



Steiger: Die Geschichte einer schwäbischen Autofabrik in den 20er Jahren

Author: Michael Schick

Publisher: Self-published by the author

www.dersteiger.de

Price: € 49

Hardback (8.5 by 12 in). 392 pages with c. 600 illustrations.

ISBN: 978-3-00-055314-1

Steiger cars were among Germany's finest sporting automobiles of the 1920's, yet only two are known to survive. Nevertheless, marque specialist Michael Schick published a book on this largely forgotten marque in 1999 – and sold more than 2000 copies! Now, with a wealth of new information and photographs at hand, Michael presents a much-expanded second edition, running to 392 instead of 160 pages.

Steiger, based in rural Southern Germany, was an unlikely manufacturer of sports cars. Prospering in the textile business, the factory was used as an aircraft repair facility in World War One. The firm then tied its luck after the armistice with high-quality, expensive sporting cars. Highly esteemed by connoisseurs, approximately 1200 cars were built before production ceased in 1926.

Business history is covered along with the technical evolution of the cars themselves, with their long-stroke, overhead camshaft engines. Racing models receive special attention – factory racers as well as private entries – and the story of both survivors is told in detail, with infectious enthusiasm. A remarkable selection of contemporary photographs makes for rewarding browsing despite possible language barriers. Self-published, with a certain DIY air to the book's design, this is a laudable effort and reasonably priced too.

Dr. Stefan Ittner



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STREAMLINED DESIGN

Author: Jared A Zichek

Publisher: Retromechanica
Available from www.americanretromechanica.com

Price: £17. Softback (8.5 by 11in)
102 pages with colour illustrations

ISBN: 978-0996875424

This small American softcover is an amalgamation of prewar and up to the minute 20th-century designs. Subtitled *Ten Amazing Designs, 1916-1939*, author Jared A Zichek created digital three-dimensional models of 10 early attempts at streamlined cars that, for various reasons, never made it to the drawing board.

Starting with the racer of Harry D Clark and ending with the Nazi-sponsored record-breaking high-speed lift, Zichek delves through long-hidden patents and calculations to bring to light designs which, had they been built, would doubt have been celebrated. The work of Jaray and other aerodynamicists is highlighted.

Each vehicle has been rendered from multiple angles and is displayed in detail by Zichek. Some patents have been reproduced, giving an idea of the work that has gone into the design of two to three dimension