



11-14 OTTOBRE 2018

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RALLYLEGEND 2018 (11-14 OCTOBER) TO FEATURE WORLD CHAMPIONS FROM RALLYING HISTORY, AS WELL AS BIG NAMES FROM ALL ACROSS EUROPE

The Republic of San Marino. Mikko Hirvonen and Craig Breen on the racetrack, Kris Meeke among the Legend Stars, Miki Biasion, Juha Kankkunen, Markku Alen, Andrea Aghini, Franco Cunico, Riccardo Patrese and Emanuele Pirro taking part in the Martini Racing Celebration: all great champions who represent the irresistible appeal of Rallylegend.

Yet the long and prestigious entry list to the San Marino event – featuring one hundred and fifty dream cars and just as many passionate teams from across Europe and the rest of the world - also includes many drivers and navigators who boast important titles, many of which scored in their own nations, for whom Rallylegend is an opportunity to get back behind the wheel, to have fun and to create fun.

THE HISTORIC QUEENS OF RALLYLEGEND. The real queens of Rallylegend are the historic vehicles of course. Stand-outs include the “oldest”, the Steyr Puch of Austrian Moessler and the Ford Lotus Cortina of Nothdurfter, both from 1965. Then the Renault 4GTL, with which Portuguese driver Pinto Dos Santos competed in World Rally years ago. San Marino drivers Davide Cesarini (Ford Escort Rs) and Stefano Rosati (Talbot Lotus) are among the favourites, but also ready to be admired are Claudio Covini’s Lancia 037, the Audi Quattro belonging to Latvian Ivars Velme, the absolute star of historic rallies in his own country, as well as Bazzocchi and Bertelli’s Fiat 124 Abarths, unusual Ladas and the always appealing Ford Escort RS.

TRELLES-BEDINI, A DUEL BETWEEN LEGENDS. Rallylegend will stage another battle between Uruguayan Gustavo Trelles (Toyota Celica St 205), multiple world champion, and Italian Piergiorgio Bedini, whose greatest achievements came in the European championship and in Italy. He too drives the Toyota Celica, alongside Faustino Mucci. Trelles and Bedini have only rarely competed against each other in international specials, with varying levels of success. Favourites for the win at Rallylegend also include Salvatore Riolo (Subaru Legacy), a several time winner at San Marino, Marcello Colombini, a local driver who always proves competitive with the BMW M3, and Simone Romagna (Lancia Delta 16V), category winner here last year. Having taken part in every edition of Rallylegend, Marco De Marco (Subaru Legacy) will be in attendance, as will Flaviano Polato, with the small but gutsy Fiat 126.

“WRC-KIT CAR” WITH MANY BIG NAMES AT RALLYLEGEND. With Mikko Hirvonen and Craig Breen lining up, the “World Rally Car-Kit Car” category is set to steal the headlines. Not least because Italian drivers Luca Pedersoli (Citroen C4 WRC) and “Dedo” De Dominicis (Subaru Impreza WRC) will be doing their best to get in amongst the big names. More than fifteen WRC vehicles will take to the start line, from the first Peugeot 206 WRC and Toyota Corolla from the late 90s, to the 2008 Ford Focus WRC and Citroen C4. Standout names include Danish driver Kristian Poulsen (Toyota Corolla WRC), who scored excellent results in the German championship from 2004 to 2006, Czech Jiri Jirovec (Toyota Corolla WRC), who boasts a long career in national racing series and, nowadays, in historic European races, Enrico Tortone (Ford Focus WRC), who has done well in WRC open event races, and Belgian Philippe Olczyk (Peugeot 206 WRC), a Rallylegend devotee.





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THE LEGEND STARS SHOW. This is the category in which lap times don't count and where dream cars and drivers from all over Europe prepare to put on a real show. Kris Meeke is the "super star" of the group, along with other drivers who have taken to the wheel of countless historic rally cars including the Lancia Delta S4, Audi Quattro, Lancia 037, Porsche, Mitsubishi, Opel Ascona 400, Subaru Impreza, Toyota Celica, Lancia Delta Integrale, even a rare Hyundai Accent WRC belonging to Greek driver Putsakis, and many more besides. Brit Frank Kelly, an acrobat with the Ford Escort MK2, is sure to be warmly welcomed, as is Paolo Valli, with the Lancia Delta S4. Valli is one of the creators of Rallylegend, as well as president of FAMS, the San Marino Motoring Federation. From America, Ramana Lagemann (Subaru S7 WRC), a factory Subaru driver in the USA in the early 2000s who has been very successful in the X Games Rally and SCCA Pro Rally in Group N, and from Ireland, Thomas Fitzmaurice (Subaru Impreza WRC), the star of various Irish national series. Chantal Galli, from Switzerland, the women's Italian rally champion in 1986 and 1988, will be at Rallylegend with the Lancia Delta Integrale. German journalist Michael Gerber (Toyota Corolla WRC) will once again line up, as will fellow countryman Manfred Pommer (Audi Quattro), European rallycross vice-champion in the mid-90s. Highly experienced driver Franco Corradin (VW Golf) will also take part, as will Edoardo Bresolin (Lancia Rally 037), who did well in World Rally just a few years ago. Among the big names opening the track is Graziano Rossi (BMW M3), a former motorcycle rider and the father of Valentino Rossi, while Paolo Diana is sure to keep the crowd entertained.

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