

CHAKRA

With sword-shaped hands, the deLaCour Saqra Triplex Iridium Tourbillon cuts into a new territory of watch design: the titanium case is protected by iridium alloy plates. Iridium, discovered in 1803, is a pretty common material in meteorites and the most corrosion resistant material known to man. The mechanics are not bad either. Apart from a 21-jewel tourbillon at six o'clock, the most interesting features are the green and red dials showing two alternative time zones on a 24-hour scale, and also showing the power reserve of the hand-wound calibre.

The unusual shape of the 48.9 millimetre wide, 49.5 millimetre high case is an attempt to be both circle and square, albeit slightly tonneau shape. But the tonneau is laid horizontally rather than vertically which is the more common thing to do. The idea to use both a circle and a square comes from an ancient symbol: one of the Indian chakras. Price around 210 000 Swiss francs.

www.delacour.ch



REMEMBER?

Ever wish you could push a button when your memory fails? With Memoire 1 from Maurice Lacroix it's possible. One hand for minutes, one for seconds, and a revolving disc for hours. But push on the button integrated in the crown, and everything instantly switches into a chronograph. And the great thing is that with a single push you can swap back and forth between ongoing time measuring or showing the time. The watch remembers how much time has passed while the chronograph is working. It's quite easy really – all it takes is a 537-piece in-house developed, patent pending calibre screwed together by an inhouse manufacture. Price upon request.

www.memoire1.ch

STILL GOT THE BLUES

This year sees an update of the BLU MT3, which received the Highest Watch Award in Malaysia in 2007. The international 10-person team of Bernhard Lederer Universe has created a time machine with a triple set of tourbillons connected to different time indicators. The main plate rotates a full lap every 12 hours, and the position of the fixed pillar of gold shows you the hour on the numberless display. The blue arm is connected with the middle tourbillon, which rotates once every hour, thus indicating minutes. Last but not least, there is a tourbillon on top, which drives the golden wheel to make a full circle every minute. On the wheel there is an engraving that serves as the second gauge.

"By showing each aspect of time as something separate and beautiful we invite you to feel what time is for you. How do you experience a second, a minute or an hour? Of course, it depends on the situation. If you are waiting for your future wife, five minutes can feel like an hour, and when you go on holiday with her you can't believe that three weeks have past by the time you have to go home. But we can only give you the invitation to think about time in a new way. Then it is up to you if you reply to the invitation," says Mr Lederer. The price in Switzerland for the 50 pieces is 280 000 + VAT. As Lederer puts it: "The only difference between a man and a boy is the price of his toys." www.blu.ch



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