

Tan Sri Dr
Francis Weh



Datin Aiy Siew, Lena Wang and
Dato' Francis Weh



WHO:
Starhill Gallery.

WHAT:
The Watch of the Year Awards, co-hosted by Starhill Gallery and the Ministry of Tourism, bringing the 10-day A Journey Through Time watch and jewellery showcase to a grand close.

WHERE:
Shook, Starhill Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.

WOW FACTOR:
A glamorous gathering of big names from the regional and international watch arenas, as well as a huge turnout of watch enthusiasts.

Oliver Müller of Millemont
and Dr Bernard Cheong
Bank a model.



Dato' Mohdzan
Tan Mahathir



Ewa Loeberer
and Bernhard
Ludewig of BLU.



Tan Sri Yeoh
Tiong Lay



Datin Chai Schwyden
and Noni Abdullah



MASSIMO MACALUSO

Managing Director, JeanRichard

"My first ride on a motorbike was when I was 13, actually. My father certainly didn't know as I sneaked out on it. But speed and fast cars and bikes have always been a family passion. We might be living in Switzerland, but we are still Italian to the core. You could say that we have engines in our blood. Cars and bikes have always been an Italian thing. We are, after all, the country of Vespa, Ducati and, of course, MV Agusta. I currently own about four motorcycles – two MV Agustas and two Ducatis – although I also have a KTM, a type of rally bike used for doing stunts à la Evel Knievel. What I really love doing, though, is to ride my bike from Italy to Switzerland and vice versa. My own MV Agusta F4 1000 is perfect although, for city riding, the MV Brutale is better as it's more powerful with at least 140 horsepower. Running the company and working hard to make JeanRichard successful takes up a lot of my time but summertime and Sundays are when I get to really indulge. That is when I really enjoy myself."

OLIVIER R MÜLLER

CEO, Villemont

"Whenever I'm not travelling for work and have some time for leisure I love driving fast cars on the track. I enjoy the adrenalin rush from high speed velocity. I remember taking the BMW M6 on the track at 280km/h. The kick I got from such a driving experience was fantastic. Having said that, I am also aware that this kind of driving should remain on the track! Besides, I'm not an F1 driver. When not deriving pleasure from being behind the wheel, I also enjoy hiking at Jura Mountain, which is about 20 minutes' drive from where I stay. I love the peaceful surroundings and it keeps one with nature. I normally would engage in this activity together with my wife and my four-year-old son. We normally spend about four hours out there. Back at home, I also have a wine cellar where I keep my collection of wines. The oldest in my collection is this 1964 Bordeaux. I don't think I will



Yvan Arpa
CEO



Bernhard Lederer



Olivier R. Müller

ever drink it; it's just exhilarating to know that I have it down inside my cellar!"

YVAN ARPA

CEO, Romain Jerome

"Since young, I've always enjoyed martial arts. I believe it is good, for our mental health and for our spirit. I have taken up judo and karate since then. I had even once travelled to Thailand for two years to learn and take part in muay thai competitions. When I broke a leg in one competition, I came to Malaysia to recover. After a stint as a Mathematics teacher in my younger days, I decided to move on, and follow my creative inspiration. Being half Swiss and half Italian, my earlier life and career was perhaps due to my rational Swiss upbringing; and, now, I'm becoming more of an Italian, following my creative inspiration. I love poetry and art in general. My favourite collection of poems is the book *Les Fleurs du Mal* by Charles Baudelaire. As there are these three major career options to Switzerland – banking, chocolatier or watchmaking – I decided that

there could be poetry in designing timepieces. Even though I'm busy with watchmaking, I still practise martial arts, if only to eventually teach it to my young son. You may not believe it, but I was once a Swiss champion in karate!"

BERNHARD LEDERER

Master Watchmaker and CEO, BLU

"I remember growing up in a house always filled with music. My father used to play the organ, cello and something called a fagott. I'm also quite deft in playing the trumpet, clarinet, saxophone and piano. Although I can survive without life's little pleasures, I can't remember when there is no music in my house. When my wife and I are able to have the pleasure of dining in our homes, there will also be music in the background, music like Paganini or just some violin pieces. Every night before I go to sleep, there'd be moments when I just want to listen to music, no talking and no reading, just some soothing soft music in the ears, and with my eyes shut, obviously, in some concentration." ■