale) #AA71546 - \$189.95	BEST SELLER 1967 Ford Mustang 'Eleanor' "Gone in 60 Seconds" (1:18 Scale) #GL12909 - \$72.99	NEW! 1968 Ford Mustang Fastback "Ford Rainbow of Colors" (1:18 Scale) #GL13640 - \$67.99	LIMITED! 1971 GMC Jimmy (Copper Poly) (1:18 Scale) #ACME-A1807710 - \$134.95
NEW! 1967 Shelby GT-500 (Gray/Black) (1:18 Scale) #SL-S1802905- \$54.95	NEW! 1967 Shelby GT-500 (Lime Green) (1:18 Scale) #SL-S1802907- \$54.95	NEW! The Great Escape - Triumph TR6 Trophy Motorcycle (Weathered) (1:18 Scale) #COR-CC08501- \$119.95	BEST SELLER BMW Isetta 250 (Red/White) (1:18 Scale) #WE24096-RD- \$17.95

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Mai to

IR ICONIC REPLICAS

OLYMPIC

WELLY

JOHNNY LIGHTNING

DM DIECAST MASTERS



As fellow fans of classic vehicles, we especially admired Issac's collection of Land Rover Camel Trophy Defenders in all scales.

matter if it is a cheap or expensive rare model. Do not get influenced by what others say about different brands or models. There are some shops or so-called die cast influencers that tell collectors what to buy and what not to buy. I do not think that's right.

"Collect what you like and what you can afford. Do not make your hobby a financial burden or to show off to others. I personally think I am a bad influence since I am a hoarder. Now my collection is getting out of control." He laughs. "I need to downsize mine in order to free up some real estate and cash."

Thanks for allowing us to visit and for sharing your outstanding collection, Issac!

1. CMC 1/18 Ferrari Fiat Transporter

"First off, it is a HUGE model. It was unimaginable that a manufacturer like CMC would make such a large model. Every part, doors and ramp work like the real truck."

2. AUTOart 1/18 Pagani Zonda Revolución Blue Carbon

"The golden days of the AUTOart model. They can't even make models like this now. The details, the full mechanical working suspension, were first in the market. I really wish they would bring the Signature line back."

3. Frontiart 1/18 Regera (full open version)

"The only model that can 100% replicate how the real Koenigsegg doors open and close. The paint job and carbon details are spectacular. I just don't know how they figured the mechanism for the door hinge and made it so perfect. A true masterpiece."

ISSAC'S TOP FIVE FAVORITES

4. Hot Wheels Elite Ferrari 599xx

"The best 1/18 model ever made by Hot Wheels. You would never expect a sub-\$100 [original MSRP] model has such a detailed brake caliper. A cover on top of the rotatable brake disc, not even AUTOart would do such a thing."

5. Hot Wheels Super Elite Back to the Future DeLorean Time Machine

"This model never made it into the mainstream market, but can be found in the gray market overseas. It comes with working lights and sound. Normal and hover mode. It can be converted into all versions from the three movies and comes with a bunch of accessories. Really bummed that it never released, but I am glad I got one myself."



A CHARGER WORTH CHASIN'



'70 Dodge Charger R/T (MCACN)
#AMM1334

**AMERICAN
MUSCLE**

Auto World replicates a rare 1:1 Dodge in 1:18 scale detail.

As any car collector would tell you, some cars are worth the effort and this 1970 Dodge Charger R/T HEMI was certainly one of those cars. Tim Wellborn is the owner of the Wellborn Musclicar Museum and first discovered this Charger around 1990, still in the hands of its original owner, Mr. James Clark. Every year, for 33 years, Tim would call and pleasantly ask if it was for sale. Each time, he got the same answer, "No, son, it's not for sale." Mr. Clark eventually visited the Wellborn Musclicar Museum and loved it. He said to Tim that this is where he wanted his car to go after he passed. Around 2020, Tim got a phone call from Mr. Clark's daughter, honored to sell her late father's prized HEMI into the Wellborn collection.

This survivor is 1-of-54 4-speed HEMI Chargers from 1970, and 1-of-1 in this color combo. To this day, it's one of Tim's favorite cars in the entire Wellborn collection. Auto World discovered this car at the 2021 Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals and got to work replicating its amazing details and story in exacting detail.

1:18 Scale Die-cast Features:

- High Quality Die-cast Metal
- Detailed Chassis and Interior
- Factory-matched Paint
- Opening Doors and Hood
- Detailed Engine
- Steerable Front Wheels



'78 Firebird Formula
#AMM1331



'70 Chevy Chevelle SS
#AMM1332



'70 Dodge Charger
#AMM1334

Cruise by your local hobby store,
or see our entire selection of
available replicas online at:

autoworldstore.com



For more incredible automotive stories replicated in scale check out
our full collection of Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals die-cast

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MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

JADA'S GHOSTBUSTERS X TRANSFORMERS
HOLLYWOOD RIDES HAS US SEEING DOUBLE

TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI



SPECS

BRAND
JADA TOYS

SERIES
GHOSTBUSTERS X
TRANSFORMERS
HOLLYWOOD RIDES

MODEL
G1 OPTIMUS PRIME /
ECTO-1

P/N
35572 (OPTIMUS
PRIME) / 35466
(ECTO-1)

SCALE
1:24

URL
JADATOYS.COM



Optimus Prime and ECTO-1 are sold separately, but how could you have one without the other?

In one of the more surprising cross-over collabs that we've seen, this pair of die cast vehicles from Jada seriously made us do a double-take when we first laid our eyes on them. For those who love the '80s like we

do, this duo of die casts is a perfect reminder of why Saturday morning cartoons and movies of the era were so great.

Behold, a G1-style Transformers





ECTO-1 features opening doors, hood and rear door.

“AS BOTH PROPERTIES CELEBRATE THEIR 40-YEAR ANNIVERSARIES THIS YEAR, WE ARE LEFT FEELING GRATEFUL THAT JADA PUT THIS FUN CROSSOVER TOGETHER.”

Optimus Prime, leader of the Autobots, in Ghostbusters ECTO-1 colors. This non-transformable Freightliner FLT-style truck is clearly Optimus in his truck mode, but he dons the iconic colors of Ghostbusters’ Ectomobile, affectionately known as ECTO-1.

Featuring a die cast body with opening doors and plenty of details, Optimus has translucent “Slimer” green windows and headlights. Speaking of Slimer, there’s also a splatter of green slime on the front left corner of the truck—perhaps it

had a run-in with a ghost. The whitewall tires, Ghostbusters graphics and ECTO-1 license plates are also borrowed from the Ectomobile.

Although the truck does not transform, it does hide a neat secret: Hidden underneath is Optimus Prime in his robot form. We like details like this.

A highly modified white-colored 1959 Cadillac Miller-Meteor Sentinel ambulance known as ECTO-1 was used by the Ghostbusters all around Manhattan to

We think ECTO-1 looks very eye-catching in Optimus Prime colors.



“FEATURING THE AUTOBOTS LOGO ON THE DOORS, THIS ‘ECTO-1’ IS UNMISTAKABLY OPTIMUS PRIME IN DISGUISE.”



battle otherworldly spirits. In this take on the vehicle, it is now painted in Optimus Prime's colors of red, silver and blue.

Featuring the Autobots logo on the doors, this “ECTO-1” is unmistakably Optimus Prime in disguise. Instead of fighting the Decepticons, he's battling ghosts and demons. ECTO-1 features plenty of details and has opening doors, hood and rear door that reveal plenty more detail.

As both properties celebrate their 40-year anniversaries this year, we are left feeling grateful that Jada put this fun crossover together. Note that both 1:24-scale vehicles are available separately, but if you get one, you'll invariably want to get the other. We're glad to have them added to our already-large collection of 1980s collectibles.

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INCLUDES
DIGITAL
EDITION



LEADING CHARGE

**AUTO WORLD'S HIGHLY REALISTIC
1:18-SCALE AMERICAN MUSCLE 1968
DODGE CHARGER R/T**

TEXT BY JAMES YORK, IMAGES BY MICHAEL GREY



THE

The 1968 Dodge Charger R/T epitomizes raw power and classic American muscle car design. The recently released 1:18-scale die cast replica by Auto World brings this iconic vehicle to life with remarkable detail. Hailing from Auto World's American Muscle line, this model is inspired by a rare and powerful Charger that turned heads at the 2020 Indianapolis Mecum Auctions, where it was sold as Lot T166.

This particular 1968 Dodge Charger R/T,

one of only 211 factory-built 426 Hemi models equipped with a four-speed manual transmission, is a gem among muscle cars. Its exclusivity and power made it a hot ticket item, fetching a staggering \$160,000 when the gavel finally dropped.

The car featured an impeccable frame-on restoration, retaining its original floorboards, seats, dash and inside door panels. The exterior was finished in flawless, factory-matched EE-1 Dark Blue paint complemented by a white bee stripe.

SPECS

BRAND
AUTO WORLD

SERIES
AMERICAN MUSCLE

MODEL
1968 DODGE
CHARGER R/T

P/N
AMM 1328

SCALE:
1:18

MSRP
\$104.99

URL
[AUTOWORLDSTORE.COM](https://autoworldstore.com)



The doors and trunk lid open to reveal a meticulously detailed interior and full-size spare tire, respectively.



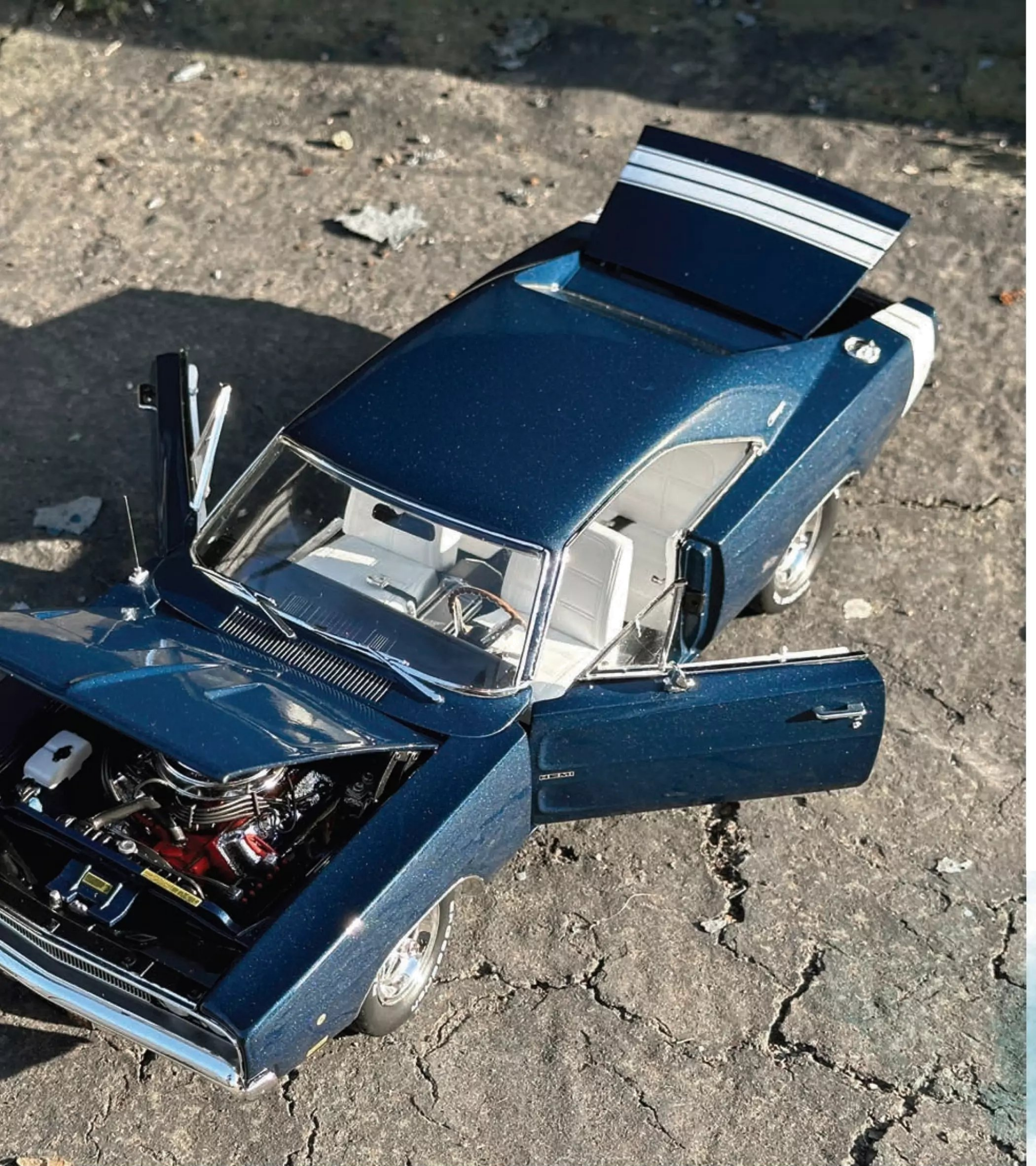
A model within a model—opening the functioning hood reveals a highly detailed replica of the Charger's signature Hemi engine.



The attention to detail isn't just seen topside; meticulous craftsmanship is evident even when you flip the model over.

The restoration also included significant upgrades like a new front suspension, exhaust and clutch, ensuring the car not only looked stunning but performed exceptionally well.

The American Muscle scale die cast replica captures this Mopar legend in all its glory. The model is painted in the accurate EE-1 Dark Blue, just like the original car that rolled across the red-car-



peted auction stage. The contrasting white interior is also faithfully replicated, reflecting the Charger's authentic look and feel. Under the hood, the replica boasts a highly detailed Hemi engine, a testament to Auto World's commitment to accuracy and quality.

This 1:18-scale model features steerable front wheels, an accurate chassis and opening doors, hood and trunk. These

functional details allow collectors to appreciate the intricacies of the Charger's design, from the powerful engine to the finely crafted interior. The Magnum rims, iconic of the era, add a finishing touch that makes this die cast a must-have for any serious collector.

Owning this Auto World 1968 Dodge Charger R/T replica, a stunning tribute to such an iconic muscle car, would make



“THIS MODEL WAS
INSPIRED BY A RARE
CHARGER THAT RE-
CENTLY SOLD AT
AUCTION FOR AN
EASY SIX FIGURES.”

any Mopar enthusiast proud. This die cast model celebrates the legacy of the Dodge Charger, a car that has left an indelible mark on the muscle car era.

Whether displayed on a shelf or admired up close, this 1:18-scale replica is a tribute to the enduring appeal of American muscle cars and the painstaking craftsmanship that goes into preserving their legacy.





Hard points to argue: The Dodge Charger R/T looks pretty tough from either end, and this Auto World scale model captures its essence perfectly.

Like the 1:1 Charger that inspired it, this Auto World model wears factory-matched EE-1 Dark Blue paint accented with a white bee stripe wrapped around the back end.

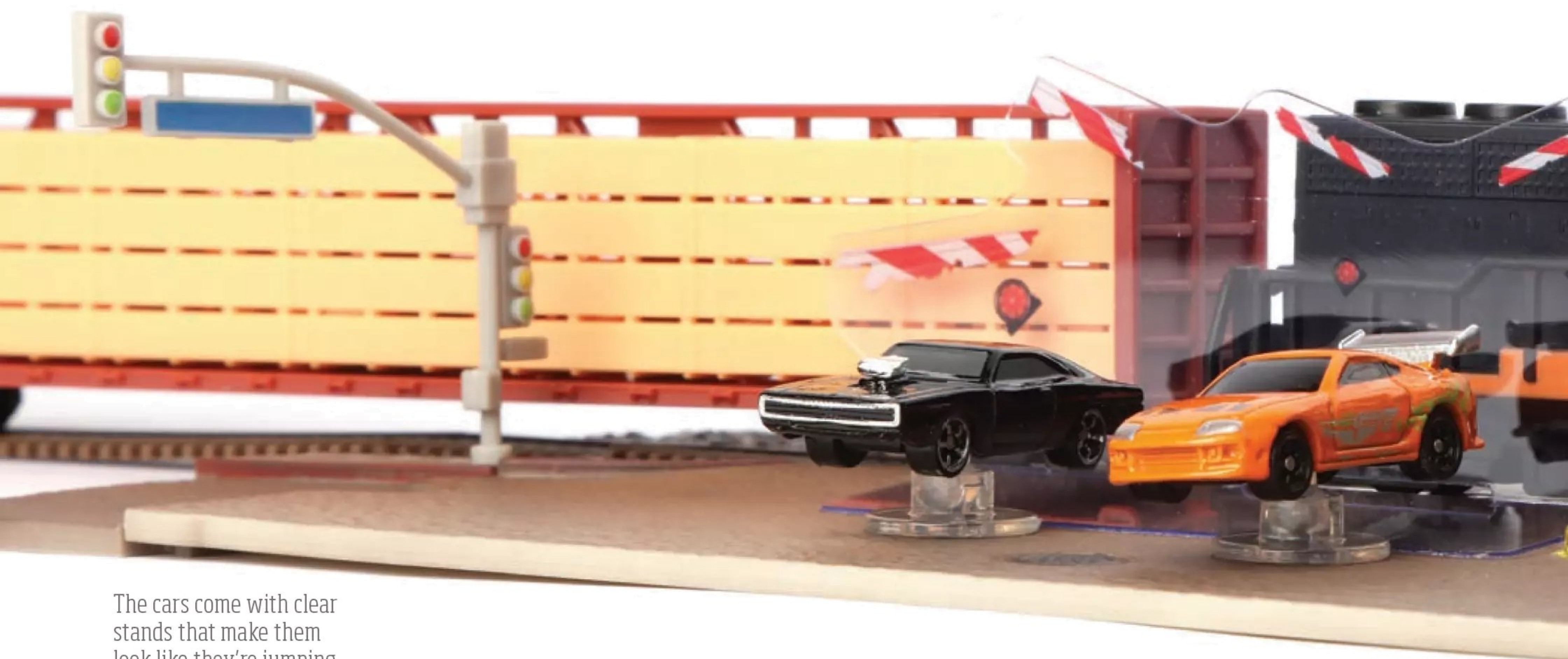


THE FINAL RACE

**JADA HOLLYWOOD RIDES: THE FAST AND
THE FURIOUS NANO SCENE DIORAMA**

TEXT BY JAMES YORK, IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

Relive the epic final race
between Brian and Dom
from "The Fast and the
Furious."



The cars come with clear
stands that make them
look like they're jumping.



A Supra, Charger and locomotive with rail car all in Jada Nano scale are included with this fun playset.



“RELIVE THE EXCITEMENT AND DRAMA OF DOM AND BRIAN’S FINAL RACE WITH THIS DIORAMA.”

Long segments of track allow for the train to be posed along its entire length.

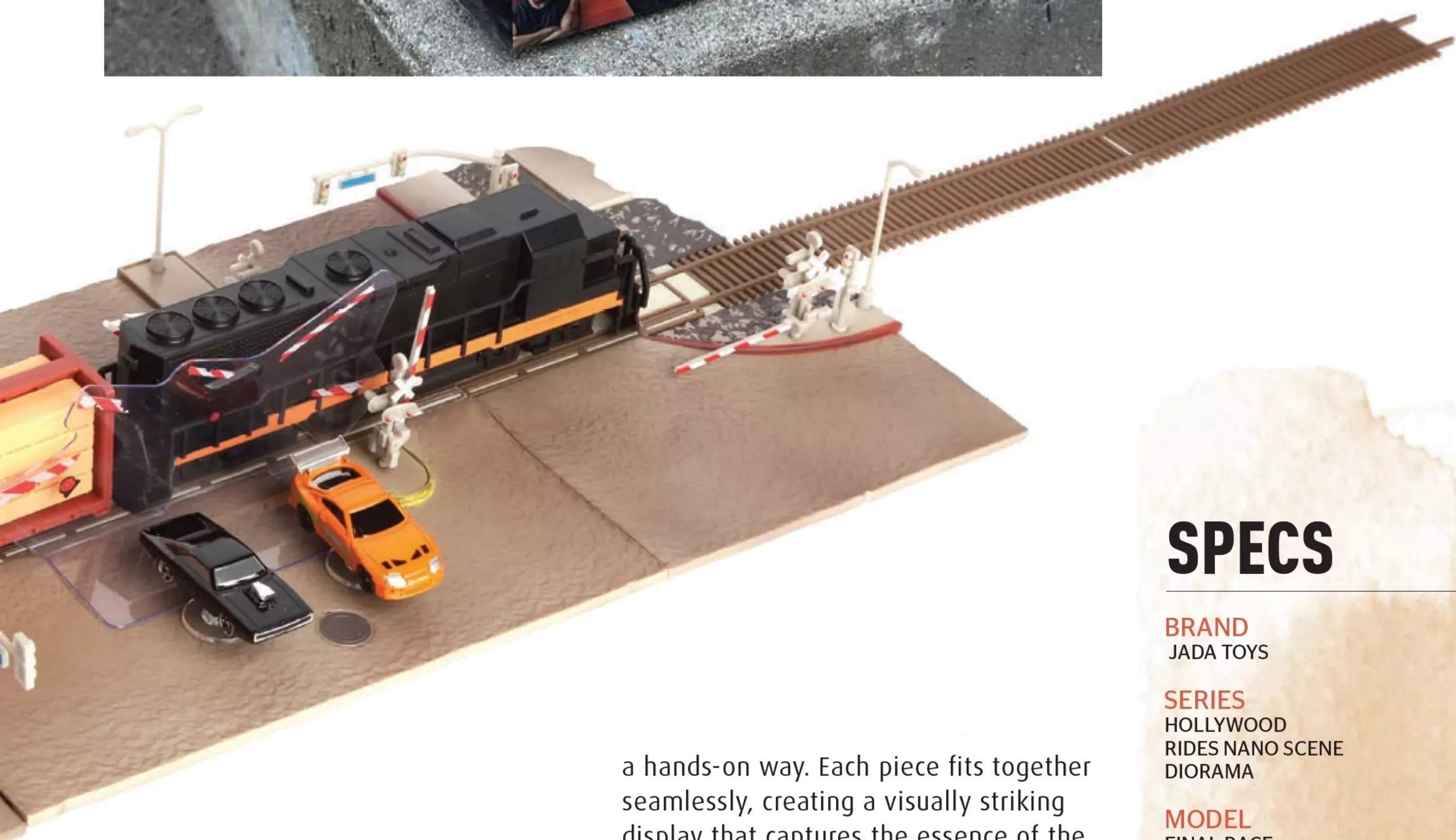
For fans of the Fast & Furious franchise, the final race scene between Dom and Brian is nothing short of legendary. Jada’s Hollywood Rides Nano Scene Diorama captures this pulse-pounding moment in intricate detail, offering car enthusiasts and collectors a chance to relive the thrill in Nano scale.

This diorama, inspired by the iconic finale of the original “The Fast and the Furious” movie, features two authentically licensed die cast vehicles: Brian’s eye-catching orange Toyota Supra and Dom’s menacing black Dodge Charger. Each car is meticulously crafted in Jada’s Nano scale, measuring approximately 1-2/3 inches long.

The diorama includes all the elements



The retail packaging of this kit looks good enough to display unopened.



necessary to recreate the high-stakes race. The set features train pieces, railroad tracks and stunt bases, allowing collectors to assemble the scene where Dom and Brian race against time and each other while narrowly avoiding an oncoming train.

Assembling the Nano Scene diorama is a fun and easy experience, allowing collectors to connect with the iconic film in

a hands-on way. Each piece fits together seamlessly, creating a visually striking display that captures the essence of the movie's final race. The diorama not only celebrates a pivotal moment in cinematic history but also showcases the craftsmanship and dedication to detail that Jada is known for.

Relive the excitement and drama of Dom and Brian's final race with this diorama. Whether displayed on a shelf or as part of a larger collection, Jada's Nano Scene captures the action and unforgettable cars of "The Fast and the Furious," offering fans a piece of movie magic.

SPECS

BRAND
JADA TOYS

SERIES
HOLLYWOOD
RIDES NANO SCENE
DIORAMA

MODEL
FINAL RACE

P/N
34915

SCALE
NANO

URL
JADATOYS.COM

SHE'S NOT FOR SALE

**AUTO WORLD 1969
FORD MUSTANG:
JOHN WICK'S
SYMBOL
OF VENGEANCE**

TEXT BY JAMES YORK
IMAGES BY MICHAEL GREY





The 1:18-scale John Wick '69 Mustang is part of Auto World's Silver Screen Machines series.

“THIS AUTO WORLD MODEL CAPTURES THE MUSTANG’S TRANSFORMATION FROM A SYMBOL OF PAST PEACE TO AN INSTRUMENT OF VENGEANCE.”



In the 2014 action thriller “John Wick,” the 1969 Ford Mustang symbolizes past tranquility and lost love. When the car is stolen and desecrated, it transforms into a symbol of vengeance. The loss of the Mustang and the death of his dog drive John Wick into a thrilling pursuit of retribution, making the car a pivotal force in the film’s narrative.

As should be expected from an Auto World release, the doors and hood all open to reveal even more detail.

Auto World has captured the essence of John Wick’s 1969 Ford Mustang with their 1:18-scale die cast replica. This model transports collectors straight into the

darkly prophetic scene at the gas station where a thug eyes the car and Wick calmly states, “She’s not for sale.” The model’s high-gloss Hitman Gray Metallic paint job with flat black stripes mirrors the movie’s stunning visuals, adding a layer of authenticity that fans will appreciate.

The replica boasts a highly detailed and accurate engine, reflecting the raw power and precision of the original Mustang. The interior and chassis are equally impressive, showcasing the realism and



SPECS

BRAND
AUTO WORLD

SERIES
SILVER SCREEN
MACHINES

MODEL
1969 FORD MUSTANG
JOHN WICK

P/N
AWSS145

SCALE
1:18

MSRP
\$104.99

URL
AUTOWORLDDSTORE.
COM



attention to detail that Auto World is renowned for. The opening doors and hood invite collectors to explore every inch of this meticulously crafted model, from the intricacies of the engine to the fine details of the interior.

The 1969 Ford Mustang in “John Wick” is more than just a vehicle; it’s a catalyst for the film’s high-octane action and emotional depth. The model captures the Mustang’s transformation from a symbol of past peace to an instrument of ven-

The Hitman Gray Metallic paint and flat black stripes are authentic to Wick’s own Mustang and help this model look good from any angle.



“THIS 1:18-SCALE '69 MUSTANG SHOWCASES THE CRAFTSMANSHIP AND DETAIL THAT MAKE AUTO WORLD MODELS A CUT ABOVE.”



Looking at a shot like this one, it's hard to tell whether this is a die cast model or the real thing.

geance, mirroring John Wick's own journey of redemption and justice.

For fans of the film and die cast collectors alike, this replica is a must-have. It not only celebrates a pivotal element of "John Wick" but also showcases the craftsmanship and detail that make Auto World models a cut above.

Whether displayed on a shelf or admired up close, this 1969 Ford Mustang stands as a tribute to the film's enduring impact and the artistry of high-quality die cast models. Even if you're not a fan of the movie, it's a beautiful car nonetheless—perfect for any die cast or Mustang enthusiast. Relive the intensity and emotion of "John Wick" with this replica from Auto World's Silver Screen Machines series.

And although the Mustang wasn't for sale in the movie, we're glad that Auto World has made it available to us collectors. Perhaps if John Wick had one of these die casts in the trunk and gave it to the guy at the gas station, he could have avoided all the trouble.



All the authentic visual cues are there, from the hood scoop to the rear spoiler to the step-lipped chrome wheels and Firestone tires.

We can't help wonder: If Wick had offered his enemies a die cast like this one, could he have avoided all that trouble?





UHLENHAUT COUPÉ

**CMC MERCEDES-BENZ 300
SLR COUPÉ: A TRIBUTE TO
RACING HERITAGE**

TEXT BY JERRY TSAI
IMAGES COURTESY OF CMC

For die cast enthusiasts and collectors, the CMC Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé in 1:18 scale stands as a testament to both automotive history and the craftsmanship of high-end model creation. This stunning replica pays homage to one of the most iconic cars ever designed, the Uhlenhaut Coupé, known for its signature gullwing doors and its storied connection to endurance racing.

The real Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé, created by visionary designer Rudolf Uhlenhaut, is a monument of historic fame. Uhlenhaut, who headed the Mercedes racing department in the 1950s, envisioned this coupé as an engineering marvel for endurance races such as



the Carrera Panamericana and the 24 Hours of Le Mans. The closed-top design was a strategic innovation to shield drivers from adverse weather conditions during these grueling events.

Only two of these unique vehicles were ever built, converted from the nine 300 SLR rolling chassis. This limited production was part of what could be described as a “pilot project,” demonstrating Uhlenhaut’s

forward-thinking approach to racing technology. Despite their intended role in the 1956 racing season, the 300 SLR Coupés never saw competitive action. In late 1955, Daimler-Benz AG made the strategic decision to withdraw from competitive sports, shelving the racing plans and stowing away the two fully functional coupés.

The 300 SLR’s gullwing doors, possibly Mercedes’ most iconic design innovation, are fully functional, as is the forward-folding hood.



“FOR COLLECTORS, OWNING A CMC MERCEDES-BENZ 300 SLR COUPÉ IS MORE THAN JUST ADDING A MODEL TO A COLLECTION; IT’S ACQUIRING A PIECE OF AN AUTOMOTIVE LEGACY.”



SPECS

BRAND
CMC

MODEL
MERCEDES-BENZ 300 SLR COUPÉ

SCALE
1:18

MSRP
\$663 (UNLIMITED) / \$677 (LIMITED)

URL
CMC-MODELCARS.DE



These automotive gems were preserved with the same care as the USA's bullion reserves in Fort Knox. One Uhlenhaut Coupé is occasionally displayed at prestigious automotive events, while the other has found a permanent home at the new Daimler museum in Stuttgart. These vehicles are considered priceless, not available for sale, and remain a profound part of automotive history.



CMC's die cast replicas of the Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé bring this rich history to collectors' hands. The experts at CMC have painstakingly recreated every detail, ensuring that each model is a faithful representation of the original. From the iconic gullwing doors to the intricate interior and engine details, the 1:18-scale



CMC has replicated the 300 SLR Coupé in excruciating detail, from the cockpit to the engine bay.

“CMC’S DIE CAST
REPLICAS OF THE
MERCEDES-BENZ 300
SLR COUPÉ BRING THIS
RICH HISTORY TO
COLLECTORS’ HANDS.”

Two unlimited ver-
sions of CMC’s 300 SLR
Coupé are available,
adorned with silver
paint with either a red
or blue interior.



Two limited versions are also
available that feature the
SLR in racing trim, like this
T1-marked car.



With flowing lines and rich silver paint, CMC’s
Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé is absolutely
drool-worthy, if we do say so ourselves.



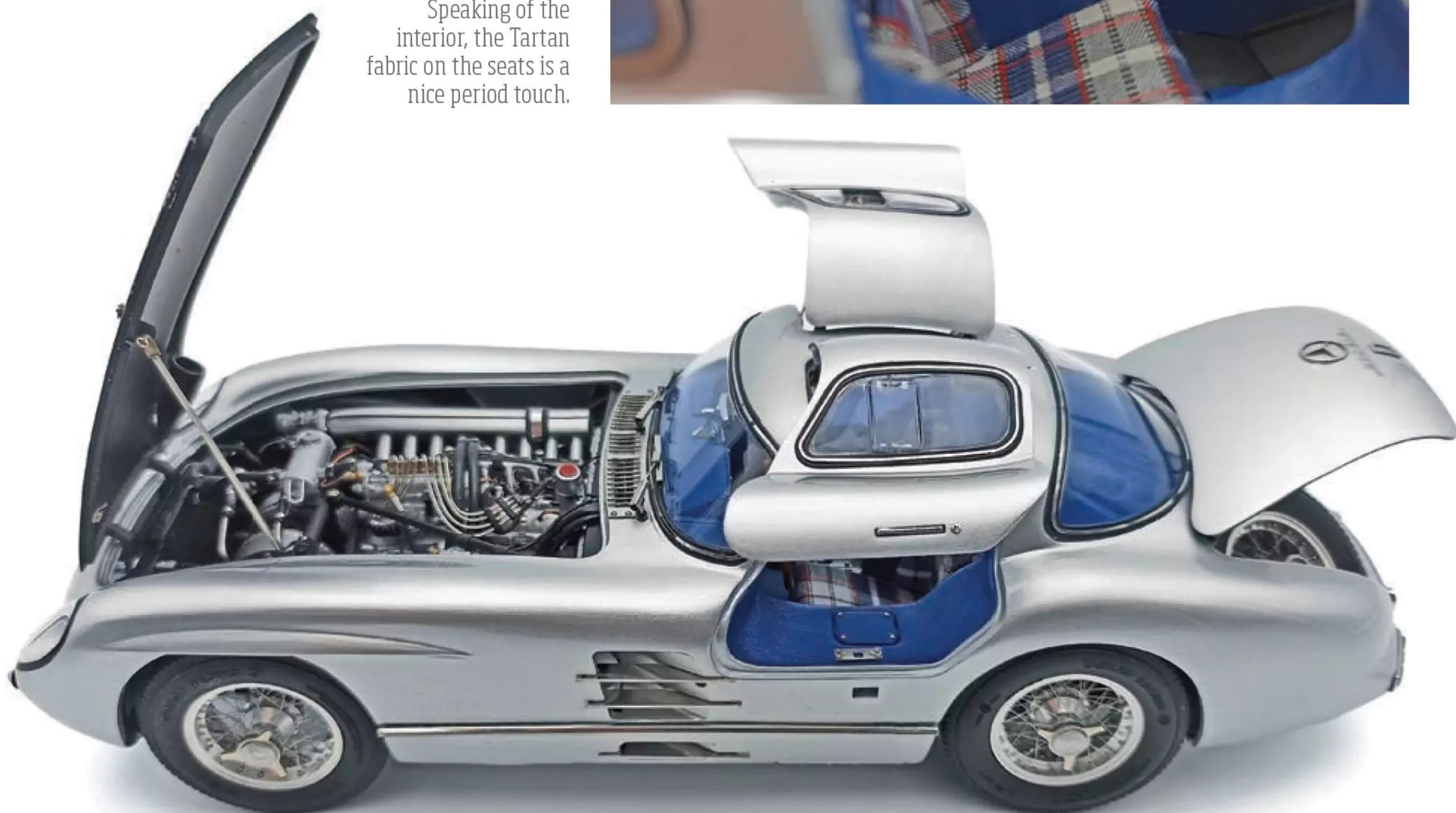
No detail is too small for CMC, as evidenced by the replica steering wheel, gear shifter and myriad dash controls within the 300 SLR's interior.

replica captures the essence of Uhlenhaut's masterpiece.

While only two SLR Coupés were ultimately built, four versions of this iconic racecar are available from CMC: two unlimited editions that feature silver exteriors, one with a blue interior and the other with a red interior, and another two limited to 1,000-piece runs that feature the SLR in racing trim—a 1955 Swedish Grand Prix number 15 car and a 1955 Tourist Trophy, T1-marked car.

For collectors, owning a CMC Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé is more than just adding a model to a collection; it's acquiring a piece of an automotive legacy. Each replica serves as a reminder of a bygone era of racing innovation and the unparalleled craftsmanship of both the original car and the model that so accurately replicates it. Whether displayed on a shelf or admired up close, the CMC Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR Coupé stands as a tribute to the enduring spirit of automotive excellence.

Speaking of the interior, the Tartan fabric on the seats is a nice period touch.



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**AUTO WORLD PREMIUM
2024 RELEASE 1, SET B:
PRECISION IN 1:64 SCALE**

TEXT AND IMAGES BY JERRY TSAI

SIX OF A KIND



This collection of six vehicles is certainly varied, and yet highly collectible.



Of the many things that die cast collectors love, the call of new castings is one that is hard to resist. For 1:64-scale die cast collectors, the latest offering from Auto World is something to celebrate. Featuring completely new tooling, models in the new collection are scaled to true 1:64 scale, ensuring that every detail is precisely rendered.

Auto World's Premium 2024 Release 1, Set B features six highly detailed 1:64-scale die cast vehicles that run a wide range of vehicle types, which keeps things interesting. Each model boasts a die cast metal body and chassis, ensuring durability and a premium feel. The accuracy extends to the stock wheels and tires, and the

cars are painted in authentic factory colors, making these replicas as true to life as possible.

2024 Release 1, Set B includes one of our favorites, a 1990 Mitsubishi Eclipse GSX in Kalapana Black. A new tooling addition to Auto World's lineup, the 1990 Mitsubishi Eclipse GSX is a tribute to the era of compact performance. You'll also find a 2020 Ford F-150 Truck in Magma Red Metallic with hood and side stripes. Featuring a new front core and wheels, this Magma Red Metallic F-150 truck is both rugged and stylish.

Also included is a Petty's Garage 2015 Ford Mustang GT in gloss black with twin blue upper stripes. This Mustang is a nod to the legacy of



SPECS

BRAND
AUTO WORLD

SERIES
PREMIUM 2024 1:64
DIECAST

MODEL
RELEASE 1, SET B

P/N
AW64432B

SCALE
1:64

URL
AUTOWORLDDSTORE.
COM



Auto World's carded packaging is among our favorites. Not only do they look great, they are also packed full of vehicle trivia.

AutoWorld's UltraRed has become UltraRaw! Rare chase vehicles come in raw, unpainted metal.



Petty's Garage. Classic lovers will like that the set includes a Royal Bobcat 1969 Pontiac Firebird finished in Antique Gold. This model's authentic color scheme make it a nostalgic piece that honors the legacy of the Firebird.

The most eye-catching car in the lot is the Paint Swatch 2023 Dodge Challenger Hellcat Redeye, which is painted in a 14 Factory Color Paint Swatch scheme. A unique addition to the set, this 2023 Dodge Challenger Hellcat Redeye features a paint swatch showcasing no fewer than 14 factory colors. It's a vibrant and colorful representation of one of the most powerful modern muscle cars.

Closing out the collection is a 2003 Chevy Silverado Truck in Dark Green. With new tooling for a single cab, short bed Fleetside configuration, the 2003 Chevy Silverado Truck in Dark Green is a highlight in the set.

Limited quantities mean that owning a set is a privilege for those who can snag them before they sell out, enhancing the appeal for serious collectors. On top of that, the purchase of this six-vehicle set comes with the possibility of obtaining a rare UltraRed chase vehicle, adding an element of excitement—and exclusivity—if you're lucky enough to score one. While we focused here on Set B, Set A, which includes the same cars in different colors, is equally collectible.

CONTOURS

SIGHTS FROM THE TAMIYA BOOTH AT THE 62ND SHIZUOKA HOBBY SHOW

TEXT BY JERRY TSAI
IMAGES BY FRED MEDEL
AND COURTESY OF TAMIYA



Any RC enthusiast would be thrilled to attend the Shizuoka Hobby Show, held in Tamiya's hometown of Shizuoka, Japan. This annual show is attended by the top brands in Japan's hobby industry, including Tamiya, Kyosho, Bandai, Takara Tomy, Hasegawa and more. The show showcases the latest in die cast, static plastic model-kits, RC,

“TAMIYA’S BOOTH IS TYPICALLY THE HEART OF THE SHIZUOKA HOBBY SHOW, BUT ALL THE MAJOR JAPANESE HOBBY BRANDS ALL WELL-REPRESENTED.”



trains, tabletop gaming, hobby tools and much, much more.

Here, we get an insider’s view of the Tamiya booth at the 62nd Shizuoka Hobby Show. Tamiya’s booth is typically the heart of the show, and this year was no different. The booth was a showcase of Tamiya’s latest releases and upcom-

ing projects, each one crafted with the utmost attention to detail that borders on obsession.

The displays were lined with the latest and upcoming releases in Tamiya model-kits, craft tools, and a whole lot more. The company even had a few 1:1-scale vehicles displayed at the show.

One of the highlights at the Tamiya booth was an appearance by Shunsaku Tamiya, who has guided the company for the past three decades.

There were plenty of opportunities to get up-close with the models with interactive displays and dioramas.



“BEING ABLE TO SEE THE LATEST THAT TAMIYA DOES AND WILL OFFER IS A SPECIAL TREAT.”



But it wasn't just about the models; the booth was also a hub of activity where visitors could learn from Tamiya's creators themselves. There were also plenty of opportunities to get up-close with the models, with interactive displays and dioramas that brought the world of scale modeling to life.

One of the highlights of the Tamiya booth was the appearance of Shunsaku Tamiya, chairman and president of Tamiya. If attendees were lucky enough to run into him, they could have met and spoken to the man who has guided Tamiya for the past three decades.

Being able to see the latest that Tami-



Displays at the show were lined with the latest scale Tamiya releases. There were even a few 1:1 vehicles on display, like the Honda Dax 125 Tamiya Limited Edition pictured top center.

Tamiya's 1:24-scale Nissan Fairlady 240Z Street Custom model-kit looks as realistic as can be.

ya does and will offer is a special treat whether you're a die-hard die cast fan or scale modeler. The Tamiya booth was an

awe-inspiring experience that left a lasting impression. We are already looking forward to next year's show.

DYNAMIC DUO

**GCD DIECASTTALK EXCLUSIVE
1/64 TOYOTA HILUX +
TACOMA TRD BOX SET
IS A COLLECTOR'S
GEM**

TEXT AND IMAGES
BY JERRY TSAI

Toyota trucks are synonymous with off-road prowess and tenacious longevity. It's no wonder that Toyota 4x4s are celebrated the world over. DiecastTalk, a die cast specialty brand that has championed 1:64-scale off-road-ready Toyotas, is back at it with something very special.

Presented in a collector's box featuring Toyota TRD colors, and emblazoned with the logos of off-road aftermarket stalwarts Front Runner and KC HiLites, this GCD DiecastTalk Exclusive TRD Box Set includes two fully licensed





SPECS

BRAND
GCD DIECASTTALK
EXCLUSIVE

MODEL
TOYOTA HILUX +
TACOMA TRD BOX SET

P/N
DTG0012-TRD

SCALE
1:64

URL
SHOPDIECASTTALK.
COM



Flip either of the vehicles over to get a good look at detailed undercarriage components and the working suspension bits.

Toyota models: the classic Toyota Hilux SR5 Xtracab and the modern Tacoma Pre-Runner Widebody. Each 1:64-scale model is crafted with exceptional attention to detail, making this set a stand-out addition to any collection.

Limited to just 1008 sets, each individually numbered, this exclusive collection celebrates Toyota's legendary trucks with remarkable detail and precision. Adding to its collectability, 42 chase sets will be randomly distributed, offering





These vehicles are miniaturized testaments to Toyota's off-road prowess—then and now.

lucky collectors a chance to own a truly rare piece. The chase models feature unpainted, raw castings.

TACOMA PRE-RUNNER WIDEBODY

The Tacoma Pre-Runner in this set features Front Runner accessories and a working suspension and steering, all encased in a full die cast body and chassis. The model also includes a metal skid plate and a spare tire, enhancing its realistic appeal. Encased in a protective acrylic case with an off-road dec-

orated base and numbered plaque, the Tacoma is not only a display piece but also a testament to GCD's commitment to quality and detail.

TOYOTA HILUX SR5 XTRACAB

The Toyota Hilux SR5 Xtracab is equally impressive, with functional features such as an opening hood and trunk bed door. Like the Tacoma, it boasts a working suspension and steering, a full die cast body and chassis, and a spare tire. The Hilux is also presented in an acrylic case with decorated and numbered

Scale enthusiasts will surely appreciate the level of detail here, from the included spare tires to the KC HiLites on the Hilux to the recovery gear that can be placed on the Tacoma's roof rack.





base, ensuring its pristine condition for display and preservation.

Both models in the GCD DiecastTalk Exclusive set are crafted from high-quality die cast materials, offering durability and a premium feel. The attention to detail, from the accurate scaling to the functional parts, sets this collection apart as a tribute to Toyota's 4x4 legacy.

With only 1008 sets available, this limited edition is sure to be a prized addition for collectors. For those fortunate enough to secure one of the 42 chase sets, the value and exclusivity of this collection are further enhanced. The GCD DiecastTalk Exclusive Toyota Hilux + Tacoma TRD Box Set is a celebration of Toyota's enduring legacy in the automotive world, brought to life in miniature form.



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