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Albury Airshow

Presenter: Jonathan Wright

Thursday, 4 March 2004



For the Victorian Pilot Steven Death and the Supermarine Spitfire Mk VIII



There are many features of this

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Catania
in
Australia
Russian YAK 52 Trainer, Pilot is Darren Williams

Jonathan Wright thought he'd find out a little more about the World War Two line up that includes Spitfire, Mustang, Kitty Hawk and Wirraway aircraft

Jonathan spoke to Spitfire pilot Steven Death.. "Its just one of those interests you have and I was just lucky enough to be able to fly those aeroplanes and I've enjoyed every bit of it.. We do aerobatics in it but being an old aeroplane it is still structurally sound and it's in very good condition but basically to keep it going a lot longer we keep the G limits low and we basically do loops, rolls and Cuban 8's on the flights with great care" says Steve

Pilot Darren DeRoia will also be flying a Strike Master during the show. The plane used to be owned by the New Zealand Air force "It a side by side sitting.. 480 knots top speed.. principally it's designed as a stable gun platform for ground attack.. so it's a low level type operation aircraft.. We go up to 4 Gs when we have got passengers ... What you are basically doing is ascending at the same speed as the gravitation acceleration so you are going down as fast as the earth is pulling you down so you have no gravitational pull effect"

Also a feature, the YAK 52 "This is the YAK52 that was built in Russia and it was used primarily to train the Russian pilots before they hopped into the jets.. It was designed to handle as close to a jet as possible even with the engine configuration and slow response time from idle to full power to simulate the same as what a jet would do from the same setting and handling wise the controls are all balanced to feel as close to the feel of a jet as possible" says pilot Darren Williams

[Albury Air Show](#)

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