

OLD SKOOL CUSTOMS

XJR 1300

HOME GROWN TALENTS

A few weeks ago we were contacted by Jason and Karl Gwyer of Old Skool Customs from Jarrow in Tyneside UK who enquired whether we might be interested in featuring some of their creative works.

We're always searching for amazing bike builders from all four corners of the globe and forever will try to promote developing ventures, but a little closer to home is always a treat too.

As soon as we saw their XJR 1300 build...we knew it was a winner. Just a fantastic look all around...meaty, raw and drop dead gorgeous...and this is what Jason & Karl had to say about it and the build process.





“The bike started life as a well cared for standard XJR1300, a bike I’d long had designs on building a homage to the beautifully simplistic cafe racers of the ‘50s.

I tore her down and started cutting, fabricating, filling, priming and painting. The biggest jobs were the front end swap out.

I opted for a sporty USD fork set up taken from a FZR1000, with a bit of manipulation and ingenuity, it works great. I then removed them, machined the gold anodise off and polished the tubes to a mirror shine.

The seat was a stock GRP unit, which I sanded to shape and frenched in the rear stop/tail light. I manufactured an aluminium under seat support and worked hour after hour hiding the electrics to maintain a minimalistic look to its side profile.

The air box was a tricky job, very difficult to remove, and left lots of tabs on the frame in its wake...not compliant with the simple “see through” image I wanted...so the frame was detabbed, prepped and painted.



The exhausts are R6 GP style, detabbed and polished. Lack of an air box and use of cone filters killed the engines smooth running, so a stage 3 K&N dynojet kit was installed into the carbs...now she sounds so damn good, pulls like a train and pops and bangs on deceleration. Not a bike for shrinking violets!

The bike is fitted with a retro headlight and Acewell digital speedo/tachometer which completed the front end look. Pretty straightforward to fit and get to do what you need it to do.

Braided brake lines were added to the updated FZR calipers and a remanufactured GPZ500 front mudguard was added.

The 1970's paint job finished up the look and discreet bar end and frame end indicators were added.

Yamaha R6 rear sets were machined to suit and were a real labour of love (nightmare) to get to work.

The horns were hidden using bespoke brackets. Everything alloy on the bike has been hand polished and the alloy fuel flap was stripped and given a brushed sand effect. The project represents about 400 hours labour, and I've loved every second"





We're really diggin' this bike build from the Jarrow boys from Old Skool Customs. It's cut back, sleek and totally unpretentious.

On closer inspection, you pick out the finer details and realise the amount of work and thought that's gone into it...and how much it has paid off too.



We look forward to bringing you more bikes from Old Skool Customs and urge them to continue in the same manner...We Salute You!



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