

Ning Baizura, Tan Sri Dato'
(Dr) Francis Yeoh and the
winners



PRIZED PIECES

A CROWNING NIGHT OF AWARDS
SERVED AS THE PERFECT CLIMAX FOR
THE 10 DAY AFFAIR OF STARHILL
GALLERY'S 'A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME'

It was a match made in horological heaven – a retail-base watch fair with one of Asia's most beautiful shopping mall as the backdrop. And from Dec 3 to 12, Starhill Gallery was buzzing with fanfare, attracting a well-heeled crowd of watch aficionados, socialites and royalty who all returned home with memories of grand watch and jewellery launches galore and a pocketful of exquisite timepieces.

Over 100 of the world's most prestigious watch and jewellery brands took part in this inaugural event themed 'A Journey Through Time' conceived by Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Francis Yeoh, Group Managing Director of YTL Corporation Berhad (which operates Starhill Gallery). It was only fitting that the 10-day event culminated in a glamorous night of awards bestowed upon some of the most innovative and exciting timepieces presented at the fair.

The panel of judges read like the who's who of Malaysian high society, counting luminaries like the Ambassador of Switzerland to Malaysia His Excellency Dr. Urs Stemmler; Mr. Jean-François Meyer of the Federation of Swiss Watch Industry; Malaysia's pop princess Datuk Siti Nurhaliza; and Tan Sri Dato' Francis Yeoh himself. "Judging the submissions was no easy task. The criteria was indeed exacting and varied to suit the category that was being judged," said Tan Sri Dato' Francis.



Performance by famed Malaysian
violinist Genevieve Kam



Ning Baizura performing at
A Journey Through Time



You'd think that Starhill Gallery couldn't possibly fit in another watch boutique, but watchmaker Bernhard Lederer has seen fit to grace KL with the world's first ever BLU boutique. Standing for Bernhard Lederer's Universe, the BLU boutique is testament to the watchmaker's philosophy of simplicity and grace, with a contrasting play of dark walls and light finishings, a stark white couch and single glittering chandelier which allow the gorgeous watches to dazzle you silly.

With demand far outstripping supply, the 3,500-sq ft boutique is the best place to start amassing your BLU collection, from the flagship Planet model with its revolving dial-within-a-dial to the awe-inspiring Majesty T3 tourbillon that uses its three flying tourbillons to tell the time. Bling lovers who want a personal touch can opt for the diamond-drenched award-winning Blu Baguette that can be personalised with different precious stones.

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Starhill Gallery Favourite Men's Watch Award 2007 - Audemars Piguet, Royal Oak Offshore Jalan Bukit Bintang Chronograph



Tourism Malaysia Most Revered Watch Award 2007- Blu Majesty T3

On Dec 12, Shook! Restaurant at the Feast Village played host to the glittering awards ceremony and the first watch to take the stage was Villemont's Arctic Explorer Limited Edition Lewis Pugh, a sturdy green beauty that survived the famed explorer's trek to the North Pole and back. It deservedly bagged the Starhill Gallery Active Lifestyle Watch Award 2007.

Next up was the Favourite Men's and Ladies' Watch Award 2007, and Audemars Piguet's iconic Royal Oak Offshore Jalan Bukit Bintang Chronograph and Jaquet Droz' Tiger Eye Petite Heure Minute dominated in their respective categories. And de rigueur at any awards night was the celebrity quotient. For that, local songstress Ning Baizura took the stage by storm with her powerhouse vocals and glowing persona.

Three other awards hand-outs quickly followed the performance, with the Innovative Design Watch Award won by Richard Mille's RM012 Tourbillon; Complications in Movement Award going to Jaeger LeCoultre's Reverso Grande Complication à Triptyque and a special category of YTL Spirit of Classical Art Award, which saw Van Cleef & Arpels Lady Arpels Centenary commemoration watch take the prize. But the highlight of the night was undoubtedly the much coveted Tourism Malaysia's Most Revered Watch Award 2007. The accolade went justifiably to BLU's Majesty T3 tourbillon, a piece of engineering skill and artistry which allows the timepiece to tell the time by its 3 flying and half-flying tourbillons.



Starhill Gallery Active Lifestyle Watch award 2007- Villemont Lewis Pugh Arctic Explorer