

Sergio Pininfarina awarded the “Palme D’or” in Paris

Turin, January 26, 2005 - The jury at the 20th International Car Festival has awarded Sergio Pininfarina the "Palme d'Or", which will be presented tonight at the Hotel Ritz in Paris during the closing ceremony of the event.

The following motivation was given for the award: "For this twentieth edition of the Festival the jury wished to pay tribute to a particularly outstanding personality active over the past two decades: without a doubt Sergio Pininfarina is an apt choice. His prestigious name has been associated with some of the most attractive contemporary bodywork designs, but also with several magnificent commercial successes."

One of the other awards made by the jury, chaired by architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte and F1 champion Alain Prost, concerned the "Supercar of the Year" category – a triumph for the Ferrari 612 Scaglietti designed by Pininfarina.

For 20 years the International Car Festival's aim has been to pay tribute to beautiful cars in the most unexpected and, indeed, audacious creative sectors, although the maximum recognition – the "Palme d'Or" – has only been awarded previously on four occasions: in 1997 to Alain Prost, in 1998 to Nigel Mansell, in 2003 to Jean Todt and Michael Schumacher and in 2004 to Carlos Ghosn.