



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Gooding & Company Brings Two of the World's Most Collectible and Iconic Cars –  
a Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Alloy Gullwing and Ferrari 250 GT LWB California Spider –  
to its Scottsdale Auctions Next Month**

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (December 20, 2011) – [Gooding & Company](http://www.goodingandcompany.com), the world's leading auction house for collectors of rare and exceptional cars, is pleased to announce two of its latest consignments for the Scottsdale Auctions: a late-production, Ferrari Classiche-certified **1959 Ferrari 250 GT LWB California Spider** factory-equipped with disc brakes and a rare, matching-numbers **1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Alloy Gullwing**.

“The Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Alloy Gullwing and Ferrari LWB California Spider we’re offering are extraordinary automobiles, fantastic examples of two of the most iconic collectible cars of their era, which have become must-have inclusions in many top collections,” says David Gooding, President and founder of Gooding & Company. “It’s been nearly five years since an Alloy Gullwing has surfaced for public sale and this desirable, late-production California Spider equally represents an exciting opportunity for those in the market.”

These fine cars join the **Moretti Collection of six Packard Twelves, 1971 Lamborghini Miura P400 SV** and **1971 Maserati Ghibli 4.9 SS Spider** to round out another exceptional presentation of rare and extraordinary cars at Gooding & Company’s Scottsdale Auctions on January 20 & 21.

**1959 Ferrari 250 GT LWB California Spider** (*Chassis No. 1505 GT; Engine No. 1505 GT*)

As the 36<sup>th</sup> of 50 LWB California Spiders built, this rare Ferrari was fortunate to receive the factory’s most desirable advancements, including 4-wheel disc brakes, a competition-inspired cold air box with velocity stacks and what many believe to be the most attractive Scaglietti coachwork. With Ferrari Classiche certification, this matching-numbers California Spider is even further set apart from the pack for having excellent provenance with more than four decades of elite ownership among great Ferrari connoisseurs. In a sea of red Ferraris, this white over navy example turns heads for more reasons than one. Estimate: \$3.4 – \$3.8 million.

## **The Age of the Gullwing**

The dynamic, New York car dealer, Max Hoffman, can be credited for inspiring the creation of the iconic 300 SL Gullwing. Thanks to Hoffman, Mercedes-Benz responded to the market's demand for a high-end sports car inspired by the marque's great 1950s racing success and the limited, 1400-car run of the 300 SL Gullwing was produced. Mercedes-Benz built only 29 light-weight, alloy-bodied versions for owners who had racing in mind. In addition to their lighter weight, the alloy Gullwings were equipped with a high-performance NSL motor, Rudge wheels and stiff suspension.

Unlike most, this matching-numbers, silver over plaid **1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Alloy Gullwing** with rudge wheels was never raced. The Kirkland Concours d'Elegance class-winner is in excellent, show-quality condition following a restoration by the preeminent 300 SL specialist Rudi Koniczek. Gooding & Company Specialists believe it "will be an exciting day" when this car is presented in Scottsdale next month, because it will be the first time in nearly five years that an Alloy Gullwing has surfaced for public auction. Estimate: \$2.5 - \$3 million.

Gooding & Company will be conducting its annual Scottsdale Auctions on January 20 and 21, beginning at 11 a.m. both days, at the Scottsdale Fashion Square at 68th Street and East Camelback Road. Guests may preview the cars on Thursday and Friday, January 19 and 20, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, January 21 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. An auction catalogue for \$80 admits two to the viewing and auction. General admission to the viewing and auction can be purchased at the tent for \$30 per person. Bidder registration forms, press credentials and additional auction information are available at [www.goodingco.com](http://www.goodingco.com) or by calling (310) 899-1960. Auctions are broadcast live at [www.goodingco.com/viewauction](http://www.goodingco.com/viewauction).

### **About Gooding & Company:**

[Gooding & Company](http://www.goodingco.com), internationally celebrated for its world-class automotive auctions, provides unparalleled service in the collector car market, offering a wide range of services including private and estate sales, appraisals and collection management. Preceding each auction, a complete catalogue is made available online at [www.goodingco.com](http://www.goodingco.com) and a virtual auction guide is published via Gooding & Company's IAC award-winning iPhone and iPad app. Gooding & Company will conduct its annual [Amelia Island Auction](#) on March 9, 2012. For additional vehicle information and up-to-the-minute results, follow Gooding & Company on [Facebook](#) and Twitter [@GoodingCompany](#).

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