Nigel Mansell portrait by renowened artist Anthony Lawrence donated to the National Motor Museum

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The painting, next to the the actiual car in the paintimg ,was handed over to the museum's permanent collection by Sara Lawrence and Lesley Lawrence(L). , the artist's daughter and wife, and received by the Museums' Chief Executive, (R) Dr Jon Murden. Paul Quezada-Neiman/Alamy Live News

Nigel Mansell portrait arrives at The National Motor Museum…

They tell us:

(Photograph and all words from The National Motor Museum).

A portrait of the 1992 Formula 1 World Champion Nigel Mansell has been gifted to the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu by the family of the artist, Anthony Lawrence who died in 2022.

The oil portrait was originally painted in 1992 for the front cover of a book called 'Champions' by Christopher Hilton and John Blunsden. The donation comes as the family sort through the vast archive at Anthony's New Forest studio and prepare to show works spanning multiple genres in an important retrospective in October.

The portrait will initially be displayed in the Museum as part of a special display marking 75 years since the inaugural Formula 1 World Drivers' Championship in 1950. The Icons of Formula 1 display is on until 2nd November 2025 and brings together nine iconic F1 racing cars, including cars from World Championship winning teams, an immersive adrenaline-fuelled Formula 1 simulator experience.

The Museum's Senior Curator for Objects and Exhibitions, Gail Stewart-Bye says, "We are delighted to have Anthony Lawrence's work in our exhibition – it seems a very fitting location to have the dramatic motorsport portrait on display. Nigel Mansell is as much an icon of Formula 1 as the cars themselves."

Anthony Lawrence's daughter, Sara Lawrence says, "There is no more perfect home for this painting than the National Motor Museum. We as a family as absolutely thrilled that motorsport fans can enjoy the portrait as part of the Museum's displays."

The Icons of Formula 1 display headline sponsor is logistics company Indigo-Blue who work with the National Motor Museum to transport historic cars to events across Britain.

A retrospective exhibition of Anthony Lawrence's work is to be opened at Palais des Vaches, Nick and Caroline de Rothschild's gallery at Lower Exbury Farm between Beaulieu River and The Solent in early October. It will run throughout the month.

Further information on the Icons of Formula 1 display is available from www.beaulieu.co.uk

and www.nationalmotormuseum.org.uk

About the National Motor Museum

1. The National Motor Museum Trust Limited is a charitable organisation founded in 1972, which runs the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu in the New Forest. Continuing the work of the flagship Montagu Motor Museum, the Trust has a world-famous collection of 250 vehicles and associated motoring items, which are on display in the National Motor Museum.

2. The nearby Collections Centre houses and cares for a vast array of motoring artefacts, photographic images, specialist reference library and film and video library. For more information about its collection and services see www.nationalmotormuseum.org

3. Visitors to Beaulieu can enjoy a full day out with features including the ancestral Montagu home Palace House, 13th century Beaulieu Abbey, adventure play area Little Beaulieu, and grounds and gardens. Tickets can be bought in advance. For tickets or more information, see www.beaulieu.co.uk or call 01590 612345.

4. A full calendar of events and exhibitions is held at Beaulieu by the National Motor Museum, including Collection Centre Open Days, Classic Grille Evenings, Meet the Curator events and Transport Torques. Details are available at www.nationalmotormuseum.org.uk/events