

Cadillac EldoRod by Boyd Coddington (based on a 1948 Cadillac Eldorado)

Though I don't collect hot rod or racing die cast cars per se, when I saw this baby I just HAD to have it! Boyd Coddington has made such a refined hot-rod it looks like it could have come off some dealer's showroom floor. Made to order for hot-rod enthusiast Ron Craft, at an estimated cost of \$300,000(!), it packs a 450 hp., 502 CID V-8 wallop with state-of-the-art technological innovations throughout.



FM's tip-of-the-hat to this forward-thinking piece of hot-rod mastery is simply elegant. The maroon metal-flake (the metal-flake is done to scale!) is beautifully applied. The seats have a nice leather-like feel to them and the front seatbacks fold forward. The gauges (this car has less instrumentation than an early VW Beetle) are 3-D and the floor has simulated carpeting. The under-the-hood and undercarriage detailing is up to recent high standards. There's a full suspension too. The gaps around the (dogleg-hinged) doors are a bit wide but in the acceptable range. The hood and trunk seams are better. The sparse chrome is beautifully done, as are the super-sharp, chrome alloy wheels. There's also a removable convertible top.

Coddington's EldoRod is a masterpiece of refined "auto art." What impresses me is the restraint he showed; there's not a tacked-on doodad in sight. The EldoRod's clean lines bring the humble hot-rod to a whole 'nother level altogether.

T. H. Pine
Wordworker@earthlink.net