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News

Yee-Haw! Nissan Z Cars Invade Nashville

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NASHVILLE, Tennessee — In a city best known for country music and countless honky-tonks, it's a surprise to find a selection of some of the world's most unique Z cars. The Lane Motor Museum's "*Nissan Z Cars*" exhibit opened Thursday, October 11, and runs through July 2008.


This is the third installment of a continuing series of shows sponsored by the Nissan Heritage Collection. Since moving its North American headquarters to Nashville in July of last year, Nissan has used the creative and quirky Lane Motor Museum to showcase its collection of historical vehicles.

"We initially did a racecar display with Nissan," says Jeff Lane, founder of the Lane Motor Museum. "Then there was an exhibit of early Datsuns/Nissans, with cars from 1934 to the 1960s." Lane says that an exhibit focusing on Nissan's famous Z sports car is a great next step for this successful partnership.

Included among the seven Z cars is a 1974 260Z, once owned by Mr. Yutaka Katayama, former president of Nissan North America. Also known as "The Father of the Z Car" or "Mr. K," this car alone is enough to get Z car fans drooling and ready to fork over the modest \$5 admission fee. Other cars include a pristine 1971 240Z, a 10th-anniversary 280Z, a wild Steve Millen-tuned 300ZX and a preproduction version of the current [350Z](#).

These seven Z cars are only a small part of the incredible and, at times, downright bizarre assortment of vehicles that comprise the Lane Motor Museum. Once a Sunbeam bread factory, the 40,000-square-foot main floor space is now home to Lane's enormous collection. "At last count, I think we're at 350 cars. And that's not including the 30-35 Nissans," says Lane with a chuckle.

Cars are divided by country, with separate sections for military vehicles, micro-cars, electric



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vehicles and a collection of several dozen motorcycles. More information about the Lane Motor Museum — including directions and admission fees — can be found at its Web site.

What this means to you: The Grand Ole Opry or a collection of incredible classic cars? We know which one we'd visit.

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