



Aston Martins, MG's, Austin Healeys, Maseratis and more are making their way to the Renaissance in Ridgeland for the third annual Renaissance Euro Fest Classic European Auto and Motorcycle Show on Oct. 8. It's a classic European auto event that draws spectators from all over the country; and this year, the presence of a renowned New Orleans artist is sure to kick things into high gear.

"The Euro Fest is different because it is all European, and that is one reason we are able to attract fine automobiles from as far away as Atlanta, Dallas, New Orleans and Memphis, as well as nice local autos," said Mike Marsh, founder and director of the show. "I hope that folks will walk away feeling that they have viewed more than just a rare automobile or motorcycle and have experienced the 'Art of the Auto.'"

Marsh is a classic auto enthusiast who has

been showing his vintage Mercedes Benz at auto shows throughout the southeast.

"I've been a car guy since high school but became enthralled with Mercedes Benz in 1975 and started collecting them then," he said. "The craftsmanship, performance and style of them keeps my interest, and today I own three."

He longed for a show closer to home and finally founded one at the Renaissance. He estimates the show — free to both the public and exhibitors — has drawn more than 14,000 visitors each year.

Sure to draw an even larger crowd is the addition of New Orleans artist Lory Lockwood, who specializes in automobile and motorcycle fine art painted in a style called photorealism. She's known for her use of reflections — she captures the reflection of one car or motorcycle in the body or hubcap of another.

People are often surprised to discover there's a woman behind the paintings of what most think of as a "guy thing."

"I always find myself in a man's world, and I just continue to kind of exist in this world," Lockwood said. "But my husband is interested in cars, so we have a good time."

Lockwood started this almost by accident. She was taking a photography class and took a close-up shot of tree bark. She then turned around and saw the tree reflected in a car parked nearby. She found that more interesting, snapped a picture, and was hooked.

"I started wandering the streets looking for reflections in cars," she said. "I wasn't interested in a particular kind of car, but then we started going to shows and it evolved from there. It's a really interesting world to be in."

The way Lockwood transforms her



photographs into paintings of oils and acrylics is like something out of a dream — which is exactly how she views the “world of reflections:” “The world of reflections isn’t a real world... when you peer into the metal of a shiny car body, the plastic of car lights, mirror-like glass or any kind of chrome, your view becomes altered and distorted, fanciful and otherworldly.”

“Lory does such nice and unusual work of autos and motorcycles,” Marsh said. “She is really one of a kind. Anyone who likes any type of auto or motorcycle will enjoy viewing her

work. She brings a uniqueness to our show that will help attract even more spectators.”

Lockwood will be displaying and selling original pieces as well as prints during the show. She also does commissioned work.

“I love car events,” Lockwood said. “I love being able to talk to the people there. They love the art but they often don’t go to art galleries.”

The 2010 show drew about 150 autos from six states, as well as 13 motorcycles, and displayed many new European models as well. Exhibition is by invitation only and includes autos and

motorcycles 25 years or older and newer models of special interest. New European Auto Dealers are also part of the show, displaying current models of Mercedes Benz, Porsche, Volvo and Smart.

Autos and motorcycles are positioned by class among the various shops in The Renaissance, making for a more enjoyable experience as patrons stroll and shop.

For more information and to register your auto(s) and/or motorcycle(s), visit euro-fest.net.

