



**WORLD CAR AWARDS**

Established 2004

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**WORLD CAR IS BACK ON THE ROAD...**

**2019 WORLD CAR AWARDS**

***Celebrating the best of today. Inspiring the best of tomorrow.***

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Toronto - June 5, 2018

***The Road to World Car*** journey never really stops. The 2019 edition of the World Car Awards begins today with two announcements: our list of 2019 jurors as well as our status as the number one awards program across the globe for the sixth consecutive year according to Prime Research's latest media influence report.

2019 marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Car Awards which has a dual mission of celebrating the best of today and inspiring the best of tomorrow. This is accomplished via two platforms:

***The Road to World Car*** is an annual journey in partnership with the New York International Show. The journey will follow more than 80 of our jurors as they test-drive the 2019 nominated cars. The official launch will take place in Paris this October. The journey will end when the winners are officially declared at the New York International Auto Show in April 2019. We will make a couple of stops along the way: in Los Angeles for our fifth annual test-drive event in November and in Geneva when we announce the top three finalists in March of 2019. The *World Car Garage* will be staged for the fourth year at the London Motor Show in May of 2019 offering a glimpse of the 2020 contenders as well as celebrating the 2019 winners announced earlier at the New York International Auto Show.

***The Road Ahead*** initiative focuses on writing, broadcasting, posting and tweeting about future trends and innovations through regular newsletters and other reports from September 2018 through to April 2019. The *Global Trends Report*, co-presented by Prime Research and Autoneum, represents the culmination of seven months' worth of research and will be revealed at the New York International Auto Show in April 2019.

Together, the dual platform along with our 83 international automotive journalists have helped the World Car Awards achieve their global status as the most visible, most powerful awards programme.

#### **2019 JURORS**

A complete list of all jurors is copied below. Please join us in welcoming 11 new jurors to the 2019 panel. They are as follows in alpha order.

**Abigail Bassett – USA** (Senior Director, *Edmunds*)

Abigail is an award winning journalist, video content producer, and manager who has been covering the automotive world for everyone from CNN to Motor Trend.

**Ginny Buckley – UK** (*Good Housekeeping, Carbuyer, BBC, Sky News*)

Ginny is a broadcaster and motoring journalist who has been writing about the automotive industry, its driving trends and reviewing cars for over 20 years.

**Luca Ciferri - Italy** (Associate Publisher & Editor, *Automotive News Europe*)

Editor of *Automotive News Europe* since 2012. Luca directs the European editorial team in France, Germany, Italy, Ireland and United Kingdom. Since 2017, Luca also serves as *Automotive News Europe* associate publisher.

**Charleen Clare – South Africa** (Editorial director *Focus* magazine; contributor: *Dekat*, cyberstoep.co.za, *Sheq Management*)

A former South African Guild of Motoring Journalists president, Motoring Journalist of the Year winner and Commercial Vehicle Journalist of the Year winner.

**Manuel Fernandez – Mexico** (Online Editor, *Automóvil Panamericano*)

Manuel's background includes working for *Car & Driver*, *Motor* magazine, as well as growing *Automovil Panamericano*. Manuel specializes in detailed reviews and product comparisons in all market segments.

**Gabriel Gélinas - Canada** (*Le Guide de l'Auto*, *Salut Bonjour* TVA television network)

Gabriel is a full-time automotive journalist since 1991 hosting car television series on various networks. He is also a contributor to *Le Guide de l'Auto*, a yearly 740-page book and website at [guideautoweb.com](http://guideautoweb.com).

**Michael Georgiadis – Greece** (*Drive* magazine)

Michael is the chief editor and main presenter for *Drive Magazine* channel on YouTube. Also contributes to *Autocar* magazine and *Newsit*.

**Toni Jalovaara – Finland** (*Tekniikan Maaailma*, *Ilta-Sanomat*, *Kaupparehti*, *Suomen Autolehti*, *Aamulehti*)

Besides writing for most of the important Finnish newspapers and car magazines, Toni's pictures and stories have been published also in Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland and Sweden.

**Renuka Kirpalani – India** (Haymarketsac India - Editor Video; Editor *Autocarshow* Times network Auto contributor – Sindhian)

Renuka is the editor and anchor of the most watched automobile show on Indian television (Times Network). She is also the head of all automotive video content for the Haymarket Group in India and has made *Autocar India* the most popular Indian automobile channel on Youtube.

**Kumi Sato - Japan** (*CarTop*, *Motor Magazine*, *CarView*, *Holiday Auto*, *Engine*, *The Motor Weekly* FM radio)

Using her racing experience, Kumi ventured into automotive media and now contributes stories to major print and web-based publications including *Carview* and *Cliccar*, in addition to regular appearances on TV and radio.

**Mohammad Zaro – Jordan** (*Sayyarat* Magazine/Automotors.me)

Mohammad is the editor-in-chief of *Sayyarat Alghad* car magazine, managing editor of [automotors.me](http://automotors.me), and recently appointed as managing editor of the widely distributed *Alam AL Sayarat* magazine and website.

**Suhaib Shashaa – United Arab Emirates** ([ArabGT.com](http://ArabGT.com))

Co-founder / editor-in-chief and main presenter at [ArabGT.com](http://ArabGT.com), the largest automotive online network in the Middle East. Suhaib has been a professional journalist for the past 9 years.

As the global nature of the industry continues to strengthen, and the pace of innovation continues to accelerate, World Car is proud to be a part of this amazing journey along with our partners: the New York International Auto Show, Prime Research, Autoneum, Bridgestone Corporation, Newspress (official media partner) and KPMG (vote tabulation).

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***THE ROAD TO WORLD CAR:  
WILL BEGIN IN PARIS – OCT. 2, 2018. WILL END IN NEW YORK – APRIL 2019.***

***FOLLOW OUR 80+ INTERNATIONAL JURORS : [wcoty.com](http://wcoty.com) #wcoty***

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For additional information either visit our web site ([www.wcoty.com](http://www.wcoty.com)) or please contact Beth Rhind, Executive Manager, E: [beth@wcoty.com](mailto:beth@wcoty.com)

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**Media release distributed by NEWSPRESS – World Car’s Official Media Partner**

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## **BACKGROUND**

### **World Car Awards**

Now entering their 15th year, the annual World Car Awards are the number one awards program in the world for the sixth consecutive year based on Prime Research’s 2018 media report. The awards were inaugurated in 2003, and officially launched in January 2004, to reflect the reality of the global marketplace, as well as to recognize and reward automotive excellence on an international scale. The awards are intended to complement, not compete, with existing national and regional Car of the Year programs.

The awards are administered by a not-for-profit association, under the guidance of a Steering Committee of pre-eminent automotive journalists from Asia, Europe, and North America. Peter Lyon (co-chair – Japan), Mike Rutherford (co-chair – UK), Jens Meiners (partnership director – Germany), Tim Stevens (director – USA), Siddarth Patankar (director – India) and Gerry Malloy (director – Canada and president, WCOTY Association).

### **New York International Auto Show**

Owned and operated by the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association, the New York Auto Show is an awesome combination of new ideas, technological innovation, exceptional concept cars and nearly 1,000 of the latest new cars and trucks. Over one million visitors are expected to visit the show this year to see what is truly possible from the automotive industry.

### **Important 2019 Auto Show Dates**

Press Preview: April 17 & 18, 2019 (credentials required)

Public Sneak Preview, Friday, April 19

Public Show Dates, Friday, April 19 – Sunday, April 28, 2019



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## JURORS - 2019 WORLD CAR AWARDS

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### **Australia**

Joshua Dowling (National Motoring Editor, News Limited Australia)

Paul Gover (carsguide.com.au)

### **Austria**

Stephan Schätzl (Editor: Krone Multimedia; Contributor: Kronen Zeitung)

### **Brazil**

Jason Vogel (Editor: *O Globo* newspaper; contributor: Extra, Espresso newspapers)

Luiz Guerrero (Director: Car and Driver, Auto Fácil)

### **Britain**

**\*\*Mike Rutherford – Co-Chair, World Car Awards** (Chief Columnist, Auto Express. Regular contributor to BBC TV and Radio, ITV, Sky News and other outlets in the UK and overseas).

Richard Aucock (Managing Director: Motoring Research)

Nat Barnes (Motoring Editor: Daily and Sunday Express )

Richard Bremner (Autocar (UK); Daily Telegraph, Daily Express and Edmunds Inside Line; Sunday Times, What Car? Magazine)

Ginny Buckley (Broadcaster and motoring journalist: Good Housekeeping, Carbuyer, BBC, Sky News)

Steve Fowler (EIC: Auto Express)

Charlie Turner (EIC: Top Gear)

### **Canada**

Gabriel Gélinas (Le Guide de l'Auto, *Salut Bonjour* TVA television network)

Sami Haj-Assaad (Toronto Star, Autoguide.com)

Mark Richardson (The Globe & Mail)

## **China**

Xia Dong (EIC: Viewworld New Media Group)

Li Geng (EIC: Orient Auto)

Lui Hongcang (EIC: Chinese Auto Pictorial)

Cui Jun (EIC: Car Owners)

Miao Jun (EIC: Car and Driver)

William Wang Kun (EIC: xcar.com)

Xionghui (Sean) Qiu (Publisher: Auto World)

Yunqing Wang (Founder and Editor-in-chief of DearAuto)

Sven Xu (Publisher: Target Magazine, Ramp China)

Liang Zhaohui (Publisher: Robb Report High End Cars, Cars)

## **Finland**

Toni Jalovaara (Tekniikan Maaailma, Ilta-Sanomat, Kauppalehti)

## **France**

Lionel Robert (Chief Editor: Auto Moto; EIC: Automobiles - Paris-Match magazine)

## **Germany**

**\*\* Jens Meiners – Partnership Director**, World Car Awards Steering Committee (Based in Germany and the USA, Meiners contributes to Car and Driver, Welt, Automobile Industrie, Spotpress and various other outlets).

Christian Brinkmann (EIC: Speed Heads)

Thomas Geiger (Welt am Sonntag, Welt, Bild-Zeitung, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Deutsche Presse Agentur, Der Spiegel online, AutoBild, Der Tagesanzeiger Zürich, www.Autonet.at)

Greg Kable (Germany-based contributor to AutoCar UK, CAR UK, Top Gear, MSN Autos, Diesel Car, Evo, What MPV)

Yoshihiro Kimura (Germany-based contributor to Auto Motor und Sport, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper, Japan's Motor Magazine, Car Top, Car Graphic)

Peter Schwerdtmann (Auto-Medienportal.Net)

Des Sellmeijer (Publisher& EIC: GTspirit.com)

## **Greece**

Michael Georgiadis (EIC: Drive magazine)

## **India**

**\*\* Siddharth Vinayak Patankar – director, World Car Steering Committee (NDTV network)**

Dhruv Behl (Founder & Managing Editor: AutoX)

Girish Karkera (EIC: Top Gear)

Renuka Kirpalani (Haymarketsac India - Editor Video; Editor Autocarshow Times network  
Auto contributor – Sindhian)

Yogendra Pratap (EIC: Auto Today. Founding member - Indian Car of the Year (ICOTY), Robb Report India,  
Mail Today , Travel Plus, BT More, SPICE, Indiatoday.in)

Hormazd Sorabjee (Autocar India)

## **Ireland**

Eddie Cunningham (Motoring editor: Irish Independent)

## **Italy**

Claire Bel (EIC : La Stampa newspaper)

Luca Ciferri (Associate Publisher & Editor, Automotive News Europe)

Alessandro Lago (EIC: OmniAuto.it | Motor1.com Italia)

Michael Taylor (Italy-based contributor to: Carsales.com.au, motoring.com.au, Motor magazine (Australia),  
AutoBlog.com, Car and Driver (US), Engine magazine (Japan), autoExpress (UK), The Irish Times, Business Day  
(South Africa), Autologia (Mexico, Chile), Car and Driver (China), Engine Technology International, Forbes  
(USA)

Alessandro Marchetti Tricamo (EIC: L'Automobile; contributor Corriere della Sera daily newspaper)

## **Japan**

**\*\*Peter Lyon – Co-chair, World Car Steering Committee (Car & Driver, Forbes, Forbes Japan, Auto Express,  
Quattroruote, GQ Japan, Samurai Wheels TV)**

Shinichi Katsura (Car Graphic, Auto Sport, Tipo, Genroq, Engine, Car Top etc)

Yasuhiko Kawamura (MotorMagazine, CarWatch, MotorFan, webCG, Driver, Autoc One, OPENERS)

Hideshi Matsuda (Best Car, Holiday Auto, Motor Magazine, Navi, J's Tipo, Car Sensor, Xacar, Genroq,  
Response, Car Graphic)

Goro Okazaki (Weekly TV Show – Goro Okazaki's Car Talk, Car & Driver – Japan, CarView, Goods Press, Car  
Graphic – Japan)

Koji Ozawa (Best Car, Engine, Lapita, CarGraphic, Smart, Begin,  
Takarajima, Form, nikkeibp.jp)

Kumi Sato (CarTop, Motor Magazine, CarView, Holiday Auto, Engine, The Motor Weekly FM radio)

Motohiro Yamazaki (Autocar Japan, GQ Japan, Car Magazine, Response and GENROQ)

#### **Jordan**

Mohammad Zaro (EIC: *Sayyarat* Alghad magazine/Automotors.me)

#### **Korea**

Charley Chae (EIC: Global Auto News)

JooSik Choi (EIC : AutoCar Korea)

#### **Mexico**

Manuel Ferdandez (On-line editor: Automovil Panamericano)

Carlos Sandoval (Auto Explora Group)

#### **Poland**

Maciej Pertynski (Auto Moto and Motor)

#### **Portugal**

Guilherme Costa (EIC: Razao Automovel)

#### **Russia**

Dmitry Barinov (Autopanorama magazine)

Vladimir Soloviev (Za Rulem magazine)

Vitaly Tishchenko (EIC: Top Gear Russia)

#### **Slovenia**

Milos Milac (Finance Business Daily)

#### **South Africa**

Hannes Oosthuizen (Cars.co.za)

Charleen Clare (Focus, Dekat, cyberstoep.co.za, Sheq Management)

#### **Spain**

Fernando Gómez Blanco (Director: Centimetros Cubicos TV)

Manuel Gómez Blanco (El País newspaper)

#### **USA**

\*\* **Tim Stevens** – **Director**, World Car Awards Steering Committee (EIC: Roadshow - CNET)

Eric Adams (Wired, Gear Patrol)

Matt Askari (Luxury Magazine, Autoblog, Cool Hunting)

Roberto Baldwin (Senior Editor: Engadget)

Abigail Bassett (Senior Director, Edmunds)

Zac Estrada (Carscoops, Carfax)

Steven Ewing (Managing editor: Roadshow - CNET)

Jonathan Gitlin (Automotive editor: Ars Technica)

Richard Homan (Kelley Blue Book)

Joe Lorio (Senior On-Line Editor, Hearst Digital Media)

John McCormick (Detroit News, Automotive Industries)

Jason Stein (Vice President Publisher, Automotive News Publisher, Automotive News Canada, Europe & China)

Jaclyn Trop (Forbes, Fortune and Fast Company)

Tamara Warren (The Verge, Racked, Vox)

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