

Milan, 11 May 2015

## FOR THE LEGENDARY 2CV, THE LATEST RAY OF... "SOLEIL"

**Citroën Italia and its "mission impossible": to bring to life a never-before-seen special series!**

It seems paradoxical, but it's the realization of a secret dream for a great artist who played an important part in the history of the legendary 2CV.

It's a unique model, just as the story of any work of art is unique.

This story has two stars: **Serge Gevin**, artist, designer, and French graphic artist, and the **Citroën 2CV**.

The inventive **Serge Gevin** is responsible for enormously successful **Citroën** special series such as the *Dyane Caban*, the *Visa Sextant*, the *2 CV Dolly*, the *2 CV Cocoricò* and the *2 CV Charleston*.

But the artist never had the opportunity to bring to life one particularly special **2CV**, a model he told us about recently: *"It has to be white and yellow. The body is white and the fenders are yellow, along with the trunk and the hood. The bumpers must be white, as well as the headlight frames (which must be round), and the wheel rims are white as well. There's a symbol of a life preserver on the trunk, and a sailor's cap and a pipe on the doors. When you look at it, you should think of the sky, the sea, the sun, the joy of living."*

A **2CV** that **Citroën Italia** created under **Gevin's** direct supervision, working from the "ashes" of a **2CV Club** from 1982.

A ray of... **Soleil**, shining over the long and glorious history of the little *Deuche*.

In the amazing surroundings of his personal studio, immersed in a garden that's green even in chilly February in the Malakoff suburb of Paris, a dream was reborn for a man whose history is indelibly linked to that of the 2CV – to create today a 2CV that was never built, to (re)build a dream.

## **CITROËN 2CV “SOLEIL” SPECIAL SERIES**

First, the contours of a 2CV Club from the early '80s were sketched out on paper. It was a model that Gevin had chosen for its special series and because of the year. Next followed the colors and the drawings. It's gorgeous. Gevin is a genius! The artist himself had created not only the sketches, but also the drawings for the sides and the trunk!

The next step: the choice of which model to work on and the restoration process were entrusted to the “Atelier 2CV” in Bareggio, near Milan. The proprietor, Guido Wilhelm, had traveled in 2CVs since he was a boy, and knew the model down to its smallest detail. In agreement with Guido, it was decided not to modify a 2CV already on order, but instead to salvage a vehicle that otherwise would have been scrapped. The body of the most recent 2CV Charleston was mounted on the mechanics of a 2CV Club from 1982, but corrosion and neglect had reduced the vehicle to a heap of rusty metal, and even the chassis had serious corrosion problems. For the mechanics, the choice was easy: disassemble the entire thing, save whatever didn't show signs of wear, and find new replacement parts for the rest, ideally from Citroën itself.

About the body, all the excessively corroded sheet are sawed off and replaced with new parts. The welds will be done as they were done back in the day: through spot welding, as was done in the Levallois factory where this 2CV was born more than thirty years ago.

With the engine ready, the frame and body rebuilt, and the corrosion-proof protections updated, all that's left to do is paint the various parts in the chosen colors: the body, fenders, doors, trunk, and hood. Then the bumpers, the wheel rims, and the frame itself. Finally, the fenders, doors, hood, trunk, and bumpers. The 2CV is back in shape! Now the windows, the top, the handles and locks, the electrical system, the instrument panel, the upholstery, and the seats can now be put in place. Finally, lights and ornamentation. Engine adjustments and tire alignment are the last steps. The 2CV, (re)built by hand, today as they were then, is now ready to come back to the streets of Europe!

Download VIDEOS and PHOTOS FROM:

[http://citroen.lulop.com/it\\_IT/post/show/93664/per-la-mitica-2cv-lultimo.html](http://citroen.lulop.com/it_IT/post/show/93664/per-la-mitica-2cv-lultimo.html)

The 2CV Soleil will be at the 21st International Meeting of 2CV friends in Torun –Poland

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## PRESS INFO



The Citroën brand

CITROËN means creativity and technology at the service of well-being.

Since 1919, CITROËN has been one of the top stars in the spread of automobiles, concretely and positively contributing solutions to the needs of every age. In 2014, Citroën models offer customers what really counts: more design, more comfort, more helpful technology, and all on a careful budget.

CITROËN means 10,000 sales and after-sales outlets in more than 90 countries, and 1,266,000 vehicles sold in 2013. It also boasts 8 WRC World Constructors' Championships, and a new sports commitment in the WTCC in 2014.