

MODELS IN SCALE

BY JAY ENGEL

From Hollywood re-creations to one of Ralph Lauren's most famous makeovers, scale modelers have been busy with these new cars.



1955 STUDEBAKER PRESIDENT SPEEDSTER

As a one-year-only model, the Speedster has been elevated to icon status and is the most sought-after post-World War II Studebaker. Danbury Mint worked its magic on this dramatic model. Finished in Hialeah Green and Sunflower Yellow

(with a matching leather and vinyl yellow diamond-pattern interior), this image has the rare Packard Passmaster V8, with its gold valve covers and air cleaner. The model is highlighted by its factory wire-wheel covers, turned aluminum dash fas-

cia, operable fender vents and fuel-filler door and even a prop rod to hold open the chrome-festooned hood. Available for order now with delivery in October. \$149, www.danburymint.com



1938 PACKARD TWELVE CONVERTIBLE VICTORIA

Those who saw the Oscar-winning Hollywood film *Chinatown* might recognize the ivory Packard as a replica of the elegant ride of Evelyn Mulwray, played by actress Faye Dunaway.

This 1:43-scale resin model was designed by Raffi Minasian and depicts the luxurious styling of late-1930s Packards. This is a rare Packard; only 11 were built in 1938. The car epitomized the quality and elegance that were Packard, pre-World War II.

Automodello delivers a replica nearly as exquisite as the original 1:1. Each model comes with a raised and lowered top.

Each is finished in a deep Berkshire Green (a commemorative color for the Packard Club National Meet) and is available for \$146 with only 146 produced.

The Packard Ivory model is limited to 500 pieces.

\$95, www.automodello.com



1938 BUGATTI TYPE 57 SC ATLANTIC COUPE

This car and its scale-model cousin have an interesting history. The Sapphire Blue Atlantic Coupe, one of three built, was commissioned by British businessman R. B. Pope and was delivered to him in May 1938. He kept it for more than 30 years and drove it more than 37,000 miles.

Purchased by fashion designer and avid car collector Ralph Lauren in 1988, the Bugatti was restored under the direction of Paul Russell and emerged—extensively remodeled—in black. Lauren, in consultation with leading Bugatti experts, produced an authentically accessorized classic. Replicated in 1:18 scale, this CMC creation delivers the car's magnetic charm.

Made up of more than 1,700 parts, this model re-creates a classic with nearly all of the operating features of the original, captivating all who see it—just as the 1:1 did at Pebble Beach in 1990.

\$372, www.cmc-modelcar.com/us



1956 BUICK ROADMASTER CONVERTIBLE

Long, low and lovely, the Buick Roadmaster was 217 inches of massive automobile that personified General Motors luxury as design boss Harley Earl saw it.

This wonderful 1:24-scale confection appears in flamboyant Tahiti Coral over Dover White, set off by a set of Buick OEM Kelsey-Hayes wire wheels.

Details abound on this model. The 322-cid "nailhead" V8 appears underhood in all its glory, the minute emblems and scripts all chrome-foiled and sealed. The simulated leather interior is done in black and white.

Fender and hood ornaments, Buick's signature "portholes," the individual block letter Buick and Roadmaster identification, plus all of the brightwork "jewelry" found on the original car have been precisely replicated.

This is magnificent 1950s kitsch. \$149, www.danburymint.com