

**PANTHER CAR CLUB
TRIBUTE TO ROBERT JANKEL
"THE UNFINISHED SYMPHONY"**

The Panther Car Club are proud to pay tribute to English car designer Robert Jankel who designed these hand built master pieces namely Panther cars.

A remarkable car will greet classic car enthusiasts when they visit the Panther Car Club stand at the Birmingham's NEC Classic Motor Show from 11th to 13th November, for the Club will be championing rarity in a big way and will have on display the last Panther model Robert Jankel designed, the J99, never before on display to the general public.

This will be an extra attraction to the J72, De Ville, Lima and Rio models already destined for the stand for the club to pay tribute to Robert Jankel , and adding further to the Panther Car Club's show presence.

Panther cars, originally the Surrey-based, craftsman-built creations of fashion designer Bob Jankel from the early 70s onwards, and combining 30s retro looks with modern Vauxhall, Ford and Jaguar mechanics, were never produced in vast numbers, although their several hundred popular models have always attracted a keen following.

In contrast, this sporty little number the J99 has never been on display to the general public before and has lain dormant in storage since Robert Jankel's untimely death in 2005. The design is a two seater coupe with gull-wing doors. Power comes from a Ford Lincoln V8 mounted transversely to the rear of the cabin and driving the rear wheels. The front suspension has double wishbones and the car has roadster style wheel arches front and rear. The rear aspect is particularly impressive with four exposed tail silencers and a horizontal rear panel with end plates mounted low down featuring Chevrolet Corvette style round lights.

With dimensions of 1.7m x 3.6m x 1.2m (WxLxH) it is a truly amazing car, one that only Robert Jankel, well known for his designs, could have produced, in line with his world renowned Panther 6, another truly amazing car and one which last caused a sensation at the NEC on the Club stand in 2008.

Now, more than a decade on, enthusiasts will get the chance to see – up close – what might have been.

"The never manufactured J99 on show would have rekindled the Panther market and surely taken Panther's spirit of craftsman-built and highly individual motoring to new heights, but was unfortunately not to be due to the untimely death of Robert Jankel in 2005" said Panther Car Club spokesperson, Val Bridges. "However, this makes Panthers doubly fascinating today, and we feel sure show visitors will be sharing our great excitement at having this truly amazing car on our stand and can only thank the Jankel family for loaning the car to us and allowing us to put on an unforgettable display."

Val Bridges
Chairman Panther Car Club