



GRAND
PRIX
MACAU

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Times

SUPPLEMENT

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F3
BACK
TO THE
OLD DAYS
with a twist

RENATO MARQUES



Ilott



Norris



Eriksson

Renato Marques

AFTER one unusual edition that marked the start of a new competition in Macau with the creation by the International Federation of the FIA F3 World Cup, this year's F3 race seems to be "back to its old days."

Now without the former champions of the Guia Circuit, who rushed through the first edition of this international event, the second edition of the F3 World Cup, created by the International Federation, seems to have returned to the days of the former Intercon-

tinental Cup. Previously, the F3 World Cup used to gather the best racers from the European and Japanese F3 Championships in Macau to battle the streets of the Guia circuit for a trophy and also the an opportunity to shine in the eyes of Formula One recruiters.

Putting aside the latter - the Formula One recruitment strategy seems to now start earlier and takes note of a lot more factors than before. This year in Macau, we can expect to see what made F3 the "Queen" of the Macau races, as well as a good number of young racers competing their way to the top, at what is in many

people's eyes one of the most challenging circuits.

The entry list for the 35th F3 Grand Prix in Macau includes several of the most highlighted names of the junior motorsport panorama, as well as the newly crowned FIA Formula 3 European champion Lando Norris.

Norris, a recruit of the McLaren Formula 1 team, will be one of the drivers of the five-car entry from the Carlin Team, driving the Dallara Volkswagen car, which had performed well last year and was a the higher step of the podium thanks to Portuguese driver António Félix da Costa. That allowed Norris to attain nine overall

race wins this season in their rookie year in the European championship.

Lining up right beside Norris will be Sweden's Joel Eriksson. The 19-year-old, who is deemed to be the next Felix Rosenqvist, will be returning to Macau after last year's unsuccessful debut in Macau, where he did not complete the race. His CV shows that besides being in second position overall in this season's FIA Formula 3 European championship (right behind Norris) with seven wins and a 53 points lead, Eriksson holds two major title wins from last year - a Masters of Formula 3 as

well as the FIA European Formula 3 Championship rookie champion.

Racing with Motopark, Eriksson will also be racing a Dallara Volkswagen, similar to Norris, and with a bit more luck and experience, he is in the run for a win, or at least a podium finish.

Maximilian Gunther, on behalf of Theodore Racing by Prema, will also be competing for a win. The German has been gaining experience and this year, he scored third overall on the FIA European F3, just five points behind Eriksson. Similar to Eriksson, Gunther's debut in Macau last year



Q&A TOM CORONEL WTCC RACE DRIVER

'Macau is magical'

Renato Marques

KKNOWN for many things, including his sympathy and irreverent style that led to some of the most unusual ideas for car liveries such as the "sharpen shark teeth" or the renowned "Eat my Dust" displayed on the back of many of his cars, Dutch Tom Coronel is one of the most renowned names in automobi-

le racing and of the Guia circuit, where he started to race over 20 years ago.

Back to Macau with the return of the World Touring Car Championship (WTCC) this year after an absence of two years (2015 and 2016) where the Guia Race was conducted under TCR regulations, Coronel (45) is back to make the competition "Eat his Dust."

To learn more about his

thoughts on this comeback and also on his career perspectives we spoke to Tom Coronel ahead of the Macau Grand Prix.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – How do feel about Macau and to be back to its streets after two editions of the Grand Prix?

Tom Coronel (TC) – Macau is magical in everything so I'm very



Yamashita



Gunther



Sette Câmara

ays' with a twist

was marred by a crash and resulted in his retirement from the race. Together with his teammate Callum Ilott, also featuring a Dallara Mercedes from Theodore, Gunther will certainly try to fight for a place to be amongst the first three to cross the finish line.

Gaining popularity along the season are two other men from the Carlin squad that will have an important role in this race. Jehan Daruvala and Ferdinand Habsburg have been racing all season-long representing Carlin, with Daruvala, a junior driver for the Force India F1 team, making a significant evolution during the

year to finish sixth for the FIA European F3 and second in the Rookie Championship, right behind Norris.

For Daruvala, this will be his debut year in Macau and he will surely use the experience of his teammates to cut the learning curve and show his skills on track. It may be too soon to think about a podium finish, but a place in the top five is possible, if he learns the circuit well.

From the Japanese Championship side, a few names come to mind, among them two former Japanese Formula 3 champions - Kenta Yamashita and Yuhi Sekiguchi.

While both will be racing on the Japanese Super Formula this year, Sekiguchi has been showing a better form as he is currently fourth overall (Yamashita is 11th) but both have enough experience to take on any of the B-MAX Dallara Volkswagen, who would interfere in their game.

Another strong competitor is Sho Tsuboi, who finished second at the Japanese F3 Championship. Tsuboi has the chance to prove himself and Macau is another opportunity to increase his rank in the sport.

It will also be interesting to watch the performances of two

important names in the motorsport, Mick Schumacher and Pedro Piquet. Mick, who is the son of seven-time Formula 1 World Champion Michael Schumacher, has completed his rookie season in F3 this year and visits Macau for the first time in a bid to continue his family tradition that has already seen his father win the Grand Prix in 1990, and his uncle Ralf repeat the deed five years later.

Pedro Piquet, who is the son of three-time Formula 1 World Champion Nelson Piquet, returns to Macau after a debut last year where he finished a strong ninth.

This time Piquet will try to improve his performance.

Last but not least, Brazilian driver Sérgio Sette Câmara returns to the F3 competition after becoming a race winner in his rookie season in the FIA Formula 2 Championship this year. The Brazilian has some "unfinished business" in Macau, being third with Carlin last year and having set the fastest lap in his rookie year in 2015.

This will be decided through three days of free practice, qualifying sessions and the Qualification Race, before things get really serious during the Grand Prix on Sunday.

happy to be back again. It's [for me] the most challenging track together with the Nordschleife Nurburgring - the best.

Every year when I return to Macau I see that things changed a lot so I'm expecting that after two years I'm finding [it's] different again.

I really saw many changes [across the years] after my first visit to race back in 1996 with F3. Twenty-one years later, I can say I have seen a lot happening.

MDT - As you mentioned, you have been racing in Guia Circuit for many years. Do you think all that ac-

cumulated experience can make some difference during the upcoming Macau GP WTCC Event?

TC - Yes, this is one of those circuits where you need experience [to succeed]. Last time I [raced here] I qualified P3 (third place) behind the factory Citroens in what was a big achievement [taking in note] my car. But I do attribute that achievement to the fact that I know the track very well and know exactly where are the many places where you need to "stay cool", and also the other places where you can make time.

It's a big smile to race here; I just made about

100 laps in my mind [just now!]

MDT - How do you perceive the upcoming future of touring car races? Does WTCC have a future?

TC - Of course it has, it is the best there is and puts on a good show for the people as they see cars that they recognize from the streets racing but I hope that we go back to our cars [specifications] like we had about four years ago. More manufacturers and better competition because nowadays [with current regulations] only the factory teams can score well. As a privateer, to have won two races last year was

already special.

Let's get less "downforce" and more "rubbing"... bumping a bit is a part of racing [Colonel smiles]. So please get TCR [regulations] back.

MDT - What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you think about the Macau Race?

TC - If you crash your confidence is down 50 percent and this is a handicap that you carry for the rest of the weekend.

But I love this long fast street circuit so it's with great joy I'm coming here again. I did miss Macau on our calendar for the last two years.

MDT - Over these 21 years how many times have you raced in Macau?

TC - I [actually] should try to count how many times I raced here... Maybe 12-15 times, I need to double-check [to confirm the exact number].

MDT - The 2017 season of WTCC is almost closing, what will do next?

TC - Racing, Racing, and more Racing, for the rest of my life! First [in the programme] is the Dakar Rally that I will race again together with my brother and after that I'll start preparing for 2018, and, of course, in

touring cars.

One thing is certain I won't stop racing never; it's my way of life already for the past 28 years. Eat My Dust!

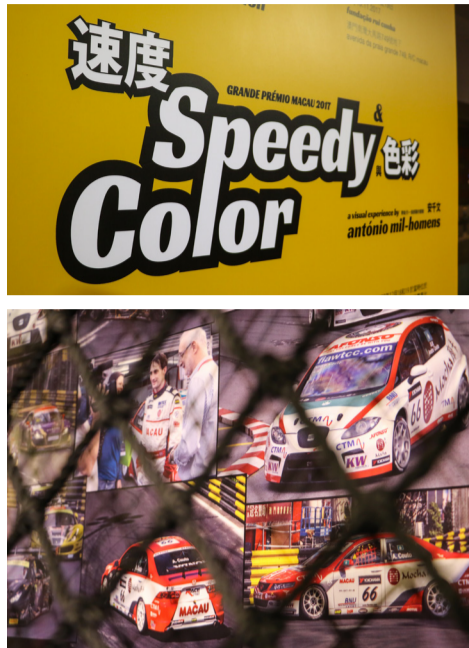
MDT - You have been presented before as one of the racers to be involved in the upcoming Electric GT Championship. What the status on that championship?

TC - I don't know much about it for the time being but I know there is a future in it [EV racing] so let's wait and see... But it will happen, I'm sure, just if you ask me exactly when... That I don't know yet!

RENATO MARQUES



António Mil-Homens



Photographer presents a 'different visual experience' of the Grand Prix

Renato Marques

SPEEDY & COLOR is the latest project from veteran Portuguese photographer and longtime Macau resident António Mil-Homens. This time, Mil-Homens brings

Macau a new visual experience through a photography exhibition at the Rui Cunha Foundation along Avenida da Praia Grande. The exhibition focuses on the Macau Grand Prix and gives new insight into the event, presenting

numerous photographs taken by Mil-Homens over the years and showcasing them in a graphic and visually different atmosphere. At the exhibition's opening on November 8, the artist said, "With all honesty, I would say that I wouldn't want to participa-

te [in] this exhibition if the idea was only to display 15, 20 or 25 photographs hanging well framed on the white walls of this gallery. But when I saw that we [the artist and the Rui Cunha Foundation staff] were in perfect accordance [agreement] to arrive to this way

[of displaying the works]. I just have to thank everyone and to say that it is a great pleasure to be displaying here." The exhibition presents images in several different ways, from large printed backdrops that fill the walls to a series of sequenced images displayed as a collage to convey a sense of movement. Additionally, there is a digital screen displaying a huge archive of over 300 other photographs, showcasing different times and angles of the Macau Grand Prix event, as captured by the camera of Mil-Homens. "Our [best] bet was to go to a smaller format on the photos so we can have a more extensive display with more photographs on display, for those with time and patience can also see [all files on] display on the screen," Mil-Homens added. Another element of the exhibition is the inclusion of several pieces that directly project the atmosphere of the race itself, such as rims and several car parts. In another area, photographs are displayed behind a net, resembling the actual vision of the photographers when trying to capture the Grand Prix. The exhibition will be on display at the Rui Cunha Foundation Gallery on Avenida da Praia Grande until November 19, the last day of the 2017 Grand Prix.

AD

NOVEMBER 16 - 19

16th of November (Thursday)

- 06:00 Circuit Closed
- 06:30 - 07:00 Circuit Inspection
- 07:30 - 08:30 Suncity Group Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - 51 st Edition - Practice
- 08:50 - 09:20 Suncity Group Chinese Racing Cup - Practice
- 09:35 - 10:15 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - Free Practice 1
- 10:35 - 11:05 CTM Macau Touring Car Cup 1600cc Turbo - Practice
- 11:20 - 11:50 SJM Macau GT Cup - FIA GT World Cup - Free Practice 1
- 12:25 - 12:55 CTM Macau Touring Car Cup over 1950cc - Practice
- 13:10 - 13:55 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - Free Practice 1
- 14:10 - 14:50 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - Qualifying 1
- 15:40 - 16:25 Suncity Group Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - 51 st Edition - Qualifying
- 18:00 - 18:00 Circuit Opened

17th of November (Friday)

- 06:00 Circuit Closed
- 06:30 - 07:00 Circuit Inspection
- 07:30 - 08:15 Suncity Group Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - 51 st Edition - Qualifying
- 08:25 - 08:55 Suncity Group Chinese Racing Cup - Qualifying
- 09:15 - 10:00 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - Free Practice 2
- 10:15 - 10:40 CTM Macau Touring Car Cup 1600cc Turbo - Qualifying
- 11:00 - 11:30 SJM Macau GT Cup - FIA GT World Cup - Free Practice 2
- 11:45 - 12:25 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - Free Practice 2
- 12:40 - 13:05 CTM Macau Touring Car Cup over 1950cc - Qualifying
- 13:25 - 14:40 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - Qualifying
- 14:50 - 15:10 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - MAC 3
- 15:25 - 16:05 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - Qualifying 2
- 16:25 - 16:55 SJM Macau GT Cup - FIA GT World Cup - Qualifying
- 18:30 - 18:30 Circuit Opened

18th of November (Saturday)

- 06:00 Circuit Closed
- 06:30 - 07:00 Circuit Inspection
- 07:30 - 08:30 Safety, Rescue and Extrication Cars - Testing laps
- 09:00 - 10:00 Suncity Group Chinese Racing Cup - 10 laps
- 10:20 - 11:10 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - Qualification Race - 10 laps
- 11:30 - 11:50 Suncity Group Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - 51 st Edition - Warm Up
- 12:25 - 13:30 SJM Macau GT Cup - FIA GT World Cup - Qualification Race - 12 laps
- 14:10 - 15:10 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - Opening Race - 8 laps
- 15:40 - 16:40 Suncity Group Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix - 51 st Edition - 12 laps
- 18:00 - 18:00 Circuit Opened

19th of November (Sunday)

- 06:00 Circuit Closed
- 06:30 - 07:00 Circuit Inspection
- 07:00 - 07:50 Safety, Rescue and Extrication Cars - Testing laps
- 08:00 - 08:30 Special Event
- 09:00 - 10:00 CTM Macau Touring Car Cup 1600cc Turbo and over 1950cc - 12 laps
- 10:40 - 11:40 Suncity Group Macau Guia Race - FIA WTCC - Main Race - 11 laps
- 12:10 - 13:40 SJM Macau GT Cup - FIA GT World Cup - 18 laps
- 15:10 - 15:20 Lion Dance
- 15:30 - 16:30 Suncity Group Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix - FIA F3 World Cup - 15 laps
- 18:00 - 18:00 Circuit Opened