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The Piston Foundation

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Piston Foundation to Benefit from Auction of Sean Cridland's "Ultimate Artists Edition" of "Brumos: An American Racing Icon" on Bring a Trailer

All proceeds of the sale of this original edition painted by Thiago Romero will go to "Sponsor a Piston Scholar" Initiative

GREENWICH, Conn. (April 24, 2023) – The Piston Foundation, whose mission is to bring more young people into the trades of the collector car industry, in particular with its "Sponsor a Piston Scholar" initiative, will receive 100 percent of the proceeds of a Bring a Trailer charity auction at <https://bringatrailer.com/listing/brumos-ultimate-artists-edition-book-set/>, which is offering the "Ultimate Artists Edition" of Sean Cridland's book, "Brumos: An American Racing Icon."

Bidding on the book, a four-volume set wrapped in original artwork by world-renowned motorsports artist Thiago Romero, is now live and will end on May 1, 2023. The proceeds, including the five percent BaT buyer's fee, will be donated to the Piston Foundation, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

This original "Ultimate Artists Edition" of Sean Cridland's iconic book that documents the 120-year history of the famous American Porsche racing team is one of 12 special editions Cridland commissioned from famous artists. He has then offered them to charitable organizations to auction for their benefit.

Romero's artwork focuses on the late race-car driver Peter Gregg, whose name is synonymous with the Brumos brand since the 1970s, depicting Gregg's helmet as it would have been placed in pit lane, waiting for him to put on before his next driving shift.

Romero's distinctive technique of "abstract expressionism" is evident in his design, including the recognizable Brumos colors, the number 59, and an image of Gregg working on his all-conquering Porsche 935, as he drove to championships in 1977-79.

It is a one-of-a-kind edition that any racing history fan would cherish. This edition also includes an extra volume with 96 pages of photos of all the Brumos drivers, crew members, and cars.

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This set is also signed by the artist, and, in the Collectors Supplement, it is signed by Hurley Haywood, Roger Penske, Jan Brundage, Jack Atkinson, Dano Davis, Jim Busby, Jennifer Johnson, Deborah Gregg, Susan Snodgrass, Kerry Morse, Richard Baron, and Sean Cridland.

Even without the original Romero painting, this book is a \$959.59 value.

You may view a full video of the set at <https://youtu.be/sV7aK0C0nfc>.

This is the second auction with which the Piston Foundation has partnered with Bring a Trailer. The first, which ended in March 2023, netted \$135,753, enough to award 27 scholarships in 2023. The Piston Foundation's goal is to award 50 scholarships this year.

"We are proud of our association with Bring a Trailer and their contributions to the 'Sponsor a Piston Scholar' initiative," said Jeff Mason, president and COO of the Piston Foundation. "It's the support of organizations like this that helps the Piston Foundation with its mission to build a new and diverse generation of tradespeople in the collector car industry.

"We are also extremely grateful to Sean Cridland for donating this beautifully painted edition to support our cause."

The first three volumes of the book track the emergence of the American sports-car scene in the United States from a small cult-like phenomenon to a powerhouse business, driving several professional racing series and a multi-million-dollar Jacksonville, Florida-based dealership most well-known by the racing exploits of Peter Gregg and Hurley Haywood in the 1970s. But it doesn't stop there. The book covers the post-Peter Gregg era of the 1980s and the racing championships of 1990s and 2000s, all the way to the opening of The Brumos Collection in 2020.

The personalities mixed into the Brumos story are nearly endless, with aviation pioneer Glenn Hammond Curtiss, beach-racer Sig Haugdahl, racing impresario Andy Granatelli, Porsche stalwarts Ferry Porsche, Max Hoffman, Baron Huschke von Hanstein, racing driver and business magnate Roger Penske, larger than life Brumos manager Bob Snodgrass, award-winning actor Patrick Dempsey, endurance racing legend Hurley Haywood and many, many more.

"Thiago is an internationally renowned artist whose work is just stunning," said Cridland. "He already has a large collector base, and his paintings are, quite frankly, valuable, even without the Brumos book inside of them. On top of that, the book encompasses a 120-year history, not just of the Brumos dealership and race team itself, but it stretches back to the early 1900s. Personality after personality who were important to the American automotive and aviation history are featured throughout this story. And it's one that I think most people, even those within the Brumos circle, weren't familiar with."

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One hundred percent of the donations to the “Sponsor a Piston Scholar” initiative at <https://pistonfoundation.org/sponsor-a-piston-scholar/> goes to fund scholarships. The Piston Foundation awarded 10 scholarships in its inaugural campaign in 2022. “Our goal is to reach 50 scholarships in 2023,” said Mason, “and every dollar we receive will help provide a scholarship for a deserving automotive student.”

A video about the "Sponsor a Piston Scholar" initiative may be viewed at <https://youtu.be/XLJkpbI0Go>.

About the Author:

Besides writing and publishing *BRUMOS: An American Racing Icon*, Sean Cridland, Ph.D., also co-wrote and published *HURLEY: From the Beginning*. He has also contributed a chapter to *Forty-Six: The Birth of Porsche Motorsports* and is the author and publisher of the forthcoming book, *Renée Brinkerhoff's World Rally Tour*. Cridland's writing and photography can also be found in his many articles for *Porsche Panorama*, *Excellence*, *356 Registry Magazine*, *000 magazine*, and Porsche-themed websites. Previous to his automotive writing and photography career, Cridland taught philosophy at the college level, was a world class ski racer, and spent summers rafting the rivers of the American Southwest. Originally from upstate New York, Cridland currently resides in Northern New Mexico. He's the recipient of the 2019 MPG Bob D'Olivio Photography Award, and the 2018 winner of the Non-Fiction Book Award from the American Auto Writers & Broadcasters Association.

About the Artist:

Thiago Romero is a contemporary artist specializing in motorsports art. His pieces are most recognized for their unique and distinctive technique of "abstract expressionism". His work has been exhibited and sold internationally, including special projects he's done with the IndyCar, IMSA and F1 series, and commissioned paintings for racing icons such as Rubens Barrichello and Emerson Fittipaldi. His style is characterized by a vibrant, expressive, and spontaneous approach, obtained by the rapid application of different shades of acrylic paint, water and other elements. Romero balances his passion for painting with action sports. While he paints almost every day, he finds creative inspiration while skydiving, surfing and paramotoring.

About Bring a Trailer:

Bring a Trailer (BaT) is a digital auction platform and enthusiast community founded in 2007 to connect buyers and sellers of classic, collector and enthusiast vehicles. BaT curates vehicles submitted by sellers and helps them craft transparent auction listings that present the vehicles as they are — without superlatives or dubious used-car-lot language. At the end of a successful auction, BaT connects the seller and buyer so they can work together to complete the transaction. BaT's knowledgeable community of more than 900,000 registered users vet each listing so potential buyers can bid with confidence. BaT auctions are listed at a flat rate, starting at just \$99 with a sell-through rate of 83 percent. Bring a Trailer Shipping is the company's fully

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integrated vehicle transport service, available for both BaT auction listings and private vehicles in the contiguous 48 U.S. states. For more information, visit www.bringatrailer.com.

About The Piston Foundation:

The Piston Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) public charity helping young people acquire the education and hands-on training to build a career in the collector car industry. The Foundation provides trade school scholarships, supports shops and aspiring technicians with apprenticeships, and advocates for skilled trade careers in automotive restoration. www.pistonfoundation.org