



## **Minassian to debut in final ALMS rounds**

This week Creation Autosportif announced that the team would contest the final two rounds of the American Le Mans Series following the season finale of the Le Mans Endurance Series next weekend at Spa Francorchamps. The team will race at both Road Atlanta and Laguna Seca and Nicolas Minassian is looking forward to his first taste of ALMS competition.

"I am thrilled that Creation decided to race in the last two races of the ALMS, and even more delighted they chose to put me in the car," Minassian said. "We are having a great debut year together in Europe and running strong, but it is great to go back to the U.S. especially as the championship is so competitive."

The first of the two ALMS races will be at the majestic Road Atlanta circuit. The race, 1000-miles or ten hours known as Petit Le Mans, is a real test of machine and driver.

"I have never raced at Road Atlanta, but I don't think this will hinder the team, at the end of the day it's a racetrack, some corners are flat, some I'll have to lift... just like any other," smiled Minassian. "Seriously though the 1000-mile race will be a long and tough event, but the Creation team has worked it's socks off all year to make the car as bullet-proof as possible, so I think we can be optimistic," Minassian added.

The Frenchman and his Creation team are especially upbeat regarding their first ALMS outing at Laguna Seca, the sweeping 2.238-mile Californian circuit. Minassian tested here when he drove for Chip Ganassi Racing in Champ Cars back in 2001 and is looking forward to his return with brimming confidence.

"Laguna Seca will be another story," Minassian continued. "The Creation car will be quick there as there are not many fast straights but lots of fast corners which is very good for our car. Our aim is to win the race...so let's go do it!"





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## Editorial Notes

Nicolas Minassian, 31, lives in England with his wife Jayne. Minassian was runner up in the French F3 Championship in 1995, British F3 in 1997 and the FIA F3000 Championship in 2000. He has tested with both Williams and Honda in Formula One and competed in the Champ Car World Series with Ganassi Racing before taking the 2002 ASCAR title with RML. With Creation Autosportif, Minassian is a front-runner in the inaugural four-round LMES Championship and together they will also contest the Road Atlanta (Petit Le Mans) and Laguna Seca rounds of ALMS.

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