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## **PHANTOM CORSAIR MAKING RARE TRIP OUT OF MUSEUM FOR AMELIA 2009**

California Coachbuilder Bohman & Schwartz's Creation Labeled Both Monstrosity & Marvel

**JACKSONVILLE, FL;** July 00, 2008 --- The Phantom Corsair, a one-of-kind look at the future of auto design penned in the late thirties by Rust Heinz of the H.J. Heinz family food empire, will make its way to the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance, March 13-15, 2009. The vehicle will be on display courtesy of the National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) in Reno, Nevada.

“There are certain what I like to call ‘once-in-a-lifetime’ designs and the Phantom Corsair easily falls into that category,” says Bill Warner, founder & co-chairman of the Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance. “When this car came out of Bohman & Schwartz, it was called outrageous and futuristic at the same time. It’s a 70-year-old design and still generates a buzz wherever it goes, and still defies description today; just as it did when it rolled out of their Pasadena shop in 1938.”

### *Not Another One Like It In The World*

The Phantom Corsair was ahead of its time and displayed a number of innovative design queues. The streamlined look from bumper to bumper gave the Phantom Corsair a distinct aerodynamic advantage enabling the car to reach nearly 120 m.p.h., which was impressive for a car its size back in 1938. There were several never-seen-before features in the car such as hydraulic impact bumpers, covered driving lights, climate control system, and interior crash padding. After its stint at the 1939 World’s Fair, it moved on to a new career in

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Hollywood as the mysteriously sinister “Flying Wombat,” in the David O. Selznick production, “The Young in Heart,” which starred screen legend Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Bohman & Schwartz built the Phantom Corsair for an estimated \$25,000, and Heinz had plans to build a limited number for about \$12,500 per car, but his untimely death shortly after its completion ended any production plans. The vehicle was later sold to the famous comedian Herb Shriner and was displayed for a time at the Silver Springs (Florida) Museum before ending up in the hands of famed collector William Harrah, who restored the car to its original configuration and displayed it as a showcase car in his vast collection.

Bohman & Schwartz performed work for many of Hollywood’s elite and customized a number of makes, including Duesenberg, Cadillac, and LaSalle. They remained active until ceasing operations in the early sixties.

“There will never be another one like it,” Warner says of the Phantom Corsair. “I’ve often wondered what it would be like to drive that car around town; imagine the looks you would get. It’s going to really surprise people when it appears on the show field and it will probably be one of the most photographed cars throughout the day.”

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance will be held March 13-15, 2009, on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> fairways of The Golf Club of Amelia Island at Summer Beach adjacent to The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island. David Hobbs, one of the auto racing’s most versatile drivers and current SPEED Channel commentator, will be honored and the cars of legendary coachbuilder Bohman & Schwartz will be featured. The show’s foundation has donated nearly \$1.6 million to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Inc. since 1996.

*The Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance is one of the nation’s most innovative vintage auto shows featuring over 250 rare classics from seldom-seen private collections nationwide. The show is scheduled for March 9-11, 2007. For more information, visit [www.ameliaconcours.org](http://www.ameliaconcours.org) or call 904-636-0027.*

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