

Andrea Del Pesco: *The Cavallino comeback*



Title: *The Cavallino comeback* - Michael Schumacher 2000
 Author: Andrea Del Pesco
 Printed: February 2001
 Painting technique: Acrylic on board
 Printing technique: Offset
 Size of the original painting (base x height): cm 50 x 70
 Number of copies: 500 numbered and signed by the author

In the year 2000 Ferrari won back the Formula 1 world title, after 21 attempts and with this picture I wanted to celebrate this event. Michael Schumacher, driving the car, has won his third title after those ones won with the Benetton in 1994 and in 1995. The German driver as well was waiting for a long time the win on the “Cavallino”, that he has ridden since 1996. In 1997, in fact, Schumacher lost the laurels of victory by a hair’s breadth in the last race and in the following two years he had to bear the McLaren exploits, partly due to his withdrawal from the world championship in 1999, because he had a leg broken. The triumphal racing season 2000 hasn’t been a picnic as it has been characterized from a fierce competition with his rival Mika Hakkinen driving McLaren-Mercedes. The final success has come in the Grand Prix of Suzuka, in Japan. The picture is composed by three elements melted together: the driver, the single-seat and the flag showing the Ferrari brand. Actually there is a fourth protagonist: the large numbers of supporters, that shade off in the background,

creating the essential “support” of the whole team. The image has been conceived in a vertical way, in order to give it a greater dash and to leave room to a triumphant Schumacher, who is pointing at the audience as if he wanted to state: “This victory is for you, it is thanks to you as well!”.

I tried to create an ideal circumference inside the scene: the slightly slanting racing-car directs the eyes towards the right tyre, to lead it then on Schumacher’s left arm, on his face, on the right arm pointing at the Cavallino, on the flag and finally to come back, through the audience, on the single-seat that appears again with force thanks to the sharp and striking contrast. In this way all the “ingredients” of this victory shade off one in the others, setting a single symbolic scene that celebrates the comeback of a brand that has played a very important role in the story of the motor racing and so far is still a protagonist.

Andrea Del Pesco - February 2001