MULLIN
AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM

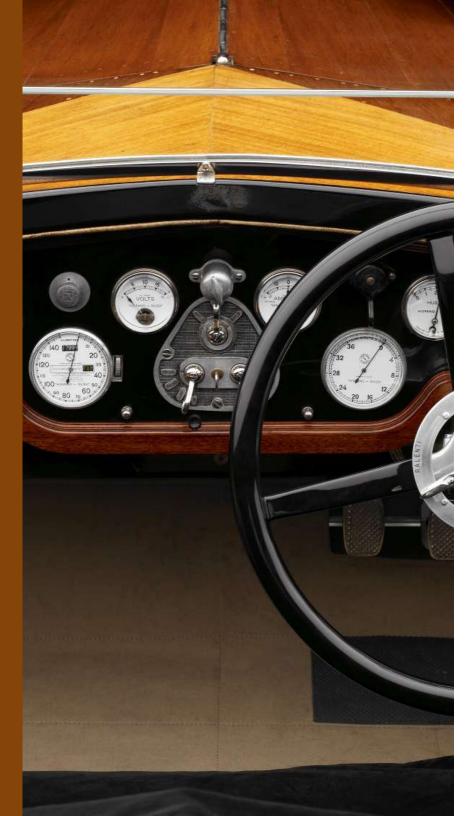## HISPANO-SUIZA TYPE H6B
"Skiff Torpedo" 1922

Hispano-Suiza's Jewel

Hispano-Suiza was known for refined chassis featuring the latest automotive innovations. When the H6 was introduced in 1919, it was one of the highest-quality chassis in the world.

Hispano-Suiza brought out a new extraordinary model at the 1919 Paris Auto Salon—the Type H6—and it was soon followed by its variations: the Types H6B and H6C. The showpiece of the Type H6 was its enormous six- cylinder engine built with traditional Hispano-Suiza refinement devoid of avant-garde technology.

In 1922, wealthy French patron Suzanne Deutsch de la Meurthe purchased this new Hispano-Suiza H6B chassis and asked that it be delivered to Henri Labourdette for a skiff torpédo body. Jean-Henri developed the firm's iconic "skiff" design in 1912 for a 20CV Panhard & Levassor chassis. This wooden design was inspired by the torpedo shapes of boats.

Little is known about this vehicle's history until the 1970s when French collector Hervé Charbonneaux purchased the chassis, engine and body separately from

one another and attempted to restore the vehicle. After numerous failed restoration attempts, the project was sold and subsequently changed owners until 1999, when marque historian Jules Heumann learned of the body's authenticity. He was dedicated to its preservation and, therefore, purchased and completed its restoration. In 2008 Heumann exhibited the car at Pebble Beach.

PROFILE

Coachbuilder	Labourdette
Chassis number	12198
Profile type	Touring
Body type	Coupé
Number made	1 of 2,614
Acceleration	0
Top Speed	unavailable

BODY | CHASSIS

Front brakes type	4-wheel servo-assisted drum
Rear brakes type	4-wheel servo-assisted drum
Front suspension type	Live axle with semi-elliptical leaf springs
Length	16' 4"
Height (Ground line to highest roof)	5' 8"
Width	6' 1"

ENGINE

Engine number	301224
Type	Inline
Number of cylinders	6
Engine construction	Aluminum
Displacement	6
BHP at 3,800 rpm RPM	135
Gearbox	3-speed manual
Number of gears	3
Overdrive	0