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MINI USA DEBUTS "INNER DRIVE" CAMPAIGN.



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MINI USA ARTFULLY RECREATES ITS HERITAGE WITH "THE INNER DRIVE."

Creative Campaign Illustrates Inspired Story of Mini's Genesis.

Woodcliff Lake, NJ – February 11, 2020 – MINI USA today launched its latest marketing campaign, "The Inner Drive", which tells the story of how the first Mini was introduced to the world in a new interactive way.

Over sixty years ago, Englishman <u>Alec Issigonis</u> presented a new idea to the world – the Mini, a small, space-efficient, fuel efficient car that forever changed the automotive world. What started as an innovative idea on paper ultimately made the world rethink what it means to drive, while celebrating the power of small things.

Paying homage to the heritage of the MINI brand in the US, the campaign uses a tactile combination of illustration, light, and shadow, all captured in live action. Together the elements tell the story of how the first Mini came to be.

Created in collaboration with advertising agency <u>360i</u>, Italian artist <u>Virgilio Villoresi</u> and illustrator <u>Virginia Mori</u>, "The Inner Drive" centers around a 70 second film that unfolds within a handmade storybook.

The carefully crafted short tells the story of Alec's creative journey from the moment he came up with his ground-breaking idea, through the manufacturing process and the presentation of the first car to a throng of reporters. Using a dream-like approach, the campaign beautifully showcases how persistence and belief in oneself can result in revolutionary ideas.

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"The MINI brand has always embraced a creative spirit through forward-thinking ideas since the inception of the first car in 1959," said Steve Ambeau, Head of Marketing and Brand Communications for MINI USA. "The Inner Drive campaign allows people to connect with the inspiration and drive required to bring revolutionary ideas to life. Through the brilliance of a small, well-crafted story, this campaign celebrates the infectious spirit of MINI – a car built for everyone who loves to drive."

"The Inner Drive" was designed and shot over several days in Milan, Italy. Various versions of the film, along with hand-illustrated posters featuring quotes from Mini creator Alec Issigonis, will be showcased across social and online properties, as well as in cinema.

This is just one of many upcoming bold new steps to redefine the brand's platform "For the Drive." The platform has been developed for the US market and focuses on two core elements of the MINI brand – "Fun to Drive", and "Passion."

The longer-form version of the film can be viewed in MINI USA's YouTube channel and is running across online properties and social media as well as in cinema. YouTube links are:

- MINI USA Inner Drive Full video
- MINI USA Inner Drive 'Making Of' video

Additional images and assets are available for download on MINI USA News.com. Media interested in updates on MINI USA can also follow us on Twitter at @MINIUSANEWS.

About MINI in the US

MINI is an independent brand of the BMW Group. In the United States, MINI USA operates as a business unit of BMW of North America, LLC, located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey and includes the marketing and sales organizations for the MINI brand. The MINI USA sales organization is represented in the U.S. through a network of 121 MINI passenger car dealers in 39 states. MINI USA began selling vehicles in the U.S. in 2002 with the introduction of the MINI Cooper and MINI Cooper S Hardtops. Since then, the MINI Brand in the U.S. has grown to encompass a model range of five unique vehicles. Journalist notes: Media information about MINI and its products is available to journalists on-line at www.miniusanews.com.