## **CLASSIC DRIVER**

## Pininfarina's Honda HP-X is bringing 1980s sci-fi to Pebble Beach

**Lead**Originally revealed at the 1984 Turin Auto Show, the Pininfarina-designed Honda HP-X concept has been restored and will make its North American debut at the Pebble Beach Concours.





Pininfarina is often most closely associated with Ferrari, but their partnership with Honda led to two of the greatest sports cars of the 1990s: the legendary NSX and mini yet mighty Beat. However, before either of those two cars turned a wheel, Honda and Pininfarina wowed the world at the 1984 Turin Auto Show when they debuted this, the HP-X Concept.



Now freshly restored and set to make its North American debut in the 'Wedge-Shaped Concept Cars and Prototypes Class' at the Pebble Beach Concours this month, the HP-X will be the first Japanese vehicle entry at the concours in over 50 years.



While it's hard to believe this is a design from the 1980s, the HP-X preceded the development of the NSX and was built to show Honda's intent to bring a mid-engine supercar to market. It featured cutting-edge technology, such as ground effect aerodynamics, carbon fibre and Kevlar construction, and innovative cooling methods for its Honda F2 racing engine-derived 2-litre DOHC 24-valve V6.



Above all the tech, however, the HP-X's most striking feature has to be its single-piece perspex canopy, which eliminated the need for doors. Climb inside, and you'll notice the HP-X employed many now-commonplace features such as GPS, real-time telemetry, and even a special sonar system that provided road condition warnings. We can't wait to see this ambitious concept on the concours lawns later this month!

## Gallery

