



Media Contact

Gina Costa
Phone: 574-631-4720
Fax: 574-631-8501
PO Box 368
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556
gcosta@nd.edu

University of **NOTRE DAME**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Roaring Twenties Exuberance and Depression Era Extravagance Selections from the Jack B. Smith Jr. Automobile Collection

Four Classic Automobiles: August 17 to November 30, 2014

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA – May 27, 2014

Experience the exuberance of the Roaring Twenties as well as Depression era extravagance by viewing four classic automobiles on view throughout the 2014 Notre Dame football season. Manufactured within the American heartland—Detroit, South Bend, and Auburn, Indiana—these classic automobiles epitomize American car design as well as technological prowess of the era.

Cars featured include an award-winning 1932 Auburn boattail Speedster, aptly named following speed records it earned as well as for “boattail” streamlining that reduced the ability for competing race cars to draft the Speedster. While an extremely elegant automobile, the 1932 Packard Light Eight evidenced financial stresses the Great Depression placed on the Packard Motor Car Company. This smaller, lighter, and more affordable Packard roadster featured a rumble seat, a special compartment for toting ones golf clubs, and the Packard “shovel-nose” grill. The 1931 Cadillac is a dual cowl phaeton—passenger seating is separate from the driver’s cockpit and features its own, second windshield. The 1923 Studebaker Big Six Speedster was likely manufactured in Detroit. Studebaker National Museum Archivist Andrew Beckman indicates, “The Big Six was Studebaker’s flagship model during its nine-year run and drew its name from its 353 cubic inch inline six-cylinder power plant that produced 65 horsepower in 1923.”

The automobiles are generously lent from the Jack B. Smith Jr. Automobile Collection. Smith is a member of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts Advisory Council at the University of Notre Dame, where he and his wife Laura D. Arauz Smith funded the Laura and Jack Boyd Smith Jr. Endowment for Excellence in Performing Arts; they generously support the Notre Dame Summer Shakespeare program (Mrs. Smith serves on its advisory board); they have also supported a fellowship in the

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Mendoza School of Business, The Smith Library Collection in Business, and teaching labs within the Jordan Hall of Science.



Photo Caption: *1932 Auburn 8-100 A Speedster*, designed by Alan Leamy, Auburn Automobile Company, Auburn, Indiana.

For additional images contact Gina Costa at gcosta@nd.edu or 574-631-4720.

Related Programs

The public is invited to a free exhibition reception scheduled for 2 to 4 pm, Sunday, September 14, 2014. Eric and Vivian LaVine, co-owners of LaVine Restorations, will speak at the reception about classic car restoration. Watch the Snite Museum of Art website for information about related events, including a jazz concert and a silent film.

The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame

The Snite Museum of Art is located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, near South Bend, Indiana. Beginning August 23, 2014, Museum hours will be 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; and noon–5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free. Museum information is available at 574-631-5466 or at the Museum’s website: <http://sniteartmuseum.nd.edu>. Driving directions and parking information are available at <http://nd.edu/visitors/directions/>. Find us at inthebend.com and facebook.com.

The Snite Museum of Art provides opportunities to enjoy, respond to, learn from, and be inspired by original works of art. As a department of the University of Notre Dame, the Museum supports teaching and research, creates and shares knowledge, celebrates diversity through the visual arts, serves the local community, and explores spiritual dimensions of art.

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