

# CLASSIC DRIVER



## Porsche 911: 'Restored, Reimagined, Reborn' by Singer... and in London

29 August 2012 | Steve Wakefield

*An exhibition space in East London was the venue for a rare showing of one of the world's most desirable cars: a 911 totally re-engineered by Singer Vehicle Design, one which promises to be the ultimate air-cooled 911.*

Even inside at night, in a gallery more used to the latest 'installations' from the British modern art movement, the car looked stunning

The flat grey (an early Porsche colour, 'Stone Grey', in fact) 964-based 911, with exquisite detailing in machined alloy and tan leather, is destined for a customer in New York. Rob Dickinson, the Los Angeles-based Brit who is Singer's Creative Director, was on hand to show the car to a select group of experts, enthusiasts, potential buyers and members of the press, prior to further (surprise) media outings in Europe in the near future.

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Such is Dickinson's and the Singer team's confidence in the concept that one of the most desirable-ever air-cooled 911s was placed just feet away from their 'Restored, Reimagined, Reborn' car.

### **Porscheophiles in a state of excitement**



It was a Gulf Blue 1973 2.8 Carrera RSR that, in normal events, would have had Porscheheads in a state of some excitement. A fabulous car, 'tis true, but one that complemented the modified 911 rather than outshining it.

Singer takes a regular 964-series 911 and then reduces it to its component parts, replacing much bodywork with carefully redesigned carbonfibre panels that mix elements of current Porsches with that of the standard-setting '73 Carrera and the even rarer, earlier S/T.

### **380bhp and a leather-lined engine bay**



The engine is replaced with a hand-built (by Cosworth in the USA), now 3.9-litre flat-six which – depending on tuning and budget – can produce from 300bhp to 425bhp. This car has 380bhp at its disposal in its leather-lined engine bay.

No, you are not mistaken, we did say ‘leather-lined’. The owner of the car has dipped heavily into Singer’s customisation programme by specifying the most beautiful tan leather interior, with basket-weave trim, a leather-covered roll-cage and simple beige ‘Berber’ carpeting of the type fitted to 356 Speedsters.

## Glorious details



By doing this, the lucky man or woman has also increased the car’s price from the minimum you can get away with (say \$200,000) to around \$350,000. But look at the polished and fabricated bonnet hinge, the drilled Perspex ‘under-cover’ for the engine’s grille, the matt-finish Fuchs wheels and the billeted aluminium oil and petrol filler caps.

## Performance similar to a modern GT3 RS



It is an incredible machine. And one few have driven - although with performance similar to a modern GT3 RS (380bhp in a 1,200kg package, modern race-tuned suspension and brakes), it promises to match dynamically on the road or track what it offers visually as a static 'work of art'.

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