

Business and Art

The Art of Air & Space Flight

By: Oscar S. Garcia



For most of us our day to day aerospace and aviation business activities revolve around regulatory compliance, safety-security and the overarching financial viability dimensions. No matter what our link is in the “flight” commerce chain, we must be practical and reasonable.

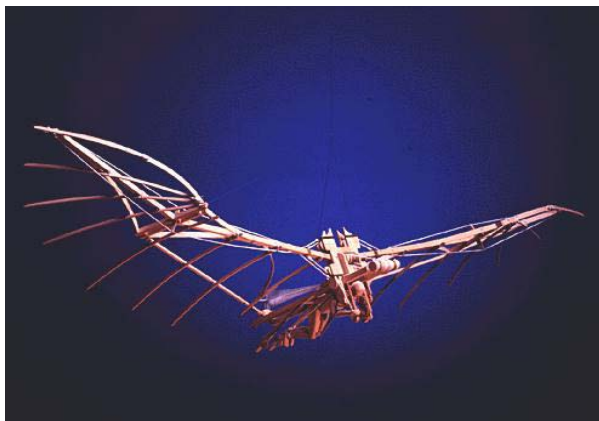
Oftentimes, we have an idea, a breakthrough thought, a creative vision, sparking excitement and energy; it could be a radical airplane design, an innovative business model, or a possible way to defy gravity altogether... More often than not, if not always, we dismiss the moment as impractical or simply not feasible, technically or financially.

What if we gave these inspirational moments a chance? What if we sketched our thoughts in a napkin? We could write a few words to tell the world about them or assemble some photographs, assemble a scale model or cut and paste some clippings as a concept collage.

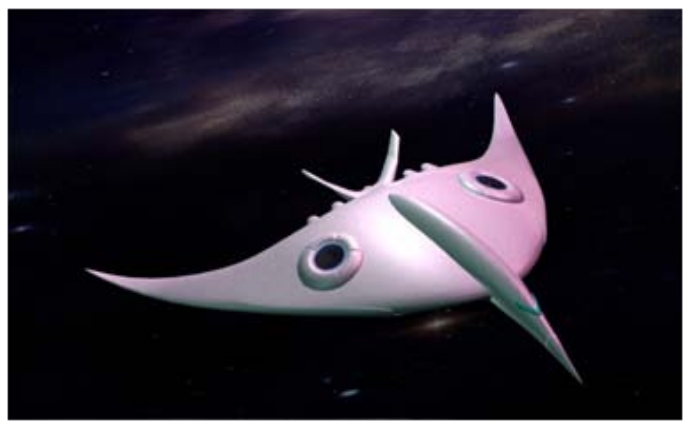
Some very special people, we call them flight inspired artists, do this all the time. In fact, contemporary artists inspired by flight and movement through space (air or vacuum), throughout history have had the freedom and courage to materialize their inspiration, transcending the technical, business and other rules of the game that most of us faithfully follow day in and day out.

Leonardo Da Vinci certainly did so in 1485, when he sketched and sculpted parachute, helicopter and gliders like objects, which were a practical reality much later. Interestingly, NASA frequently asks artists and art students, not salaried engineers; to imagine and draw how they think humans will fly and move across space 500 years from now.

As Art Basel lands in Miami next week, keep an eye out for inspired expressions of what air and space flight futures could be.



Leonardo Da Vinci “Glider”
Circa 1500



NASA Art Concept “Manta Spaceship”
Circa 2011

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