

# SCOTTSDALE

M A G A Z I N E <sup>TM</sup>

January 2008

COLLECTIONS

BY VICKI COLLINS EDWARDS

## Go, Baby, Go!

One North Scottsdale couple recently received the latest addition to their personal collection — a one-of-a-kind replica of a 1960 Italian Sports Speciale. Inspired by the 1960 Ferrari Testa Rossa — of which only two are reputed to still exist, each with a value of \$13 million plus — this custom, coach built beauty is the perfect melding of late '50s and '60s European bodylines with today's technology, mechanics and power — pushing more than 250 mph.

Crafted virtually from scratch by master coachbuilder Jason Wenig, owner of The Creative Workshop in Dania Beach, Florida, and his team, the car was two years and nearly 6,000 man hours in the making. It reportedly set proud owners Lynn and Barry L. Smith back approximately \$700,000 at completion. "It turned out even better than I



expected and was well worth the wait!" exclaims Barry, an avid car collector who is a member of Porsche, Lamborghini, Shelby Cobra and Ferrari clubs of America.

This exclusive original personifies a growing trend of collectors seeking the rare opportunity to own an automobile designed, engineered and hand-built to satisfy their personal desires. "The Sport Speciale Roadster is a time machine," says Wenig. "It transports you back to a race paddock in 1959 where a Ferrari TR59 Testa Rossa would be sitting in one stall, an Aston Martin DBR1 in another, and our car, blending the best elements of an entire era, sitting right in between."

Traditional Carrozzeria building techniques were incorporated to create this masterpiece including a hand-built chromemoly tubular steel "birdcage" style chassis topped with a hand-formed "Superleggera"-style aluminum body. A six-speed transmission and a custom-built BMW V12 with high-performance cylinder heads provide the power while Brembo racing disc brakes, tubular adjustable suspension arms, BRT rack and pinion steering, and race-bred sway bars give the vehicle smooth 21st-century handling. Veglia instruments, an original Nardi steering wheel, Marchal lighting, and period-correct Borrani wheels and knockoffs crafted from an original mold at the Borrani factory in Milano combine with a classic Hilborn-style fuel injection system infused with modern EFI internals to seamlessly meld turn-key performance with classic European style.

The Creative Workshop, a privately owned custom construction and restoration facility, specializes in what they call converted restoration, a process that enhances classic automobile looks with modern performance engineering. The results are undeniably impressive. **.SM**





Sporting original Veglia gauges, Nardi steering wheel and hand-stitched leather seats, a 5972cc, V12 Korman Motorworks engine puts this steed through its paces

