

The Acura NSX and the General Dynamics F-16 'Fighting Falcon'

Michael Edwards was the winning bidder at the 2016 Concours D'Elegance of an original oil painting by artist, Ary Hobbel. The oil painting is being featured as the centerpiece of the 2017 Concours poster. The subject of the painting is Edwards' white, 1997 Acura NSX. But why, you may ask, is there an F-16 fighter jet in the background?

Honda originated the idea of a super car in 1984 and initially worked with famed automotive design firm, Pininfarina in Torino, Italy. Eventually Honda took over further development of the car which came to bear the designation NS-X, for 'New Sportscar eXperimental'. Responsible were Chief Designer Nakano and Executive Chief Engineer Shigeru Uehara. Uehara had extensively studied the 360° visibility from the F-16 cockpit and put the F-16 design thematically into play for the NSX.

Conceptually the similarities are carried through in cockpit shape and body lay-out, with the cockpit far forward and a long aft body, housing the engine behind the driver.

Hobbel selected this particular image of Michael Edwards' white NSX juxtaposed against the F-16 'Fighting Falcon' because it clearly does illustrate the similarities in design and angles. The vast areas of sky and concrete are intentional so that the painting can be cropped somewhat and text can be inserted for the final poster design.