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Believe it or not, it really is a Jaguar

All-British event the biggest in Canada

Nigel Matthews

Special to The Province

Friday, May 20, 2005

If you combine the creative talents of Vancouver's international shoe designer and a team of master craftsmen from RX Autoworks in North Vancouver, the result is probably the greatest custom Jaguar Mk 10 ever built.

The boys back at Browns Lane in Coventry, where this car was built in 1965, would be amazed.

The present owner, John Fluevog, was in his mid-teens when his father took delivery of the car in 1966. Fluevog Sr. would be pleasantly surprised at how the car looks today, having often mentioned that it should be fitted with an American V8 and a lower roof line.

Fluevog's son considered restoring the family car to its original condition, but the economics made no sense, hence the customized option.

While the team at RX is renowned for turning out Pebble Beach class winners, creating a one-off, custom-built Jaguar has turned out to be a refreshing challenge for them.

Fluevog added many personal design touches, from the two-tone paint design and colour to the more related skills of his trade, such as the selection of a rich brown, crocodile-stamped leather for interior finishing touches. The customization includes an LT1 Chevrolet engine, air conditioning, air-ride suspension, 31/2" roof chop, rear spats, rounded rear end and custom bumpers.

If you would like to have a closer look at this car, attend the All British Classic Car Show tomorrow at Van Dusen Gardens, 37th and Oak Street, in Vancouver.

The gates open at 10 a.m., so bring your camera and set aside the remainder of the day to take in Canada's largest gathering of British cars and North America's second largest event.

For more details, please visit www.westerndriver.com/abfm.

Nigel Matthews is the appraiser of vintage and collector cars for the Insurance Corporation of B.C.

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