

Inspired Artwork; another tradition of excellence at FL Winter Tour

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The Formula Kart Racing Florida Winter Tour has a long history of excellence, and has continually endeavored to provide a karting “experience”, not just another racing event. Previous Winter Tours have always included a theme, designed to set a certain “tone” for the series. From the beginning that “tone” has been represented graphically by the original artwork created for each years’ Tour. Past themes have included the “Y2Kart” Tour in 2000, the infamous “This ain’t your daddy’s go-kart club” Tours of 2001-2003, and, beginning in 2004, the “SERIOUS FUN!” theme of the current Tour.



For the 2005 Tour FK’s Bill Wright decided to focus on creating “something really special” and commissioned west coast artist Chris Ortenburger to recreate a classic motorsports “look”. Wrights’ inspiration for the ‘05 artwork was famed motorsports artist Geo Ham (more info www.arteauto.com/pages/geoaham.htm). Hams art deco style is best known from his Monaco Grand Prix and Le Mans 24 Hours posters, beginning in the 1930’s and continuing for many decades. Ortenburgers’ interpretation of Hams’ form resulted in a piece that is both stylistically correct and visually appealing. “The number of compliments we received on the artwork was almost surpassed by the number of requests we have had to provide additional shirts and posters featuring the art.” stated

Wright. “This response convinced me that we had found something special, something that people think adds even more value to their Winter Tour participation.

For his 2006 art effort Wright decided to try to mimic another famous style, and looked to artist Ed “Big Daddy” Roth’s “Rat Fink” for inspiration (see www.edroth.com) “For 2006 I really wanted to take the artwork to “the next level”, and was lucky enough to be able to collaborate with a true “visionary”, the former head-honcho of SKUSA, Mr. Jim Murley. I don’t think anyone will argue that Jim shows us just how talented he is with his original interpretation of Roths style, mixed with a uniquely FL Winter Tour look. I’ve known Jim for almost 10 years, and spent a lot of time with him, but I had no idea he had this kind of ability. I think Jim has perfectly captured the spirit of the 2006 Tour. For many reasons, this one’s a keeper !”



FK will once again feature the artwork on the Official Tour T-shirt, and it will also be available as a poster. Wright says that because of the large number of requests for the 2005 artwork, FK will make the t-shirts and the posters available to the general public at the event-sites, or off the Tour web site at www.floridawintertour.com . All proceeds from the sales of the t-shirts and posters go toward funding the awards provided during the Tour”