

Fioravanti Thalia concept

23 Feb 07

Fioravanti will be represented at the Geneva Motor Show by this, the Thalia, named after one of the three Graces of Greek mythology. The rear hump means a staggered silhouette, reflecting the rear seating which has been elevated to accommodate 'the most recent alternative energy technology.' Along with its unusual architecture, the sketch also shows a unique graphic break, with the dominant sweep and rear-biased mass reminding a little of the Mazda Senku concept. It will be interesting to see the model in Geneva.

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Maserati Coupe

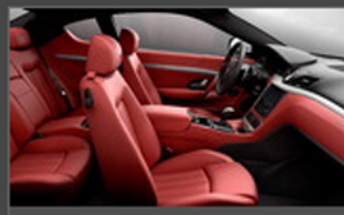
22 Feb 07

Maserati has released photos of their new coupe in advance of its unveiling at Geneva in a couple of weeks. Designed by Pininfarina, the sketches also circulating were by Jason Castriota who penned the Maserati Birdcage concept shown in Geneva in 2005, before it turned heads at the Goodwood Festival of Speed that year. There is affinity between the two designs, and a more aggressive look than the current car designed by Italdesign. However the 'boomerang' rear lights don't seem to have come back, replaced by triangular units instead.

Known internally as M145, the new coupe has yet to be christened, but the rumoured return of 'Mistral' seems unlikely. Under the hood the Maserati retains its Ferrari-derived 4.2-liter V8, though no word yet as to whether an open-version will be available as well.

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Zagato Diatto Ottovu concept

21 Feb 07

Zagato has recently released an image of their show car for Geneva, the Diatto Ottovu, which resurrects the Diatto brand for two keen collectors. The succinct press release gives little away, though the image shows a car sharing much in common with the Ferrari 612 Scaglietti, suggesting a candidate for the donor vehicle. The concept also has 'eyebrows' above the wheels, rather like a Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing.

Diatto is a brand that ceased production in 1923, not before having forged ties with Citroen, Maserati and Bugatti. There have been attempts at reviving the brand before - indeed in 1924 it was immediately reabsorbed for the cars to continue racing, but only for another seven years. The Diatto name was reawakened in 1945 for what became a stillborn venture and in 1955 was taken over again. Last year Zagato produced the Ferrari 575GTZ for collector Yoshiyuki Hayashi.