

Media Release

RENOWNED DINGMAN COLLECTION JOINS RM'S EXPANDING 2012 CALENDAR

The Dingman Collection 2012

- *RM Auctions presents 'The Dingman Collection 2012,' a multi-day sale June 9 – 10 in Hampton, New Hampshire*
- *Auction features an exceptional series of nearly 50 high-point automobiles, including flathead Fords and over 1,000 automotive signs, including porcelain and neon signs and other automobilia, all offered without reserve*
- *Sale further consolidates RM's reputation as the specialists for private and estate collection auctions*

BLenheim, Ontario (20 February, 2012) – Building on its reputation as the specialists for private and estate collection sales, RM Auctions is delighted to announce the addition of *The Dingman Collection* to its expanding 2012 calendar. Scheduled June 9 – 10 in Hampton, New Hampshire, just 50 miles from Boston, Massachusetts, the upcoming sale is a continuation of RM's highly successful Dingman auction in 2006.

The result of many years of careful and meticulous acquisition by prominent businessman, investor and philanthropist, Michael Dingman, a former Ford Motor Company director for over 21 years, the Dingman Collection is regarded as one of the finest of its kind. From a remarkable series of automobiles, each restored by marque experts to be the best of its type, to one of the world's most impressive automotive sign collections, the offering is unique in terms of quality and presentation.

The upcoming sale will feature nearly 50 automobiles and well in excess of 1,000 signs, each offered 'without reserve,' presenting a range of exclusive ownership opportunities to savvy collectors.

"We are honoured to have been entrusted with the sale of Michael Dingman's esteemed collection," says Mike Fairbairn, Director and Co-founder, RM Auctions. *"The collection is wonderfully representative of Ford's history, spanning many years of automotive production, complemented by stunning signage that illuminated dealerships, advertised automotive products and enticed you to stop at one gas station over another. It reflects Mr. Dingman's eye for exceptional quality and incredible drive for perfection, with each lot presented in immaculate condition, representing the very finest of its category."*

For Ford enthusiasts, the Dingman Collection comprises a superb assortment from Ford's flathead era, with highly desirable V-8 Fords and Mercurys as well as V-12-powered Lincolns. Of particular interest, most feature open body styles. Also on offer are a number of spectacular woodies, along with the centrepiece of the collection, the **1936 Ford Model 48 Cabriolet** with coachwork by the German firm Gläser, the winner of a new class created at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in 2011. Each restored motor car was submitted to marque specialists with instructions for restoration to the highest possible standard – the objective being to attain 1,000-point scores at Early Ford V-8 Club national meets.

In addition to the automobiles, the sale will also lift the gavel on more than 1,000 rare and desirable neon, tin and porcelain signs, each of which has either been masterfully preserved for its remarkable originality and inimitable patina or submitted to experts for restoration, in order to ensure that the quality

and appearance matches the original finish as closely as possible. The variety of signs is tremendous, with a key focus on automotive-related pieces, ranging from dealership and car company signs to petroliana as well as assorted memorabilia and other non-automotive lots. All were carefully chosen by experts who scoured the country in search of the very best examples.

“The selection of signs is truly extraordinary and offers a wonderful story about American automotive history,” adds Fairbairn. *“Everything from the building of the first interstates to 1950s Americana is reflected in each piece of neon and fully restored tin and porcelain. Furthermore, each neon sign is presented in fully operational condition.”*

The upcoming Dingman Collection auction adds to a growing number of private collection sales scheduled for RM’s 2012 calendar, highlighting the Company’s unsurpassed expertise in the cataloguing, marketing and advertising of single-vendor sales. In addition to the June sale, enthusiasts will flock to Boca Raton, Florida this week for the highly anticipated Milhous Collection sale presented by RM in association with Sotheby’s, February 24-25.

“RM is known for hosting more single-vendor sales than any other collector car auction house, and pride ourselves on our strong track record for consistently exceeding high estimates at our private collection auctions. Stay tuned as we announce even more private sales in the coming months,” Fairbairn adds.

Further information and full event details on the Dingman Collection 2012 will be posted online at www.rmauctions.com in the coming weeks.