

AUTOMOTIVE

Rolls-Royce hatches heritage creation with Fabergé

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The Spirit of Ecstasy Fabergé Egg. Image courtesy of Rolls-Royce

By STAFF REPORTS

British automaker Rolls-Royce is reinterpreting its Spirit of Ecstasy mascot in an egg form with help from jeweler Fabergé.

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Together, the brands have crafted a Fabergé Egg that houses the iconic figurine, reflecting both of their abilities in bespoke creations. With only one Spirit of Ecstasy Fabergé Egg made, the piece is expected to be a collector's item.

"The Spirit of Ecstasy' Fabergé Egg was born from an intrinsic desire to further the realms of bespoke personalization," said Torsten Müller-Ötvös, CEO of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, in a statement. "Responding to the continuing demands of patrons in search of unique and cherished possessions, a designer at the House of Rolls-Royce sketched an egg, igniting a fascination that will undoubtedly become one of the most collectable items of modern times."

Bespoke object

Fabergé's eggs were originally created for Russian royalty and aristocrats. Only 50 Imperial Eggs were made before the Russian revolution in 1917, making them rare objects.

This Rolls-Royce creation is only the second "Imperial Class" egg to be commissioned since 1917.

Taking the idea of bespoke to heart for this collaboration with Rolls-Royce, the partners teamed to make a single egg. The Fabergé Egg was envisioned by the automaker's designers Stefan Monroe and Alex Innes and rendered by the jeweler's lead designer Liisa Talgren.

From there, Fabergé's workmaster Paul Jones crafted the egg with a team of seven craftspeople. The crystal figurine is housed in a six-inch-tall egg fashioned out of precious materials such as white gold, rose gold, diamonds and amethysts.

When a lever on the egg is pressed, the egg opens to reveal the Spirit of Ecstasy.



The Spirit of Ecstasy Faberg Egg opens to reveal the mascot. Image courtesy of Rolls-Royce

On Oct. 23, Rolls-Royce will reveal the egg at its headquarters in Goodwood, Britain. It will also be on view in the window of Faberg's London boutique around the holidays.

"A unique moment in both our companies' history, the creation of the Spirit of Ecstasy' Egg represents the meeting of two masters of unrivaled quality and design, showcasing two globally recognized symbols the Faberg Egg and the Spirit of Ecstasy," said Sean Gilbertson, CEO of Faberg, in a statement.

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars referred to 2017 as the "year of bespoke models" after receiving a significant number of commissions by consumers.

Commissioned Rolls-Royces are handled by the automaker's Bespoke department, which consists of a collective of designers, engineers and craftspeople, who bring discerning clients' most ambitious and personal visions to reality. Today, almost all of the Rolls-Royces to leave the brand's Goodwood, England home have bespoke elements, demonstrating consumer interest in the marque's abilities ([see story](#)).

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