





Art work by John Ammendola

At dawn midway over the Atlantic flying through storm clouds.

ENGLISH	FRENCH	GERMAN	SPANISH	ITALIAN
WHITE	BLANCO	WEISS	BLANC	BIANCO
YELLOW	JAUNE	GELB	AMARILLO	GIALLO
RED	ROUGE	ROT	ROJO	ROSSO
BLUE	BLEU	BLAU	AZUL	BLU
GRAY	GRIS	GRAU	GRIS	GRIGIO
GUNMETAL	METALLIC	METALLIC	METALICO	METALLICO
GREEN	VERT	GRUN	VERDE	VERDE
SILVER	ARGENT	SILBERN	PLATA	ARGENTO
BLACK	NOIR	SCHWARTZ	NEGRO	NERO





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## THE SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS

1/48 scale

Without doubt, Charles Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis is one of the most famous aircraft of all time. In 1927, this machine proved more than any other that an airplane could be made with such reliability and performance that incredible aerial journeys soon could be undertaken with complete safety.

Charles A. Lindbergh was born just a year before the first powered airplane flight was achieved by the Wright Brothers in 1903. When he was twenty, he began studying aeronautics, soon becoming a pilot making exhibition flights. In 1924, he joined the Army Air Service as a cadet. After graduating with a reserve commission, Lindbergh began working as a civilian air mail pilot.

In 1919, New York hotel owner Raymond Ortieg offered to pay \$25,000 for the first nonstop flight between New York City and Paris, France. By 1927, several flights had been made, across the Atlantic, but none had made a nonstop journey between the two cities to qualify for the prize. It was in February of that year that Lindbergh had raised enough support for the flight and was able to purchase a specially-built Ryan long-distance monoplane. It was in honor of the businessmen in St. Louis, Missouri, who financed the plane that he named it the Spirit of St. Louis.

Prior to the transatlantic flight, Lindbergh flew the Spirit across the country, pausing in St. Louis to show his sponsors the result of their investment. Then on the morning of May 20, 1927, the tiny silver plane rose into the air and only settled to the ground thirty-three and-ahalf hours later on LeBourget Field, near Paris to win the Orteig prize and acclamation of the world. Today, the Spirit is displayed in a place of honor in the National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C., along with the original Wright Flyer.





