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Race Over to DFW Elite Toy Museum.com to See Rare Agajanian Cars
Four Unique & Rare Racers Included in Fort Worth Toy Museum's Collection

/24-7PressRelease/ - DALLAS, TX, November 13, 2007 - From 1948 until 1971, [J.C. Agajanian](#)'s race cars won three pole positions and set four track records at the [Indianapolis 500](#) - and won the race twice. Those unique, sleek cars quickly captured the fancy of both adults and children, and today they are best remembered by a few remaining tin friction toys that began hitting the shelves in late 1953.

"There were probably a total of 10 variations made, and many collectors would like to get every variation possible," said [Kirk F. White](#) (<http://www.kirkfwhite.com>), a longtime antique toy collector and dealer. "To be able to see just one of these toy cars is rare; to see more than one in the same collection is unique."

That's why the collection of four [Agajanian racers](#) at [DFW Elite Toy Museum.com](#) is such a find both for auto enthusiasts and for [toy aficionados](#). With the red-front 42 car, the 98, the blue-front 42 and the red No. 15 in his collection, DFW Elite Toy Museum owner [Ron Sturgeon](#) provides a solid representation of the toy Indy racecars, which originally were created by a Japanese company.

"One of the neatest aspects of these toys is that it's a rare case of a Japanese company doing all the tooling and die work, and creating the initial first toy," White said. "Then they passed it on to a German manufacturer and then it was passed on to the French." The sleek-bodied cars in the [DFW Elite Toy Museum.com](#) collection are between 18 and 20 inches long, and these Japanese models date back to the early 1950s.

"The open wheel race cars are very appealing to real gearheads," said [Rodney Ross](#), curator of DFW Elite Toy Museum.com. "There's something about the shape of the cars that is very appealing as well. You look at them and you just know that they are a ball to drive!"

For White, the beauty of these dirt track racecar replicas lies both in their history and their design. "The [Troy Ruttman](#) car (No. 98) was the last dirt car to win the Indy 500 in 1952," he said. "To me, these cars really represent the era of the 1950s Indy cars so well. I can't think of another one that is quite as handsome. If you want just one tin friction racing car, this is the one to have."

The [collection of Agajanian racers models](#) can be seen along with the other rare and antique toy cars in the [Toy Museum](#) inside [DFW Elite Auto Rental](#) at 5940 Eden in [Fort Worth](#). Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, with weekend hours by appointment. In Fort Worth, call 817.838. RENT (7368); in Dallas call 214.247.4700. For more information, visit them online at http://www.dfwelitemuseum.com/toy_museum.