the other side...



Alfa 159 with daughter Lucy. Private collection

the auto art of Jim Bamber

Jim Bamber 122 Valley Road Kenley Surrey CR8 5BU e-mail jim@jimbamber.com Well known throughout motorsport for his weekly cartoon in Autosport few of his fans know of Bamber's other side, his motoring art but that is only because most of it is by private commission and goes straight into the hands of private collectors.

Painting has always been Jim's passion and it was a chance to illustrate a feature in the *Rallycourse* annual that he was putting together in the 80's that lead him to paint a series of highly technical paintings of famous Rally cars. One of these was featured in the *SUN* newspaper at the time and a later rendition of the Championship winning Peugeot 205 of 1985 was bought by Peugeot France. One of Jim's happiest memories is discovering months later that this painting which he had been paid £3000 for had been stolen from Peugeot's offices in Paris. "The fact that somebody had thought it good enough to steal was a real boost for my confidence. There is a happy rally fan living in Paris who probably still has it hanging in his flat".

More work followed and his work now ranges from early

Jim putting a few finishing touches to a painting of a Ferrari 375 in his Surrey studio. This work is now in the hands of a private collector.

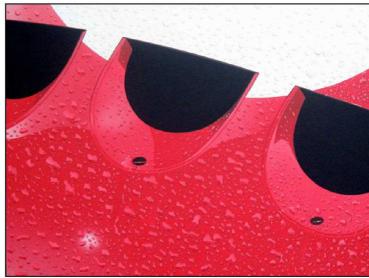
Bugattis to the lastest Ferrari 599. Most of this is by private commission and as a result only a few pieces have come on to the open market. Of those that do most sell in London but there is a market further afield, one piece recently selling in California where it reached \$6000 at auction.

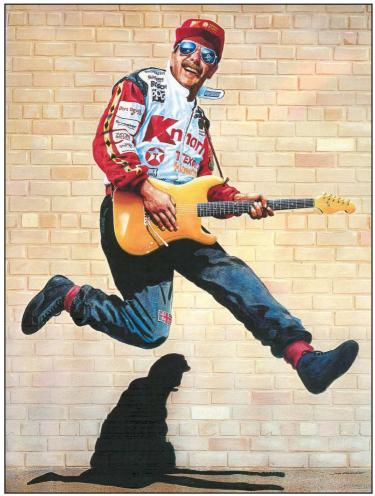
Commissions range in price between £3000 and £5000 depending on the size and work required. The process starts with a briefing on the subject vehicle, together with a short photoshoot for useable images as Jim likes

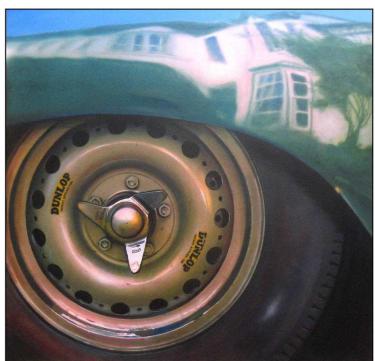
to see every facet of the car before deciding on the finished viewpoint. The photos will also include items in the foreground and background. Over the years Jim has included garages, drives, specific trees and houses into his paintings some of which have been seen as reflections in the cars paint! This adds a much more individual feeling to his paintings making them even nore special to his clients.

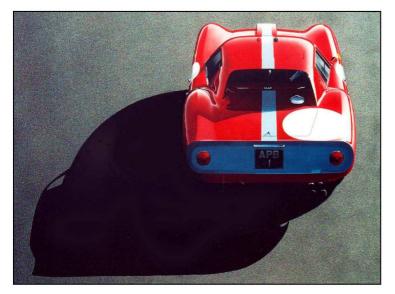
Once the basics are established, Jim sets out the structure on a 'rough' which is approved by the client before the painting is started. Review can be arranged at various stages but they are generally not required, as purchase of the finished work is always subject to the client's final approval.

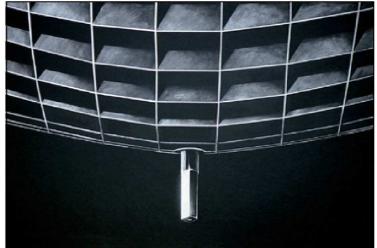










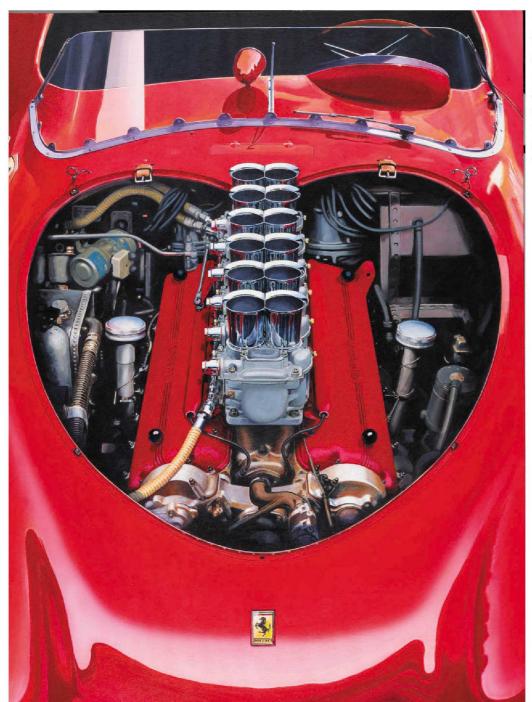


Top left: An Aston Martin DB3S painted on the cobbles outside the clients garage. The reason the background fades away is that you can only paint so many cobbles before going completely nuts! Top right: This particular client loves me to paint details of his cars, this one being the bonnet of his 1963 Ferrari GTO. When I had finished it I thought there was something missing so I painted all the raindrops.

Above left: An unusual portrayal of Nigel Mansell during his years racing in the USA. The original was sold only days after the painting was finished. So I produced a limited print run and have still some left, so if you're a Mansell fan let me know!

Above right: Detail of a D-Type wheel. The reflection in the wing is of the clients house. Above: Detail of the grille of a Ferrari 375 GP car

Left: This rear view of a Ferrari GTO is over 6 feet wide as I got rather carried away painting the long shadow.



"I Love Ferrari"
A work of total fiction
based around a Ferrari
Testarossa with the
heart shaped bonnet
opening filled with the
wonderful sight of it's
magnificent V12 engine
Acrylic on canvas 36" x
48" £3000



Bugatti 35 The background is pure fiction as the actual Bugatti garage in London which I originally intended to draw had sadly become an architects office. Acrylic on canvas 40" x 30" £2000



"The Green door"

An unusual treatment for a modern classic. This Ferrari F40 is painted onto canvas which is then locked inside a reproduction of an old wooden garage door. Only you the owner knows what lies behind the green door.

Rather imodest of me but the F40 painting itself is bloody good and has to be seen in the flesh to fully appreciate it. I took all the reference photos myself and decided at an early stage to paint the difficult end!

Acrylic on canvas 40" x 30"

£2500

The green door has recently come back to me from an art dealer with the door very badly damaged. So if you like this one I can make a new door in whatever 'old garage style' and colour you want.





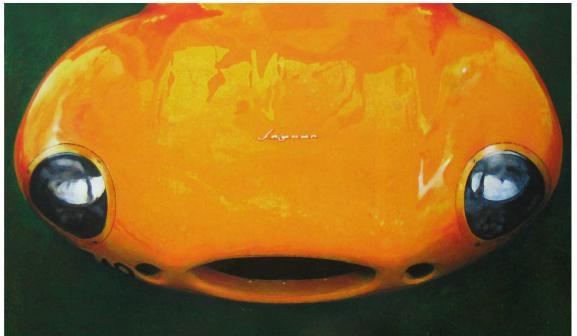


"Ferrari 599" Two views of the latest work of art from Ferrari, the 599. Painted for a private collector but sadly the cheque bounced so offered for sale again. Such is life! Acrylic on canvas 40" x 30"

£1500 each £2500 the pair



Bugatti Atlantic
Big mistake this.
I painted it in the
wrong colour. There
are only four of these
cars in the world
today and I had to go
and paint the blue
one!
I discovered later that
Ralph Lauren owns a
black one!
Acrylic on canvas 40"
x 30"
£2000



Yellow D-Type
I know, most of these cars are green or blue but I just loved the yellow one. I never did find out who owns it.
Acrylic on canvas 48" x 36" £2000