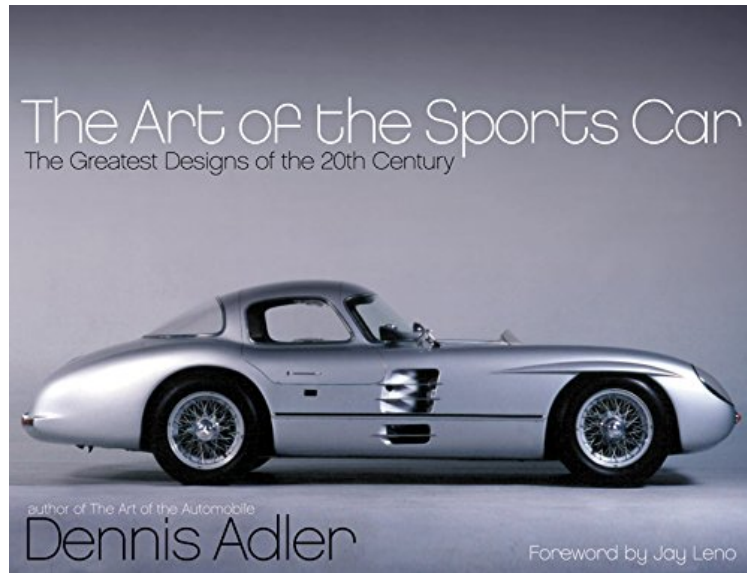


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The Art of the Sports Car: The Greatest Designs of the 20th Century

Dennis Adler

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Dennis Adler : The Art of the Sports Car: The Greatest Designs of the 20th Century before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of the Sports Car: The Greatest Designs of the 20th Century:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great book with great photos that somehow forgot to mention ...By Elan BodwickA great book with great photos that somehow forgot to mention Lotus nor include any photos of the classic Elite and Elan or even a Porsche 550 which is almost unforgivable- even the Jaguar section has limited photos of the classic E type which many consider the most beautiful car ever. How you can skimp over some of these cars is puzzling? Hence why I deducted two stars from what could have been a checkered finish.12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Great book, beautiful!By S. KochelThis is a great book of historical sports cars, with lots of information and beautiful pictures. This is a neat reference and a great coffee table book, very informative and very very classy too! I really recommend this for a car person, of just someone who loves the history or simply the art of beautiful cars.Sam Kochel: STi driver1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. GREAT BookBy JFGreat work of art - I love the history and evolution of the car. I would recommend it to any car lover. Photographs are KILLER and worth the purchase price aloud.

There are great cars, and then there are sports cars, those that have not only withstood the test of time but steadfastly defied it -- cars that have remained desirable and valuable for more than 50 years, to become the most treasured automotive artifacts of our time. Many of the automobiles pictured in this book are stunning examples of the motorcar and require no further credentials. Others have been selected because they were benchmarks in the history of the sports car in this century. Illustrated throughout, with more than three hundred color photos, this gorgeous profile of the most highly coveted cars on earth is sure to evoke the dream of all car enthusiasts: speed and adventure.

From Publishers Weekly Auto buffs will be in raptures over this lusciously illustrated history of the sports car. Adler, editor of Car Collector magazine, provides a highly detailed account of the evolution of small cars with big engines, recounting the travails of famous auto designers, the engineering and styling innovations they pioneered and the races and road rallies at which cars proved (and advertised) themselves. His narrative dwells mostly on European makes such as Jaguar, Porsche and Ferrari, but also discusses the American Corvette and muscle cars like the Ford Thunderbird and the Dodge Challenger. Sounding a frankly erotic note, Adler writes that "this book is, then, about passion" and "lust" and "about whatever fuels your desires when...you whisper to yourself, 'I want one.'" Hard-core aficionados will derive much gratification from the detailed descriptions of mechanical design and performance ("the engine developed 105 horsepower at 4,800 rpm, with a 72mm x 100 mm (2.8 inch x 3.9 inch) bore times stroke and 7.5:1 compression ratio"). But just about anyone will be entranced at the pictures of classic cars meticulously restored, polished to a sheen and photographed on opulent country estates. It's a "high-speed tour" of the greatest sports cars in history, enthuses the famously car-collecting Leno, and while this volume is a kind of car porn, many of these machines are indeed beautiful enough to merit the term "art." Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

About the Author Dennis Adler is the editor in chief of Car Collector magazine and consultant/historian/author for four publishers and organizations, including senior contributing editor of The Star -- the official publication of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. He serves on the Meadow Brook Concours d'Elegance Selection Committee and as a chief class judge at the Meadow Brook and Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. He is a noted portraitist of automotive collectors and their collections and is the author of twenty automotive books, including *The Art of the Sports Car* and *The Art of the Automobile* (Collins). He lives in western Pennsylvania.