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# MILKA DUNO

COLECCIONABLE



# MILKA DUNO

Talento, belleza, juventud, son sólo algunos de los adjetivos que definen la imagen de Milka Duno, la primera venezolana que decide incursionar en las lides del automovilismo deportivo profesional a nivel internacional. De formación Ingeniero Naval, con cuatro postgrados en las áreas de Desarrollo Organizacional, Arquitectura Naval, Negocio Marítimo, Pesca y Acuicultura, éstos tres últimos realizados simultáneamente en España.

En apenas tres años, la bella ingeniero naval se ha convertido en uno de los pilotos más populares en las pistas norteamericanas, hecho que ha captado la atención de los medios de comunicación internacionales y por supuesto también a nivel nacional, habiendo alcanzado el gran honor de ser designada como "Automovilista del Año" por los profesionales venezolanos que cubren el área deportiva.

Milka tiene el privilegio de ser la primera mujer Latinoamericana en ser considerada como "Experta" y desde ese momento su carrera automovilística ha ido cada día en franco ascenso. Ella ha participado en un gran número de carreras internacionales, habiendo manejado distintos vehículos de gran potencia como Porsche Super Cup, Ferrari Challenge F-355, Formula 2000 Dodge, Reynard Dodge 98E, Panoz GT-RA, Dodge Viper GTS-RA, Coloni CN1/C Nissan y Reynard Judd 01Q Prototipo 675.

Milka finaliza en el cuarto puesto en el Campeonato Porsche Super Cup celebrado en pistas venezolanas en el año 1998. En 1999 viaja a los Estados Unidos y alcanza la tercera casilla absoluta en el Women's Global GT Series, aún cuando no conocía ninguna de las pistas, y gana su primera carrera y se impone en el Winter's Panoz GT Series del 2000. Durante ese mismo año también se adjudica la victoria en el circuito de Road Atlanta a bordo de un Ferrari F-355, convirtiéndose en la primera mujer en los

Estados Unidos y la segunda en el mundo en adjudicarse ese honor. Consigue otros dos podios siempre con Ferrari Challenge.

Debuta en Septiembre en el prestigioso torneo American LeMans series sobre un poderoso Dodge Viper de 650 HP, y en el circuito de Road Atlanta arriba en el séptimo lugar de su categoría, resultado que mejoraría en Laguna Seca al recibir la bandera a cuadros en el quinto, pero más espectacular fue lo alcanzado en la carrera final del año 2000, celebrada en Australia ante más de 150.000 espectadores, donde conquistó un histórico tercer lugar en las calles de Adelaide, siendo la primera mujer en subir al podio en la clase GTS.

En febrero del 2001 interviene por primera vez en las prestigiosas 24 horas de Daytona, siempre al volante de un Dodge Viper del equipo británico Chamberlain, sumando un brillante sexto lugar en su clase.

En junio de este mismo año agrega otra carrera de 24 horas a su lista, participando por primera vez en las míticas 24 horas de Le Mans en un prototipo Reynard/Judd LMP 675. Continúa su intervención en la American Le Mans series, y alcanza cuatro triunfos y un segundo lugar, incluyendo dentro de estas victorias la obtenida en las 1.000 millas de Road Atlanta (Petit Le Mans), culminando con el segundo puesto en el campeonato de pilotos de la clase LMP 675. No contenta con esto, comienza su campaña en Europa con el Fórmula Nissan del Open Telefónica!





# MILKA DUNO

Talent, beauty and youth are just a few of the many adjectives that define the image of Milka Duno. By education and training a Naval Engineer with four master's degrees – in Organizational Development, Naval Architecture, Maritime Business and Marine Biology – Milka earned the last three simultaneously.

The first Latin American women driver ever to be classified "expert", Milka's professional driving career reaches new heights each year. She has participated in many international races and has driven a wide selection of race cars, including the Porsche Supercup, Ferrari Challenge 355, Formula 2000 Dodge, Reynard Dodge 98E, Panoz GT-RA, Dodge Viper GTS, Coloni Nissan CN1/C, and Reynard-Judd 01-Q, the Lola B2K/40/Judd, Dome S-101/Judd, Dallara AES/Nissan and the Panoz LMP07.

As "Venezuelan Auto Racing Driver of the Year" in 2000 and "American Le Mans Series 2001 Vice Champion Driver" in the 675LMP class, Milka has attracted the attention of motorsport fans worldwide - and from influential people in the organizational and competitive areas of motorsport in the USA and Europe. In 2002 Milka became the first woman in the history of sportscar racing to pilot the fastest and most technologically-advanced sportscar in the world – the Le Mans Prototype 900, and the first woman in history to pilot the fastest car in the Open Telefonica World Series – the last step on the ladder to Formula One.

Combining beauty, brains and lightning-fast reflexes, Milka is arguably one of the most charismatic and talented drivers of her generation. This rising woman star is no slouch behind the wheel either - in her short career, the beautiful naval engineer has become one of the most popular drivers on racetracks all over the world, garnering considerable attention from the national and international motorsports and mainstream media.

Milka began her racing career in Venezuelan club racing in 1996-1997, finishing 2nd in the Venezuelan GT Championship.

In 1998 Milka scored two podium finishes and placing 4th overall in the Venezuelan Porsche Supercup Championship. Milka also headed to the United States to compete in the Barber Dodge 2000 series.

1999 saw Milka competing in the United States and scoring 3rd overall in the Women's Global GT Series

Championship – and again in the Barber Dodge 2000. 2000 was a very busy year, and brought further success to Milka as she not only won her first race of the year – but the Panoz GT Series Championship as well. Moving up the ladder in the Barber series Milka raced the Barber Dodge Pro Series - with races on ovals all across America. Milka attended and excelled in the Derek Daly Academy Advanced Formula course and conducted several tests during the year in Formula 2000. Milka also scored a top podium finish in a Ferrari Challenge race at Road Atlanta in a Ferrari F-355 – becoming the first woman to ever win a Ferrari Challenge race in the United States – and the second in the world. It continued to be a stellar year for Milka with an additional two podiums in the Ferrari Challenge – and her debut in the prestigious American Le Mans Series. Milka competed in the ALMS in a Dodge Viper GTS and finished 3rd in class in the series' 2000 season finale in Australia. At the very popular Homestead-Miami oval Milka participated in the Richard Petty Driving School.

Well on her way to gaining international notoriety, Milka became the only female driver running a regular schedule in the 2001 ALMS Championship – piloting an LMP 675 – yet another step-up the racing ladder. In this very competitive class Milka won four races, including the 1000 Miles of Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta, and ended the season as the "American Le Mans Series 2001 Vice Champion Driver" in the LMP 675 class. 2001 also had Milka competing in a Dodge Viper in the legendary Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona – finishing 6th in class. She also contested the most famous sportscar race in the world – the 24 Hours of Le Mans in France. Also in 2001, her previous racing performances prompted invitations to participate in Open Telefonica, the most important single seat racing series in Europe - after Formula One. In this series, Milka drove a Coloni Nissan CN1/C with the Vergani Racing team, which finished second in the 2000 and 2001 championship. In her first season, she became the first woman ever to score points in this prestigious European series.

2002 was a very busy year for this truly international driver. Milka once again participated in the 24 Hours of Le Mans – being the only woman among 149 drivers. And in the 2002 American Le Mans Series, Milka became the first woman in history to pilot sportscar's fastest race car.

