

David Gentry

October 22, 1946 – July 26, 2023

Multi-talented artist and long-time San Franciscan, David Gentry, 76, died unexpectedly on July 26. He leaves behind a stunning body of work inspired by the things he loved, from animals and flowers to hot rods and planes. During his 55-year career, he also provided graphic design, illustration and exhibition design to clients in the academic, corporate and entertainment fields. Combining traditional and digital art, Gentry pioneered a unique style that captured the best of both. Please visit his galleries at www.gentryarts.com and www.gentrydesign.com.



Truly one of a kind, Gentry was both fiercely independent and a devoted friend. He created beauty wherever he went, including a garden tucked under 280 where he fed many 'critters,' naming each one. An ardent fan of the absurd (he once offered that Froggy the Gremlin was his spirit animal), he had a ready laugh and keen wit. His intellectual curiosity was insatiable. His sense of wonder was contagious.



Rob Manson, Marcus Bicknell, Jon le Carner, William Rooklidge and others in the Del Monte Trophy Race Group got to know and love David when working during 2022 and 2023 on the book of the California Road Race Specials. David loved creating his stylized graphic images of the Del Monte and Pebble Beach race cars and made pictures to order for many of us. He designed the logo for the Del Monte Trophy group and the large display panels that have been placed throughout the DMTRG paddock for the last two race meetings; they describe early 1950s road racing on the Monterey Peninsula, at the Pebble Beach Road Races and other venues throughout California.

The book on the race-cars is an on-going project for Rob Manson and when published will be an epitaph to David's skills. To provide an idea of David's own approach to the book, here is a letter to all us drivers and car-owners from a year ago...

PEBBLE BEACH ROAD RACES

CELEBRATION

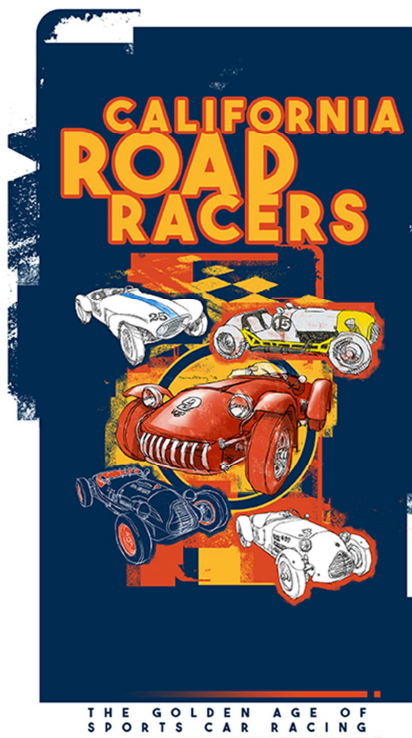
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becoming the rage. Of special interest to me was how the California hot rod culture made a big impact. The stars were the traditional Ferraris, Jaguars, and Porsches, but the local boys thought they could take on the aristocrats with machines they built in their home garages.

The bones of the effort will be the narration and personalities associated with this colorful age. I have gathered enough anecdotal material to fill a book already, but I know there is much more to discover. I welcome feedback, and I call for anyone who has a photo for reference or a story of their own. I will be happy to consider integrating it into the project. Since this is a work in progress I will be providing updates via email and online posts to everyone who is interested.

You can contact me directly or through Rob Manson r3teknon@sbcglobal.net or Marcus Bicknell marcus@bicknell.com. Thank you for your consideration. David Gentry www.machinemadness.biz david@gentryarts.com



He was both an artist and a friend who was passionate about our cars, the stories to be told about them and the personalities who built and drove them. He had become a part of our group; his talents, his knowledge of the cars and their importance to history and above all his endearing personality will all be missed by us. Gentry's untimely death is a profound loss for all who had the good fortune to be in his orbit and to know his kind and caring nature. A private memorial is planned.

Enlarged from the obituary published by the San Francisco Chronicle on Aug. 27, 2023 by Rob Manson and Marcus Bicknell.

A life in a few words and dates

Drake University, Des Moines 1964-1968. One of the finest private universities in the Midwest and the nation.

Academy of Art University. San Francisco 1978-1980. Shaping the Next Generation of Artists and Designers since 1929.

Freelance Artist/Designer 1984 – 2023 creating successful design products for clients in the entertainment, corporate, and academic fields... 40 years as Gentry Design. “I draw from my background in illustration, digital design, animation, and staging to create a rich colorful experience. Working on a digital platform I can scale the work to a wide range of applications, from personal to architectural. GENTRY DESIGN: Fully immersive visual environments celebrating life at its extremes. Art that envelops the senses . Featuring the themes DREAMING CALIFORNIA: a salute to the West Coast experience - LIVING TREASURES: an homage to our natural companions. GentryDesign generates an urgent sense of life and vitality to any setting from intimate to expansive.”

You can see David’s work round the internet

<http://www.machinemadness.biz> which includes his race car portfolios

<https://gentryarts.com/>

<http://www.machinemadness.biz/>

<https://www.saatchiart.com/account/artworks/1304201>

<https://www.behance.net/GentryArts>

<https://www.facebook.com/david.gentry.9828/>

<http://dmtrg.com/david-gentry/>