PHOTOGRAPHED AT A 2012 Bonhams F Mile Tips At Fauna cabriolet, above and below, will be offered at a Bonhams auction featuring unrestored cars.

Preserving Classics, Wrinkles and All

By FRED HEILER

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Riviera, a Clean Break for G.M., Is Still Fashionable at 50

By PHIL PATTON

FTY years ago this month, General Motors presented its first generation of the Riviera at the 1961 New York Auto Show. The Riviera was a stunning and innovative car that set a new standard for the luxury market. It represented a significant departure from the traditional designs of the time, with its sleek and modern styling. The Riviera was a true icon of American automotive design and remains a admired classic to this day.

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Preserving Classic Autos, Wrinkles and All

Corrections
A timeline last Sunday with an article about auctions pointed out that automobile restoration and refinishing of mass-produced vehicles has slowed down over the years because cars have gained in value. Also, it was stated that a fully restored SL would usually sell for $340,000 to $380,000.

Correction
The Acura TLX is due to go on sale in Canada. It was not described as being due to arrive in the U.S. in 2015.

UNEXPECTED
One of just five, this Daytona Coupe, which is part of the Simeone Museum collection, is the only one that has not been restored. The Bonhams auction will include this 1956 Agena 3-liter SL roadster sold for $951,000 at last year’s auction. Vehicle information at bonhams.com.

PRINCIPAL
This all-original 1952 Mercedes-Benz SL roadster sold for $851,000 last year. To examine the resale value of an unrestored car, the Simeone Foundation uses unrestored original paint (preserved if damaged or worn out) as well as photographic, archival and provenance evidence to determine the true condition. The museum owns the only unrestored one.

BEHIND THE SCENES
The Simeone Foundation’s “Preserving the Automobile” auction will be Oct. 8 at the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum; admission is $30. A catalog is $50. For details, visit simeonemuseum.org. Automobilia goes on sale at 10 a.m. and cars at 2 p.m. This year’s top lot is a 1931 Isotta-Fraschini Tipo 8A two-door faux cabriolet, with a presale estimated price of $750,000 to $800,000. For details, visit simeonemuseum.org. 

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