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2012 MidAmerica Auctions at South Point Hotel & Casino

Story and photos by Rodent
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Motorcycle-Auction Tripleheader Closes in Las Vegas



McQueen Motorcycles to Vegas Auction

Bill Lee
6/17/2012

MidAmerica Auctions

Two of the icons Steve McQueen won't want to know the 21st Annual Las Vegas Motorcycle Auction and Races at South Point Hotel & Casino Jan. 12-14.

The life and career of Steve McQueen is a classic example of the American dream made real: of a small town boy from a broken home triumphing over adversity to become one of the richest and most sought-after superstars in the world. McQueen lived every day as if it were his last, and by doing so he lived an extraordinary life, both on screen and off.

Not only will two of McQueen's classic motorcycles (1938 Triumph Speed Twin and 1940 Indian Four Cylinder) and a personal Buell (1970) belong to the block for the Mid-America Auctions, but his widow, Barbara McQueen, will be serving as the guest of honor.

There will also be a famous motorcycle on display courtesy of Mid-America Auctions - the Husqvarna McQueen rode that dominated the cover of the Aug. 21, 1971, issue of Sports Illustrated.

Mid-America Auctions says: "The life and career of Steve McQueen is a classic example of the American dream made real: of a small town boy from a broken home triumphing over adversity to become one of the richest and most sought-after superstars in the world. McQueen lived every day as if it were his last, and by doing so he lived an extraordinary life, both on screen and off."

Barbara McQueen will share memories of her husband and sign copies of her new book that tells of her love affair with Steve, titled "Steve McQueen: The Last Mile." Joining Barbara at the auction will be McQueen's biographer Marshall Terrill, who will also sign copies of his 2010 book, "Steve McQueen: A Tribute to the King of Cool."

Speaking of Barbara, Mid-America Auctions says: "Barbara McQueen's photographs record a behind-the-scenes life of personal pioneers and enthusiasts. They include letting the road in Steve's pickup trucks, visiting collectors' shows and swap-meets, driving 700 miles to view a rare World War I motorcycle, flying a vintage mail plane, and generally ducking out of Hollywood life. But when work did call, Barbara was also on hand to capture memories candid shots on the sets of McQueen's two last films, "Tom Horn" and "The Blobber."

"Barbara McQueen's 'Steve McQueen: The Last Mile' tells the story of a simple love affair with life. Barbara, who had earned a very successful career for herself as a fashion model, met Steve McQueen in 1957. Together for less than four years, these rare and private photographs show Steve's rugged, blue-eyed features born in a relaxed and unscripted setting, doing the things he loved. Barbara's photos include a truck, some of the most beautiful and most intimate photos ever taken of the actor, and the most intimate photos ever taken of the actor's wife."



Written by Jim O'Clair
January 30th, 2012 at 8:59 am
Posted in auctions, Hemmings Daily, motorcycles and scooters
Tagged with celebrity-owned cars, Husqvarna, Husqvarna 400 Cross, Iver-Johnson, Las Vegas, Mid-America Auctions, Steve McQueen

Iver-Johnson sells for \$280,000 at Mid America Las Vegas

with 6 comments



Photos courtesy MidAmerica Auctions

At an auction featuring multiple motorcycles from the Steve McQueen collection, including a 1971 Husqvarna definitely owned by McQueen and could or could not have been the famous Sports Illustrated cover bike, 11 headlines had no star power at all or even a name recognizable by most gearheads. Yet at the end of the day topped the recent MidAmerica 21st annual Las Vegas auction with a sale price of \$280,000.

Previously on display at the J&P's National Motorcycle Museum, the Iver-Johnson had rarity and its excellent more than doubled the \$137,000 sale price for the McQueen Husky. Other McQueen bikes at the auction included that brought \$90,000 and a 1938 Triumph 500cc Speed Twin that sold for \$84,000. Notable sales at the auction included a Superior SS100 that was sold for \$180,000, a 1939 Superior 250 that gavelled at \$45,000, a 1910 Pierce realized \$120,000, and a 1955 Bolmerland Langrouer that was let go for \$55,000.



Up for auction: From a 1915 Harley to photos of the Fonz



Written by Jim O'Clair
December 19th, 2011 at 8:59 am
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Steve McQueen Husqvarna leads Mid America Auctions' Las Vegas event

with 10 comments



Photos courtesy Mid America Auctions

In addition to the motorcycle auctions by Auction America and Sportbikes scheduled for next month, comes word of a third motorcycle auction in Las Vegas the same weekend, and this sale by Mid America Auctions promises to be huge. More than 375 bikes have already been consigned, three of which have direct ties to Steve McQueen.

Among the bikes for sale will be McQueen's 1971 Husqvarna 400 Cross, described by the auction as "Sports Illustrated magazine cover bike competitively raced by him. Documented w/ serial number verification, photos, factory & dealer bills of sale, repair orders for the missing front fender." Note the lack of a definite or indefinite article. Other McQueen-owned bikes to be offered are a 1938 Triumph Speed Twin that was restored for McQueen by Bud Eakins at his Hollywood shop and a 1940 Indian inline-four that was originally purchased from the McQueen estate in 1984 and is now being sold by the purchaser's son. Steve McQueen's wife will also be in attendance at the auction, presenting two books she has written about her life with the legendary movie icon, avid motorcycle collector and expert rider.



Classic bikes on the block at MidAmerica Vegas Auction

12/30/2010 10:42:14 AM
by Richard Beckus
Tags:



Lovely 1975 Rickman Honda will be offered at MidAmerica's

It's almost January, and that means classic motorcycle auction time in Vegas gets ready for its 20th Annual Las Vegas Antique Motorcycle Auction. As with a dinner auction on Thursday, with 75 bikes planned to be sold, an offer and again Saturday with a final 250 lots.

Although some people don't appreciate it, the annual MidAmerica Las Vegas motorcycle show as it is an auction. Thanks to a long-standing reputation as an auction, the event draws a particularly rich assortment of motorcycle collector's items. Husqvarna's 400 Cross is the first of the bikes to be offered.