

# REVUE DE PRESSE SUISSE



## GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

### 2015

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Date: 05.01.2016



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022 718 33 33

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Genre de média: Médias imprimés

Type de média: Magazines spéc. et de loisir

Tirage: 23'297

Parution: 5x/année



GPHG

GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033

N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Page: 82

Surface: 143'707 mm²

# Zoom GPHG 2015

TEXTE Brice Lechevalier



STEPHEN FORSEY (Co-founder of Greubel Forsey, winner of the 'Nagali d'Or' Grand Prix 2015), with Alain Berset (Federal Councilor) and Jean-Charles Zufferey (Vice-President of Breguet and jury member 2015)

ALAIN BERSET (Federal Councilor) and JEAN-CLAUDE BIVER (President of the Watch Division of the LVMH Group and Chairman of Hublot, winner of the Ladies' Watch Prize 2015)

PATRICK HOFFMANN (CEO of Ulysse Nardin, winner of the Tourbillon Watch Prize 2015) with Pierre Meuwet (State Councilor)

PHILIPPE PEUTRELLI (CEO of Hublot, winner of the Sports Watch Prize 2015)

LAURENT DOREY (CEO of La Montre, winner of the Calendar Watch Prize 2015)



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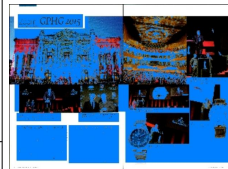
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N° de thème: 781.033

N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Page: 82

Surface: 143'707 mm<sup>2</sup>

## 15<sup>e</sup> cérémonie des Oscars de l'horlogerie

Le 29 octobre 2015 au Grand Théâtre de Genève, le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève a levé le voile sur les lauréats 2015, récompensés dans 12 catégories et par 6 prix spéciaux. Présidé par Aurel Bacs, le jury international de 26 experts a mis l'accent sur la diversité, l'audace et l'exclusivité. Remportée par Breguet l'an passé, l'Aiguille d'Or a été remise par son vice-président Jean-Charles Zufferey à Steven Forsey de Greubel Forsey, en présence du conseiller fédéral Alain Berset (ci-dessus). La cérémonie a couronné un processus de sélection de quatre mois en trois phases, et une exposition des 72 montres sélectionnées (6 par catégories, de facto distinguées à ce stade) à Hong Kong, Macao, Séoul et Dubai. Les lauréates ont ensuite été exposées au SalonQP de Londres. Retrouvez l'analyse de la rédaction et des sélections dans chaque catégorie sur le dossier GPHG de WorldTempus.com

## 15<sup>th</sup> watchmaking "Oscars" ceremony

On October 29<sup>th</sup> 2015 at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève revealed the names of the 2015 prize-winners honored in 12 categories and by 6 special prizes. The international jury of 26 experts chaired by Aurel Bacs placed the emphasis firmly on diversity, daring and exclusivity. The "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prix won by Breguet last year was presented by its vice-president Jean-Charles Zufferey to Stephen Forsey of Greubel Forsey. The ceremony, attended by Federal Councilor Alain Berset (pictured below), was the culmination of a four-month, three-phase process, as well as an itinerant exhibition of the 72 pre-selected watches (six per category, already singled out at that stage) that made stopovers in Hong Kong, Macau, Seoul and Dubai. The prize-winners were then exhibited at the SalonQP in London. Check out the analysis by the editorial team and the selections for each category in the GPHG feature on WorldTempus.com



**FRANÇOIS BENNAHMIA**s (CEO of Audemars Piguet, winner of the Jewellery Watch Prize 2015)

**CHRISTIAN LATTMANN** (Senior Executive Vice President of Jaquet Droz, winner of the Mechanical Exception Watch Prize 2015) Carlo Lamprecht (President of GPHG fondation)







PIAGET, Altiplano Chrono



GIRARD-PERREGAUX, Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges



BLANCPAIN Villeret, Shakudo dial

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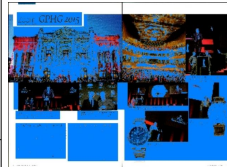
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Genre de média: Médias imprimés

Type de média: Magazines spéc. et de loisir

Tirage: 23'297

Parution: 5x/année



N° de thème: 781.033

N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Page: 82

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**GRAND PRIX DE L'AIGUILLE D'OR "AIGUILLE D'OR" GRAND PRIX**

*Greubel Forsey, Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE DAME LADIES' WATCH PRIZE**

*Hublot, Big Bang Broderie*

**PRIX HAUTE MÉCANIQUE POUR DAME**

**LADIES' HIGH-MECH WATCH PRIZE**

*Fabergé, Lady Compliquée Peacock*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE HOMME MEN'S WATCH PRIZE**

*Voutilainen, Voutilainen GMR*

**PRIX DU CHRONOGRAPHE CHRONOGRAPH WATCH PRIZE**

*Piaget, Altiplano Chrono*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE TOURBILLON TOURBILLON WATCH PRIZE**

*Ulysse Nardin, Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE CALENDRIER CALENDAR WATCH PRIZE**

*Hermès, Slim d'Hermès QP*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE À SONNERIE STRIKING WATCH PRIZE**

*Girard-Perregaux, Répétition Minute Tourbillon sous Ponts d'Or*

**PRIX DE L'EXCEPTION MÉCANIQUE**

**MECHANICAL EXCEPTION WATCH PRIZE**

*Jaquet Droz, The Charming Bird*

**PRIX DE LA "PETITE AIGUILLE" "PETITE AIGUILLE" PRIZE**

*Habring2, Felix*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE SPORT SPORTS WATCH PRIZE**

*Tudor, Pelagos*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE JOAILLERIE JEWELLERY WATCH PRIZE**

*Audemars Piguet, Diamond Punk*

**PRIX DE LA MONTRE MÉTIERS D'ART**

**ARTISTIC CRAFTS WATCH PRIZE**

*Blancpain, Villeret, cadran Shakudo*

**PRIX DE L'INNOVATION INNOVATION WATCH PRIZE**

*Antoine Preziuso, Tourbillon des Tourbillons*

**PRIX RÉVÉLATION HORLOGÈRE**

**HOROLOGICAL REVELATION PRIZE**

*Laurent Ferrier, Galet Square*

**PRIX "REVIVAL" REVIVAL WATCH PRIZE**

*Piaget, Extremely Piaget Montre Manchette Recto Verso*

**PRIX SPÉCIAL DU JURY SPECIAL JURY PRIZE**

*Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus, Jean-Luc Perrin. Les trois horlogers de Vacheron Constantin, concepteurs de la montre Référence 57260. Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus, Jean-Luc Perrin. The three Vacheron Constantin watchmakers responsible for developing the Reference 57260 watch.*

**PRIX DU PUBLIC PUBLIC PRIZE**

*Antoine Preziuso, Tourbillon des Tourbillons*



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Economie

04.01.2016

## Dépasser les turbulences économiques

Texte

Paul O'Neil



Ce qu'il faut retenir du trimestre passé - 04.01

Ce fut une rentrée chargée pour l'industrie horlogère avec deux nouveaux événements régionaux : la première Dubai Watch Week et la première exhibition de montres de l'histoire de l'Inde, la Time Avenue Haute Horlogerie. Ces dernières sont venues s'ajouter à un agenda déjà bien rempli par le SIAR de Mexico City, le SalonQP à Londres et Belles Montres à Paris. WorldTempus a néanmoins relevé le défi et a couvert en détail l'ensemble de ces manifestations grâce à sa rédaction grandissante et à ses contributeurs indépendants.

Au milieu de cette pléthore de salons est venu s'insérer le traditionnel Grand Prix de l'Horlogerie de Genève et la vente aux enchères caritative bisannuelle Only Watch. Ces deux rendez-vous nous ont réservé leur lot de surprises. Comme chaque année avec le GPHG, les critiques à l'encontre des décisions du Jury sont aisées... surtout pour ceux qui ont si souvent des opinions très subjectives sur telle ou telle montre qui aurait dû remporter tel ou tel prix... ou pas. En revanche, s'il y a une décision plus difficile à contester que les autres, il s'agit bien du lauréat de la prestigieuse Aiguille d'Or : la Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision. Très peu d'horlogers accordent autant d'importance à la finition et à la décoration de leurs mouvements que Robert Greubel et Stephen Forsey pour qui cela relève de la véritable obsession. Avec le concours de Philippe Dufour, ces passionnés travaillent à préserver les techniques de production traditionnelles pour les générations futures. L'exposition itinérante du Grand Prix est, pour sa part, allée de succès en succès. Elle a conduit les 72 finalistes à la rencontre des publics de Dubaï, Séoul, Macao et Hong Kong, alors que les vainqueurs ont pu prolonger l'aventure au SalonQP de Londres.



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Only Watch 2015 a battu tous les records et a permis de rassembler 11 millions CHF en faveur de la recherche contre la Myopathie. Sur la somme récoltée, 7,3 millions CHF sont venus d'une seule et unique montre. Sans surprise, c'est la Patek Philippe qui a fait des émules parmi les collectionneurs du monde entier qui se sont battus au téléphone et dans la salle dans l'espoir d'acquérir la « star » de la vente. Tudor s'est également distingué à cette occasion : la marque a astucieusement estimé sa Heritage Black Bay One model au prix standard de la Heritage Black Bay. Cette approche audacieuse, combinée à ses nombreux détails vintage prisés des collectionneurs, a déclenché une guerre d'enchères qui a porté le prix final à 100 fois son estimation.

La fréquence des événements, le nombre de nouvelles marques lancées ainsi que l'appétit insatiable pour les garde-temps d'exception s'inscrit dans un mouvement à contre-courant de la baisse des exportations des montres suisses.



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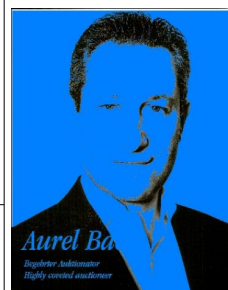
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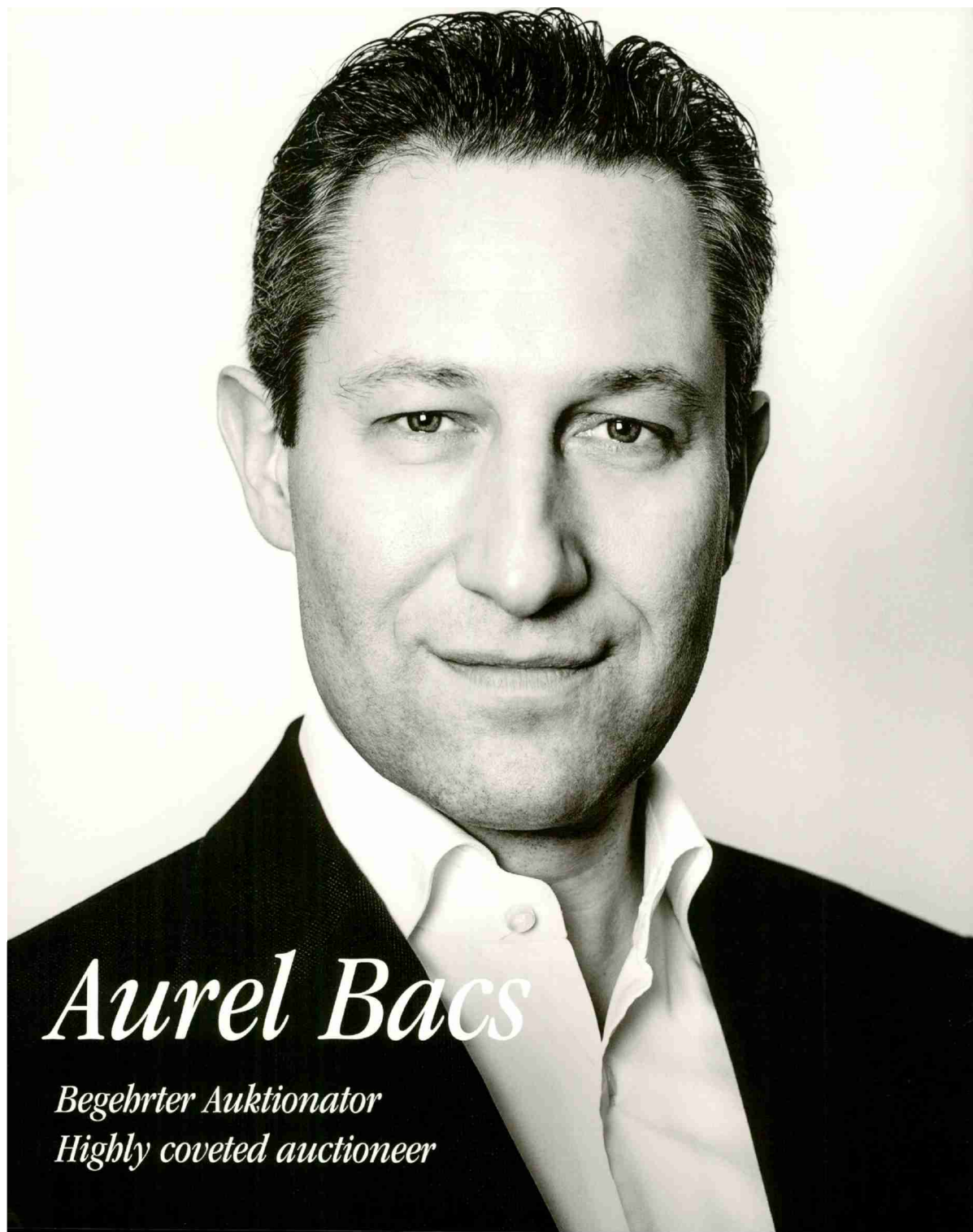
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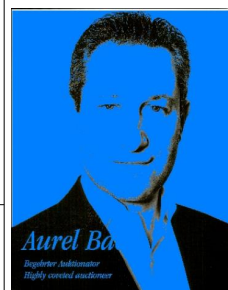
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Type de média: Presse spécialisée  
Tirage: 15'000  
Parution: 4x/année



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GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 74  
Surface: 389'399 mm<sup>2</sup>





## TEXT SONJA FUNK-SCHULER

FOTOS / PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHILLIPS, IAN BELL,  
TOMAS DIKK, GPHG

AUREL BACS, EIN NAME, DER UNTRENNBAR MIT DER WELT DER HOHEN UHRMACHERKUNST VERBUNDEN IST.

SAMMLER AUS DER GANZEN WELT VERFOLGEN JEDEN SEINER SCHRITTE UND VERTRAUEN SEINEM KLUGEN RAT. SEINEN EXPERTENHÄNDEN ANVERTRAUT, ERZIELEN DIE BERÜHMTESTEN ZEITMESSER ÜBERALL AUF DER WELT REKORDVERKAUFSSUMMEN. FERN DER AUKTIONSSÄLE EMPFÄNGT DER CHARISMATISCHE AUKTIONATOR

### ROADBOOK IN SEINEN GENFER BÜRORÄUMEN, EINE ZIFFERNBLATTRUNDE LANG.

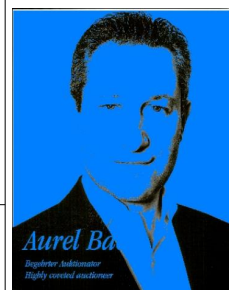
**A**uf die Frage nach den Voraussetzungen für seinen Werdegang antwortet Aurel Bacs ohne zu zögern: "Mein Vater hat mich gelehrt, Emotionen auszuleben und in dem, was uns im Alltag umgibt, die Schönheit zu sehen. Er tat alles von Herzen, seine Entscheidungen traf er oft aus der Seele heraus. Er hatte ein unglaubliches Erzähl talent und erfand Geschichten, die in mir die Faszination für alte Objekte nährten, insbesondere Uhren und Automobile." So überrascht es nicht, dass sich Aurel Bacs dafür entschied, eine seiner Passionen ganz auszuleben und zu erleben, und dazu bestimmt war, einer der renommiertesten Experten in der Uhrenwelt zu werden.

### EINE SELTENE EXPERTISE

Wie sein Vater gibt Aurel Bacs dem Herzen Vorrang vor der Vernunft. Als Student an der juristischen Fakultät der Universität Zürich verbringt er bald den Grossteil seiner Zeit damit, die Schweiz auf der Suche nach aussergewöhnlichen Uhren zu durchforsten, deren Verkauf sein Studium finanziert. 1994 konkretisiert sich sein Schicksal. Mit nur 25 Jahren beginnt er als Junior-Uhrenexperte beim Aktionshaus Sotheby's. Er bleibt dort bis 2000 und arbeitet dann nacheinander bei Phillips, Pury

& Luxembourg und schliesslich Christie's als Leiter der Uhrenabteilung, wo er 2003 bis 2012 buchstäblich den Umsatz explodieren liess, der von 8 auf 126 Millionen Dollar stieg. Als er 2013 ging, machten Gerüchte über seinen definitiven Ausstieg aus der Auktionswelt die Runde. Weit gefehlt! Achtzehn Monate später vertraute ihm Phillips den Aufbau seiner Uhrenabteilung an. Eine schöne Zusammenarbeit für ihn, der mit seiner Frau Livia das Uhren-Beratungsunternehmen Bacs & Russo gegründet hatte, das Sammler, Museen und Marken berät.

Doch wie wird man Auktionator? "Da gibt es keine Regel, noch feste Kriterien. Was mich betrifft, habe ich sehr früh eine starke Motivation empfunden, die Objekte, die mir anvertraut wurden, so gut wie möglich zu verkaufen. Dann erfordert diese Arbeit natürlich ein Zusammentreffen mehrerer Elemente: man muss "Entertainer" sein können, Nähe aufbauen, ohne die notwendige Distanz zu verlieren, wobei Präsenz und die Stimme entscheidend sind. Und man muss natürlich mit Zahlen umgehen können", sagt er lächelnd und fährt fort: "Vor jedem Verkauf liegt die Erstellung eines Katalogs, die Entdeckung von Objekten, Verhandlung mit den Besitzern,



Organisation des Transports, Versicherungen, Fotoaufnahmen... Etappen, die sich über einen Zeitraum von sechs Monaten erstrecken. Und dann, nach all diesen Anstrengungen, sind die Objekte in weniger als einer Minute (!) jemandem zugesprochen! Der Beruf verlangt also vor allem Leidenschaft."

## QUALITÄT HAT OBERSTE PRIORITÄT

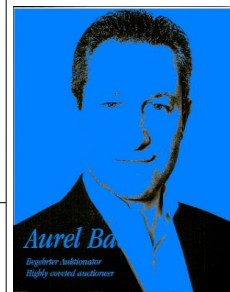
Die Selbstständigkeit kam nicht von ungefähr. "Ich werde immer in der Welt der Uhren aktiv bleiben, ich liebe meinen Beruf, und wenn man liebt, hat man eine grössere Chance, erfolgreich zu sein mit dem, was man unternimmt. Ich habe jedoch beschlossen, mich von den Auktionshäusern zurückzuziehen, da dies eine sehr intensive Tätigkeit ist, bei der man sich keine Ruhe gönnt und ständig das Adrenalin durch den Körper jagt. Mit 20, 30 Jahren ist das ganz in Ordnung, doch in den Vierzigern hatte ich das Bedürfnis, das Leben etwas ruhiger anzugehen. Ich habe schon immer die Qualität der Quantität vorgezogen. Im Vergleich zur Konkurrenz bearbeite ich nur ungefähr die Hälfte an Objekten, doch sind alle von unschätzbbarer Qualität. Als Selbstständiger gönne ich mir natürlich weniger Urlaub, doch wenn, dann von bester Qualität. Es gibt weniger Treffen mit Sammlern, aber sie haben hohe Qualität. Ich kann 16 Stunden am Tag arbeiten, bin jedoch mit mir selbst im Einklang und empfinde am Abend eine wohlthuende, heitere Müdigkeit. Die Partnerschaft mit Phillips ist von gleicher Art. Edward Dolman, der CEO, erlaubt mir, nach meiner eigenen Verkaufsvision vorzugehen und den Katalog entsprechend zusammenzustellen. Es gibt keine unnötigen bürokratischen Strukturen, alles entwickelt sich in vollem Vertrauen, fern aller lauer Kompromisse",

präzisiert unser Gesprächspartner.

Bis zum heutigen Tag haben Aurel Bacs und seine Frau mit drei Auktionshäusern zusammengearbeitet, drei Büros in Hong Kong und Genf eröffnet und ihre Teams in London und New York vergrössert, um international präsent zu sein.

## REKORDVERKÄUFE

Obwohl Aurel Bacs schon an die 25'000 Uhren verkauft hat, ist seine Begeisterung über die Schätze, die ihm anvertraut werden, nach wie vor ungebrochen. In diesem Fachgebiet ist zweifellos Vertrauen das Schlüsselwort. "Ich hatte das Glück, extrem seltene Stücke in meinen Händen zu halten. Übrigens träume ich davon, eines Tages die berühmte Taschenuhr Marie-Antoinette Grande Complication von Breguet berühren zu dürfen", verrät er uns. Zu seinen Erfolgen gehört beispielsweise im vergangenen Mai im Auftrag des Hauses Phillips der denkwürdige Verkauf der Rolex Daytona 6263, genannt The Oyster Albino, die Eric Clapton gehört hatte und für 1,4 Millionen Dollar versteigert wurde, sowie Anfang November die QP Tourbillon mit Minutenrepetition und retrogradem Datumszeiger aus Stahl von Patek Philippe, verkauft für 7,3 Millionen bei der Only Watch-Auktion – einfach unglaublich! Oder aber im November 2014 die Supercomplication Henry Graves Jr, ebenfalls aus dem Hause Patek Philippe, erworben für einen Kunden zum Preis von 24 Millionen Dollar. „Dass der Kauf dieses außergewöhnlichen Zeitmessers mir anvertraut wurde, hat mich tief berührt. 90% der Sammler bieten direkt, sodass ich mich umso mehr geehrt fühle. Inzwischen ist dies der schönste Vertrauensbeweis, den man mir schen-



ken kann. Meine Visitenkarte sind mein Name, mein Ruf und meine Integrität“, gibt er zu.

## VORSITZ DES GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

Der "Grosse Preis der Uhrmacherei von Genf"... eine von den Uhrenmarken äusserst begehrte Auszeichnung. Aurel Bacs, Präsident der Jury seit 2013, ist mehr denn je in seinem Element. "Letztes Jahr bin ich nach Indien gereist, dieses Jahr nach Dubai, um die Werte und das Know-how der Schweizer Uhrmacherkunst bekanntzumachen. Der Grand Prix ist diesbezüglich ein fantastisches Schaufenster, das den Preisträgern ermöglicht, auf Ausstellungen, bei Essen oder Treffen mit Sammlern würdige Vertreter des "Swiss made" zu sein. Ich bin glücklich, sie bei diesem Abenteuer begleiten zu dürfen. Derzeit bemerke ich deutlich eine Rückkehr zum Klassischen. Die Uhrmacher haben erkannt, dass es einen Trend zu aussergewöhnlichen Objekten in einwandfreier Verarbeitung gibt. Der Jahrgang 2015 ist diesbezüglich sehr interessant", präzisiert Aurel Bacs. Trotz Herausforderungen wie der Smartwatch bleibt er bezüglich der – derzeit überproportionalen – Nachfrage nach Vintage-Uhren sehr optimistisch. Die Sammlerstücke haben noch eine schöne Zukunft vor sich.

## DIE ZWEITE LEIDENSCHAFT: DAS AUTOMOBIL

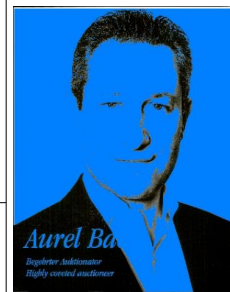
Gerne erinnert sich Aurel Bacs an die Sonntage, an denen er die Autos seines Vaters von Hand wusch. "Als ich 15 war, hatte er schon einen roten Mini Cooper Vintage von Anfang der 70er-Jahre für mich aufgetrieben, den er in seiner Garage unterbrachte, bis ich volljährig

war. Sie können sich vorstellen, dass ich in kürzester Zeit meinen Führerschein hatte! Ein schöner 4-Zylinder mit Holzschaltnauf und Nardi-Steuer. Er verkörperte Freiheit und Unabhängigkeit, ich fühlte mich "zu Hause"... bis er einige Monate später ein tragisches Ende fand. An einer Kreuzung war ich mir mit meinem besten Freund uneins, in welche Richtung es gehen sollte. Als wir beide am Lenkrad zerrten, landeten wir in einer Ampel. Ich machte Bekanntschaft mit Polizei und Feuerwehr, da Benzin und Öl auslief. Ein Ereignis, das mein junges Fahrerleben prägte!", lacht er. Er erinnert sich auch gerne an den Range Rover Classic seiner Eltern. "Ein in mehrerer Hinsicht revolutionäres Modell. Der erste SUV auf den Markt, der mich durch meine ganze Kindheit begleitete. Wir fuhren oft nachts lange Strecken. Der Geruch des Leders, die Vibrationen des Motors, alles hat sich in mein Gedächtnis eingepägt. Oft schlief ich in der 60 cm breiten Spalte zwischen Fahrer- und Beifahrersitz ein, die Hand meiner Eltern auf meinem Rücken. Ich konnte nicht widerstehen und habe vor einigen Jahren dasselbe Modell in der Farbe "Bahama Gold" erworben", freut sich Aurel Bacs. Heute fährt er einen BMW Break, kommt jedoch gerne manchmal ins Träumen. "Wenn ich die Zeit und die Mittel hätte, würde ich einen Hof mit ausreichend Stallraum kaufen, um 20-30 Autos unterzubringen. Alte Porsche, Aston Martin DB5, Ferrari 250 GT Lusso, Mercedes 300 SL, Jaguar E-Typ, Mini Cooper Vintage, Rolls Royce und Bentley von 1950 (die Schwäche meines Vaters!) müssten natürlich zu der Sammlung gehören", begeistert er sich.

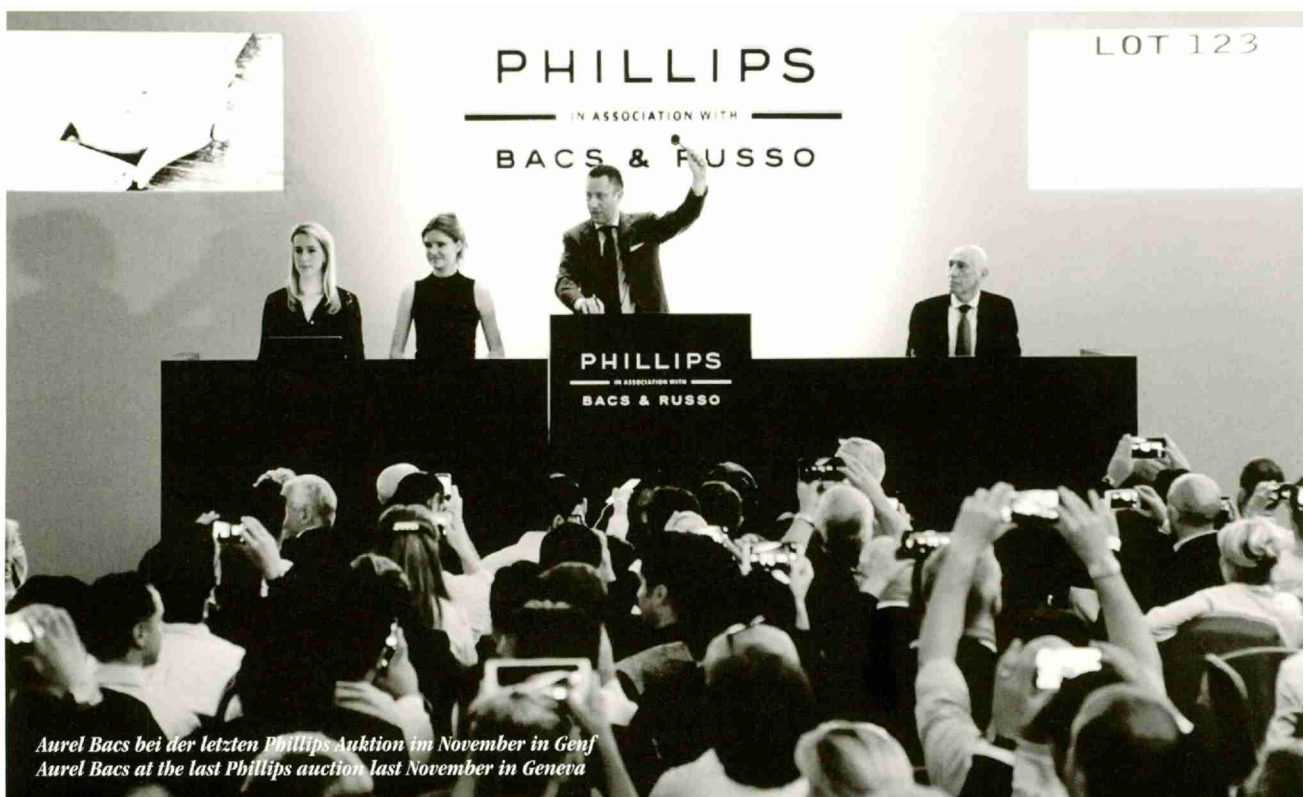
## UHRMACHERERINNERUNGEN

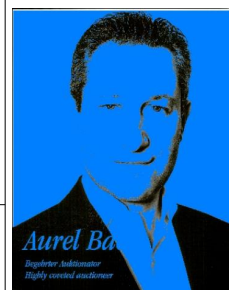
Aber kommen wir zurück zur Uhrmacherkunst... und





die schönen Begegnungen, die den beruflichen Werdegang von Aurel Bacs säumen. "Die Arbeit, die ich ausübe, erlaubt mir, mit aussergewöhnlichen Personen zu verkehren, vom Uhrmacher bis zum Vorsitzenden eines Uhrenkonzerns, vom Uhrenbesitzer bis zum Aktionär, nicht zu vergessen die Sammler... alle haben mir über fünf Kontinente hinweg ihr Universum offenbart. Und dabei wurde mir klar: wir sind alle Unseresgleichen, da wir die Liebe zu schönen Dingen teilen, und dies unabhängig von unserer Herkunft, Religion oder Kultur. Die Unterschiede verschwinden, die Leidenschaft verbindet uns. Und wenn ich zu einem Kunden nach Hause eingeladen werde, wird mir immer wieder deutlich, wie privilegiert ich doch bin." ■





THE NAME "AUREL BACS" IS INSEPARABLE FROM THE WORLD OF FINE WATCHES. COLLECTORS EVERYWHERE FOLLOW HIS EVERY MOVE AND RELY ON HIS SHREWD ADVICE. ENTRUSTED TO HIS EXPERT HANDS, THE MOST FAMOUS TIMEPIECES HAVE ACHIEVED RECORD SALES AROUND THE GLOBE. FAR FROM THE AUCTION ROOMS, THE CHARISMATIC AUCTIONEER WELCOMED ROADBOOK TO HIS OFFICES IN GENEVA TO GRANT US SOME OF HIS VALUABLE TIME.

**A**sked about how his career started, Aurel Bacs replies without hesitation, "My father taught me to experience emotion and find beauty in our everyday surroundings. He acted straight from the heart, and tended to put his soul into his decisions. He was an incredibly talented storyteller, and used to tell me stories that fuelled my fascination with old things, especially watches and cars." Unsurprisingly, then, Aurel Bacs chose to live one of his passions to the full, and ended up becoming one of the most respected experts in the world of watchmaking.

## RARE EXPERTISE

Like his father, Aurel Bacs favoured the heart over the mind. Enrolled at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich, he was soon spending most of his time scouring Switzerland in search of exceptional watches, the sale of which financed his life as a student. 1994 was a momentous year for him. At the age of just 25, he joined Sotheby's as a junior watch expert. He remained there until 2000 before working for Phillips, de Pury & Luxembourg and finally Christie's as head of the watch department where, from 2003 to 2012, he brought about a sales explosion, from 8 million to 126 million dollars. When he left in 2013, rumours circulated that he had left the auction world for good. Not so! Eighteen months later, Phillips entrusted him with the creation of

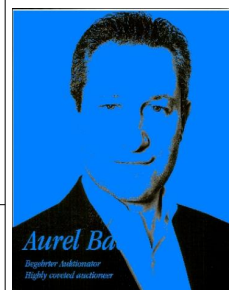
its watch department. It was a wonderful partnership for Bacs who, with his wife Livia, had set up the firm Bacs & Russo to give expert advice on watches to collectors, museums and companies.

But how do you become an auctioneer? "There are no rules, no formal criteria. Personally, I very quickly felt a strong motivation to sell the objects that were entrusted to me as well as I could. In addition, the job obviously requires a combination of elements: you have to know how to be an entertainer, to be close to the public while keeping the necessary distance – it's all about your presence and your voice. And of course you need to have the figures at your finger-tips," he smiles before adding, "every sale begins with preparing a catalogue, identifying the objects, negotiating with the owners, organising transport, insurance, photo shootings and so on. These things extend over a period of six months. Then, after all that effort, the objects go to the highest bidder in less than a minute (!). First and foremost, then, this is an occupation that is driven by passion."

## QUALITY: AN ESSENTIAL VALUE

Bacs' independent status has not come about by chance. "I will always remain active in the watchmaking world. I love my job, and when you have that you are more likely to succeed in what you do. However,





I have chosen to break free from the auction houses because it is a very intense activity: you can never relax and the adrenaline is always there. In your twenties and thirties, that's fine, but at the age of forty I needed to start a calmer phase in my life. I have always preferred quality to quantity. I deal with about half the number of pieces that my competitors handle, but all are of impeccable quality. Being self-employed, I definitely take fewer holidays, but they are good quality vacations. My meetings with collectors are less frequent, but they are good quality encounters. I can work 16 hours a day, but I can do at my own pace, and when I go to bed I feel tired in the right way that comes from peace of mind. The partnership with Phillips is part of this approach. Edward Dolman, the CEO, allows me to maintain my own vision of the sale and lets me compile the catalogue accordingly. There is no unnecessary bureaucratic structure and we operate with complete confidence in one another and without lukewarm political compromises," says Bacs.

So far, Aurel Bacs and his wife have worked with three auction houses, opened offices in Hong Kong and Geneva, expanded their teams in London and New York, and thus increased their international standing.

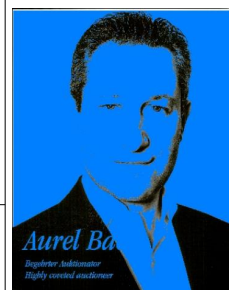
## RECORD SALES

Aurel Bacs may have sold some 25,000 watches to date, but he is still astounded time after time by the treasures entrusted to him. In this field of expertise, trust is the key word. "I have had the chance to hold some extremely rare pieces in my hands. By the way, I dream of some day being able to touch Marie-Antoinette's famous Grande Complication pocket watch made by Breguet," he confides. His recent achievements include the memorable

sale in May on behalf of Phillips of the Rolex Daytona 6263, known as The Oyster Albino and previously owned by Eric Clapton, which went for 1.4 million dollars, and the sale in early November of the Patek Philippe steel tourbillon perpetual calendar timepiece with a minute repeater and retrograde date for an unprecedented 7.3 million dollars during the "Only Watch" auction. Or again, the purchase on behalf of a client of the Henry Graves Jr Supercomplication, also by Patek Philippe, at a price of 24 million dollars in November 2014. "I was really excited to be entrusted with the purchase of this exceptional timepiece. 90% of collectors bid directly, so I feel especially honoured. Today, that's the most valuable expression of confidence that someone can show me. My name, my reputation and my integrity are all-important in this business," he admits.

## CHAIRING THE GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE

The Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève is a distinction highly coveted by watch brands. As chairman of the panel of judges since 2013, Aurel Bacs is thoroughly in his element. "I travelled to India last year and to Dubai this year to promote the values and expertise of Swiss watchmakers. In this respect, the Grand Prix is a fantastic showcase that enables the winners to become worthy representatives of "Swiss-made" products at exhibitions, lunches and meetings with collectors. I am happy to support them in this adventure. I can definitely see a move back towards the classic designs at the moment. Watchmakers have realised that the trend has been towards unusual objects with impeccable finishes. The models



of 2015 are very interesting in this respect," says Aurel Bacs. Despite challenges such as the connected watch, he remains very optimistic about the demand – which is currently huge – for vintage timepieces. Collectors' pieces still have a bright future ahead of them.

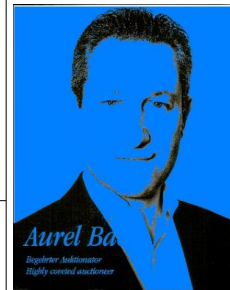
## CARS, HIS SECOND PASSION

In reflective mood, Aurel Bacs readily recalls Sundays spent washing his father's cars by hand. "At 15, he had already unearthed a red vintage Mini Cooper for me from the early '70s that he kept in his garage ready for when I reached my 18th birthday. Needless to say, after three lessons I had my licence! It was a beautiful car with a wooden gearstick knob and a Nardi steering wheel. It meant freedom and independence, my own personal space... except that a few months later it met with a tragic end. While I was negotiating an intersection with my best friend, we disagreed about which way to go. We both tugged on the steering wheel and ended up colliding with a traffic light. The police and the fire service showed up, because there was petrol and oil pouring out everywhere. It was a milestone in my fledgling driving career!" he laughs. His memories also turn readily to his parents' Range Rover Classic. "A revolutionary model for more than one reason, the first SUV sold commercially, and a car that was with me all through my childhood. We often did long journeys at night. The smell of leather, the vibrations of the engine, everything is impregnated in my memory. I would often fall asleep in the 60 cm space between the driver's seat and the passenger seat, with my parents' hands on my back. I couldn't resist the temptation, and bought the same model in "Bahama Gold" colour a few years ago," says Aurel Bacs with a smile. Although he drives a BMW estate these days, he

sometimes indulges in a spot of daydreaming. "If I had the space and the means, I would buy a farmhouse with stables big enough to accommodate twenty or thirty cars. Old Porsches, Aston Martin DB5s, Ferrari 250 GT Lussos, Mercedes 300 SLs, E-Type Jaguars, Vintage Mini Coopers, Rolls Royces and 1950s Bentleys (my father's weakness!) would naturally be part of my collection!" he exclaims.

## WATCH-RELATED MEMORIES

But to return to watches... and the wonderful encounters that Aurel Bacs has had in the course of his career. "The work I do has brought me into contact with some remarkable people, from watchmakers to CEOs, from watch owners to shareholders, and of course collectors... They have all opened up their worlds to me in all five continents, and one thing has become absolutely clear to me: we are all similar in our shared love for beautiful objects, regardless of our origins, our religion or our culture. Differences pale into insignificance and our passion brings us together. And when I am invited into the home of a client, I realise more than ever how privileged I am." ■



**GPHG**  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

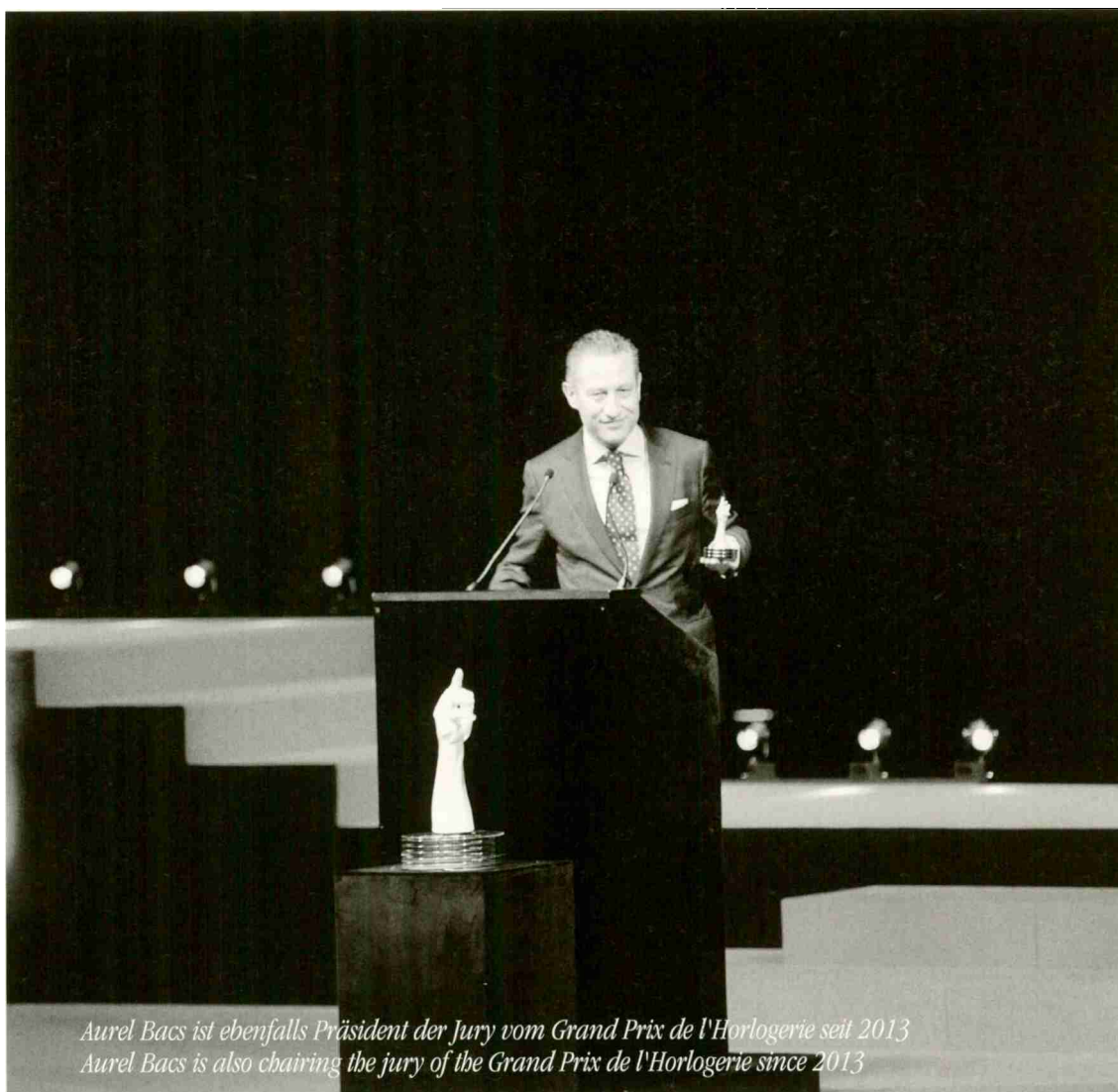
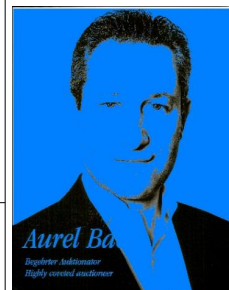
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*Patek Philippe - QP Tourbillon*



*Breguet - Marie-Antoinette  
Grande Complication*



*Aurel Bacs ist ebenfalls Präsident der Jury vom Grand Prix de l'Horlogerie seit 2013*  
*Aurel Bacs is also chairing the jury of the Grand Prix de l'Horlogerie since 2013*



## Drum Roll, Please: Drummers And Watches, Two Natural Timekeepers

by Elizabeth Doerr

"I know it's only rock and roll, but I like it!"

– The Rolling Stones

Over the last 12 months we have published an unusually high number of articles about drummers, the timekeepers in nearly every musical band or group.

Actually, it kind of stands to reason that drummers would particularly like watches – even if they can't (or shouldn't!) wear them while playing – as both fields have extreme time-keeping functionality.



Elizabeth Doerr interviews drummer Eric Singer backstage at a Kiss concert in 2015

Eric Singer, Kiss

I had the pleasure of interviewing Kiss drummer Eric Singer in 2015, a musical timekeeper who is also a prolific watch collector. He is also now generally recognized as something of an authority among celebrity collectors, as evidenced by his participation in the prestigious jury of the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (see Kiss Drummer Eric Singer Joins The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève Jury ).

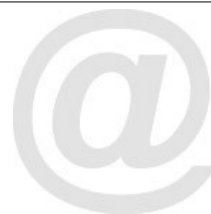


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Eric Singer in Kiss catman makeup wearing a Ball watch

You can also read all about Singer's collecting tick in Eric Singer, Kiss Drummer And Watch Collector .

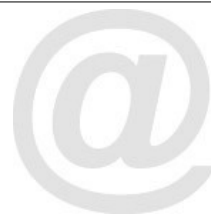
And you can read about a technical element of a watch he tested in Ball Watch SpringLock Shock Protection Tested By Kiss Drummer Eric Singer , as well as a watch that was unofficially named for him in The Ball Engineer Master II Skindiver II: A Favorite Of KISS Drummer Eric Singer .

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Deep Purple drummer Ian Paice at his day job

Ian Paice, Deep Purple

Though Deep Purple's Ian Paice is less of a watch aficionado, he became the subject of one of our stories in 2015 through his connection with Paiste cymbals, which in turn had made a new connection with Corum .



Ian Paice with his Corum Paiste Bubble

The culmination of all these connections is a timepiece: the exquisite Corum Paiste Bubble. See more, including lots of original photography, in Keeping Time With Deep Purple's Ian Paice, Corum, And Paiste Cymbals .

#### Ringo Starr, The Beatles

When Ringo Starr decided to auction off more than 1,000 items just hanging around his homes and in safety deposit boxes, he raised close to \$10 million for his favorite charity, The Lotus Foundation .

Aside from several drum kits auctioned – which included a 1963 Ludwig Oyster Black Pearl three-piece kit that had not been seen in public for 50 years and went for \$2.2 million – there were also a couple of watches in the mix.



Yellow gold Patek Philippe Reference 3448 once owned by Ringo Starr

One of them, a very rare yellow gold Patek Philippe Reference 3448, sold for \$179,200. See more about it in Ringo Starr's Patek Philippe Ref. 3448 Sells At Auction For \$179,200 .

Another, a stainless steel Omega Time Computer with LED display given to him by deceased Who drummer Keith Moon, went for \$9,375, while a quartz Omega Constellation in steel hammered for \$2,240.

You can see all 1,367 lots at Julien's Auctions .





Anthony de Haas, director of product development at A. Lange & Söhne, playing the drums and explaining the Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

Anthony de Haas, A. Lange & Söhne

No one knows better than Anthony de Haas, director of product development at A. Lange & Söhne, how much resonance and rhythm affect both drumming and a minute repeating wristwatch.

De Haas, who played drums professionally in rock bands before turning to horology (his teacher was Golden Earring drummer Cesar Zuiderwijk), is the driving force behind A. Lange & Söhne's minute repeater efforts.





The A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater resting on a drum, a nice big resonating chamber

Recently, de Haas was the star of an interesting video created by A. Lange & Söhne and Dutch watch journalist Lex Stolk of 00/24 in which he shows his musical stuff while answering questions about the recently released A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater.

You can see this energetic, feel-good video right here.

You may remember Stolk, who aided de Haas in creating this video, from our story 'Impressions': The Somewhat Different Book About A Glashütte Brand .

It probably comes as no surprise that Stolk, too, is a drummer and plays in a band called Damn Right .

Zürich

 Cote Magazine Zürich  
 1227 Genève  
 022/ 736 56 56  
 www.cotemagazine.com

 Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
 Type de média: Magazines spéc. et de loisir  
 Tirage: 20'600  
 Parution: 3x/année

 N° de thème: 781.033  
 N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
 Page: 128  
 Surface: 49'992 mm²

 GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE  
 | 29. OKTOBER 2015  
 GRAND THÉÂTRE GENÈVE

Es war ein Fest herausragender und kreativer Uhrmacherkunst, das da am Donnerstag, 29. Oktober, im Grand Théâtre in Genf im Beisein des Bundesratsmitglieds Alain Berset gefeiert wurde: die Preisverleihung des 15. Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG). Durch die Zeremonie führten im Duett Frédéric Beigbeder und Gaspard Proust, die tausendfünfhundert einflussreiche Gäste aus der Welt der Uhren, der Politik und der Wirtschaft begrüßten. Die Jury vergab die renommierte internationale Auszeichnung in diesem Jahr an siebzehn Preisträger und ehrte mit dem Goldenen Zeiger, der bedeutendsten Auszeichnung, Greubel Forsey für das Modell Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.







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Parution: 4x/année



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 132  
Surface: 59'230 mm²

## LES LAURÉATS DU GPHG 2015

L'excellence et la créativité horlogères étaient à l'honneur de la cérémonie de remise des prix de la 15<sup>e</sup> édition du GPHG, qui s'est tenue le 29 octobre dernier au Grand Théâtre de Genève. Devant un parterre de plus de 1'500 invités, le jury a décerné dix-sept prix et attribué sa distinction suprême, l'Aiguille d'Or, à Greubel Forsey. **Eva Steen**





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Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Magazines spéc. et de loisir  
Tirage: 14'624  
Parution: 4x/année



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 132  
Surface: 59'230 mm²



1. Le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset et Stephen Forsey, co-fondateur de Greubel Forsey (Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or) - 2. Jean-Claude Biver, président de la division montres du groupe LVMH et Chairman de Hublot (Prix de la Montre Dame) et Carlo Lamprecht, président de la Fondation du GPHG - 3. Sean Gilbertson et Aurélie Picaud, CEO et directrice horlogerie de Fabergé (Prix de la Haute Mécanique pour Dame) - 4. Kari Voutilainen, fondateur de Voutilainen (Prix de la Montre Homme) - 5. Philippe Léopold-Metzger, CEO de Piaget (Prix de la Montre Chronographe et du Prix Revival) - 6. Le conseiller d'état Pierre Maudet et Patrik Hoffmann, CEO de Ulysse Nardin (Prix du Tourbillon) - 7. Laurent Dordet, directeur général de la Montre Hermès (Prix de la Montre Calendrier) - 8. Stefano Macaluso, directeur du développement produit de Girard-Perregaux (Prix de la Montre à Sonnerie) - 9. Christian Lattmann, Senior Executive Vice President de Jaquet Droz (Prix de l'Excellence Mécanique) et Carlo Lamprecht - 10. Richard et Maria Kristina Habring, fondateurs de Habring & Frey (Prix de la Petite Aiguille) - 11. Philippe Peverelli, CEO de Tudor (Prix de la Montre Sport) et Abdul Hamied Seddiqi, membre du jury - 12. François Bennaïm, CEO de Audemars Piguet (Prix de la Montre Joaillerie) - 13. Lionel a Marca, Vice President, Head of Technical and Development Management de Blancpain (Prix de la Montre Métiers d'Art) et Carlo Lamprecht - 14. Antoine et Florian Prezioso, fondateur de Antoine Prezioso et son fils (Prix de l'Innovation et Prix du Public) - 15. Laurent Ferrier, fondateur de Laurent Ferrier (Prix Révélation Horlogère) - 16. Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus et Jean-Luc Perrin, horlogers de Vacheron Constantin (Prix du Jury)

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Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée  
Tirage: 24'860  
Parution: 5x/année



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 43  
Surface: 16'665 mm²

## Grand-messe horlogère

Chaque année, le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) est l'événement à ne pas manquer où se retrouvent politiciens et *happy few* des milieux horlogers dans le cadre prestigieux du Grand Théâtre. La soirée, animée en duo par l'écrivain Frédéric Beigbeder et l'humoriste suisse Gaspard Proust, a réuni quelque 1500 invités. L'Aiguille d'Or, distinction suprême, a récompensé Greubel Forsey pour la montre Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.



Jean-Christophe Babin, CEO de Bulgari, et sa femme, Marzia.



Alain Berset, conseiller fédéral, et Jean-Claude Biver, président de la division montres du groupe LVMH et président de Hublot.



Philippe Léopold Metzger, CEO de Piaget.



Stephen Forsey, co-fondateur de Greubel Forsey, marque lauréate du Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or.



Le conseiller d'Etat genevois Pierre Maudet avec le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset, la chancelière d'Etat genevoise Anja Wyden Guelpa, le président de la Fondation du GPHG, Carlo Lamprecht, et la maire de Genève, Esther Alder.



## JE SUIS... UNE LADY COMPLIQUÉE

*-/ I am...a Lady Complicée*

**C'est une vision de la haute horlogerie féminine entre surprise totale et maîtrise technique que Fabergé livre avec les modèles Lady Complicée, justement récompensés au récent Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.**

*-/ This vision of luxury ladies watches is somewhere between complete surprise and technical expertise; Fabergé has unveiled the Lady Complicée models which were rightfully recognised at the recent Grand Prix de l'Horlogerie de Genève.*





On ne peut en effet qu'être ébloui par cette nouvelle interprétation de l'affichage de l'heure, résolument spectaculaire. Deux déclinaisons pour un même mouvement mécanique manufacturé à Genève par Agenhor, et qui en lieu et place des aiguilles, fait le pari de déplacer les éléments d'affichage pour faire du temps qui passe une véritable mise en scène. On a ainsi le choix entre deux œuvres d'art mobiles, Peacock, avec son paon qui déploie régulièrement sa traine sur un cadran serti neige de tourmalines Paraïba turquoises, de tsavorites d'un vert intense et de diamants blancs, et Winter, avec ses pales qui forment un tapis de givre surplombé d'une majestueuse glace saphir. Véritable chef-d'œuvre horloger, le mouvement de la collection Lady Compliquée a été conçu spécialement pour animer ce double affichage déployant et périphérique. Il intègre en outre plusieurs innovations techniques brevetées, qui améliorent fonctionnement, résistance et chronométrie. Un ultime objet de désir.

*-/ You can't help but be blown away by this new, stunningly spectacular take on time display. Two versions; one mechanical movement made in Geneva by Agenhor. Instead of hands, the watch uses the design to make the passing of time a real show. There's a choice of two moving works of art: Peacock, whose tail unfurls across a snow white dial paved with turquoise Paraiba tourmalines, deep green tsavorites and white diamonds, and Winter whose blades form an icy carpet frozen beneath majestic sapphire crystal. The movement in the Lady Compliquée collection is a true watchmaking masterpiece and was specially designed to bring to life the double deployment and peripheral display. It also incorporates several patented technical innovations which improve the watch's function, resistance and chronometry. The ultimate object of desire.*

**Fabergé**  
Grand Hotel Kempinski Geneva  
Quai du Mont-Blanc 19, Genève  
+41 22 310 22 23 - [www.faberge.com](http://www.faberge.com)





## JAQUET DROZ, CHARMING BIRD

**Le prix de la catégorie «Exception Mécanique» du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève a été décerné à la Jaquet Droz Charming Bird. Le jury a ainsi récompensé les caractéristiques uniques et la beauté de cette prouesse horlogère dotée d'un automate oiseau-chanteur.**

*-/The Jaquet Droz Charming Bird is the winner in the «Mechanical Exception» category at the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. The jury recognized the beauty and the unique features of this watchmaking feat that integrates a singing bird automaton.*

Date: 18.12.2015



Genève

Côte Magazine Genève  
1227 Genève  
022/ 736 56 56  
www.cotemagazine.com

Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Magazines spéc. et de loisir  
Tirage: 19'596  
Parution: 8x/année

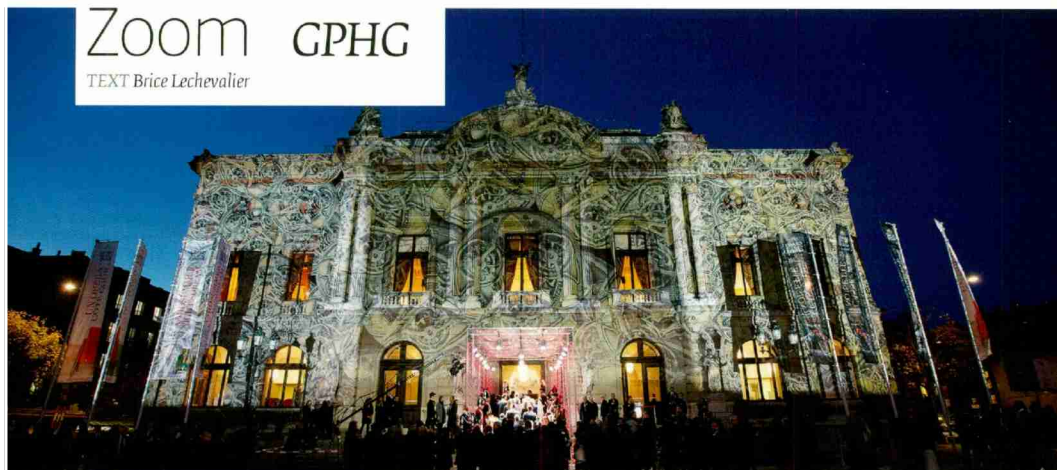
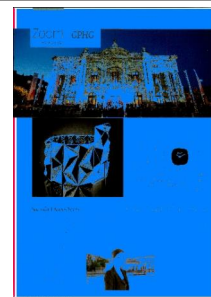


N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 74  
Surface: 22'136 mm²

Ce garde-temps, édité en or gris et or rouge, en numéris clausus de 28 exemplaires chacun, résume à lui tout seul l'histoire de Jaquet Droz. Alors que la plupart des montres à sonnerie s'inspirent des instruments à corde ou à percussion, la *Charming Bird* est pour sa part conçue sur le principe d'un instrument à vent. Ce n'est donc pas la vibration mais bien l'air qui va produire le son, ici le sifflement de l'oiseau !

*-/ This timepiece, produced in white gold and red gold, in a limited edition of 28 pieces each, encapsulates the fabulous history of Jaquet Droz. While most watches with striking mechanisms draw inspiration from stringed instruments or percussion instruments, the Charming Bird is designed on the principle of a wind instrument. The mechanism harnesses not vibrations, but air to produce its sound - in this instance, the chirping of a bird.*

[www.jaquet-droz.com](http://www.jaquet-droz.com)



## Zoom GPHG

TEXT Brice Lechevalier



### Stars der Uhren-Oscars

An der 15. Preisverleihungsfeier des Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève wurden am 29. Oktober 2015 im Genfer Grand Théâtre 18 Preise verliehen. Vier davon gingen an Damenmodelle. Neben dem Preis für die beste Damenuhr, den Hublot für die Bing Bang Broderie (siehe Rubrik Mode auf Seite 62) erhielt, zeichnete die aus internationalen Experten bestehende Jury Audemars Piguet für die Diamond Punk (Preis für die beste Schmuckuhr), Fabergé für die Lady Compliquée Peacock (Preis für die beste mechanische Damenuhr) und Piaget für die Extremely Piaget Manchette Recto Verso («Revival»-Preis) aus. Die GPHG-Direktorin Carine Maillard wollte keine Starrolle übernehmen, erhielt aber auf der Bühne dennoch grosses Lob von zahlreichen Akteuren, die die Qualität und die internationale Ausstrahlung des Events hervorhoben. Die vollständige Analyse sowie alle Ergebnisse finden Sie in der Rubrik GPHG unter WorldTempus.com.



### The Watchmaking Oscars have their own stars

The prize-giving ceremony for the 15th Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève saw 18 prizes awarded at the Grand Théâtre de Genève on October 29th, of which four were won by watches for women. Alongside the Ladies' Watch Prize presented to Hublot for its Bing Bang Broderie (see Fashion article on page 62), the jury of international experts honored Audemars Piguet for its Diamond Punk (Jewellery Watch Prize), Fabergé for its Lady Compliquée Peacock (Ladies' High-Mech Prize) and Piaget for its Extremely Piaget Manchette Recto Verso («Revival» Prize). Without laying claim to star status, GPHG Director Carine Maillard was congratulated onstage by numerous speakers for the quality of the event's organization and its international reach. Read a full analysis and all results on the GPHG section of WorldTempus.com.



Trombinoscote

## Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

6 Vus | Aime





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L'excellence et la créativité horlogères ont été célébrées le jeudi 29 octobre au Grand Théâtre de Genève à l'occasion de la cérémonie de remise des prix du 15e Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), qui s'est

Date: 09.12.2015



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déroulée en présence du Conseiller fédéral Alain Berset.

Présentée en duo par Frédéric Beigbeder et Gaspard Proust, la cérémonie a réuni mille cinq cent invités, acteurs influents des univers horloger, politique et économique. Prestigieux et international, le jury de cette édition a décerné dix-sept prix et attribué l'Aiguille d'Or, distinction suprême, à Greubel Forsey pour le modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.

Tags

#Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève #Grand Théâtre



## EUROPA STAR PREMIÈRE

Europa Star Première  
1211 Genève  
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Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée  
Tirage: 5'000  
Parution: 6x/année



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 1  
Surface: 34'131 mm²

## ÉDITORIAL

# Le GPHG, vers plus de représentativité du marché?

PAR SERGE MAILLARD

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève a mérité ses galons d'«Oscars» de l'horlogerie. En quelques années, la compétition s'est fortement professionnalisée et a gagné en transparence et en légitimité. *Europa Star* est d'ailleurs très fier d'avoir pu contribuer à son succès, en étant présent dans le jury (et je ne demanderai pas à mon respectueux oncle et néanmoins collègue Pierre Maillard de trahir ici son devoir de réserve!). Pour autant, il me semble que la compétition peut encore gagner en représentativité sur un marché horloger en évolution rapide. Durant la cérémonie, le directeur d'Audemars Piguet François-Henry Bennahmias a lancé un appel pour que davantage de marques participent au GPHG. On peut s'interroger sur le mode de présélection des montres, les marques s'inscrivant et choisissant elles-mêmes la catégorie dans laquelle elles veulent figurer. Ne vaudrait-il pas mieux qu'un comité de sélection choisisse librement dans l'ensemble de la production annuelle? Evidemment, certaines maisons refuseront sans doute, dans un

premier temps du moins, de venir chercher leur prix. A voir le peu d'enthousiasme suscité par le Concours international de chronométrie, on constate en effet que les marques n'aiment guère les «classements», surtout quand elles finissent quatrième! Mais un système totalement ouvert pourrait aussi accélérer les bonnes volontés de tous, condition indispensable pour prétendre au titre d'Oscars de l'horlogerie – si Spielberg et Scorsese manquent à l'appel, cela peut poser problème...

Autre limite à cette comparaison: si tout le monde peut aller voir le dernier Scorsese, peu pourront ne serait-ce qu'accéder en «vrai» (au-delà de la photo) à la très rare *Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision* de Greubel Forsey. Pourquoi ne pas inclure un critère «prix» plus important dans les sélections, dans l'objectif d'un Grand Prix plus démocratique? Un jour, une *Aiguille d'Or* plus accessible au commun des mortels! Du reste, si l'on peut se réjouir que le GPHG récompense particulièrement les artisans horlo-

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Europa Star Première  
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022 307 78 37

Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée  
Tirage: 5'000  
Parution: 6x/année



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 1  
Surface: 34'131 mm²

gers à la production très limitée, il est aussi réel que l'industrialisation trouve ses lettres de noblesse dans la démocratisation horlogère qu'elle entraîne. Pour filer la métaphore cinématographique, ne nous limitons pas à l'art et essai thaïlandais. On l'oublie parfois, la montre mécanique ne représente qu'une infime minorité des montres écoulées sur le marché horloger – et les montres sélectionnées, souvent des séries limitées voire des pièces uniques, encore moins. Pourquoi pas au moins un prix, parmi les nombreuses catégories, consacré aux «99%», c'est-à-dire au marché électronique? Voir à terme une catégorie «montres connectées» si ce segment prend de l'importance (avec un jury spécial). Mentionnons encore que si l'industrie horlogère est très masculine, la présence de deux femmes sur les 25 jurés n'est pas encore très représentative du marché... ni du nombre de catégories féminines. Quelques pensées pour assurer et souhaiter une longue vie au Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève! ■

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Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée  
Tirage: 2'500  
Parution: 10x/année



  
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GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE  
N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 7  
Surface: 10'403 mm²

## GPHG: palmarès pour indépendants

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) a rendu son verdict le 29 octobre au Grand Théâtre de Genève. Le jury, composé de personnes compétentes et de moins en moins contestables, a établi un palmarès qui fait la part belle aux indépendants. C'est dire que le GPHG est fort peu représentatif de l'industrie horlogère dans son ensemble et du poids de ses acteurs. D'où un clair problème de représentativité. On l'a déjà dit, le fait que les marques choisissent ou non de participer à ce concours (et le fait que les plus importantes n'y voient pas d'intérêt) affaiblit d'autant la crédibilité du palmarès. Au final, on se dira au moins que les nombreux prix décernés aux indépendants récompensent le plus souvent un travail de qualité et des hommes (peu de femmes) passionnés et passionnants, à l'instar de Robert Greubel et Stephen Forsey, lauréat du Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or 2015. Au surplus, pour plusieurs d'entre eux, c'est un coup de pouce bienvenu dans une période extrêmement difficile. (mj)



Le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset et Stephen Forsey (Co-fondateur de Greubel Forsey, lauréat du Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or 2015).





## Cour des Grands

Par Jean-Daniel Sallin



# Quel équilibre!

La 15<sup>e</sup> édition du **Grand Prix d'Horlogerie** a couronné la marque Greubel Forsey, vainqueur de l'Aiguille d'Or.



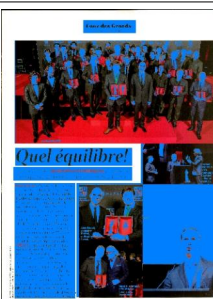
Frédéric Beigbeder sert le champagne à Antoine et Florian Prezioso.

**MAGNANIME** De Piaget à Audemars Piguet, de Jaquet Droz à Hublot, il y en avait pour tout le monde! Le palmarès du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie n'a pas fait (trop) de malheureux. Si Greubel Forsey a remporté l'Aiguille d'Or pour la deuxième fois, après 2010, Antoine Prezioso et son fils, Florian, ont quitté le Grand Théâtre avec deux «oscar» pour leur montre Tourbillon des Tourbillons – dont celui de l'Innovation. Quant à Vacheron Constantin, le jury a tenu à lui décerner un prix spécial pour sa Référence 57260, avec

ses 57 fonctions, considérée comme la «montre la plus compliquée du monde».

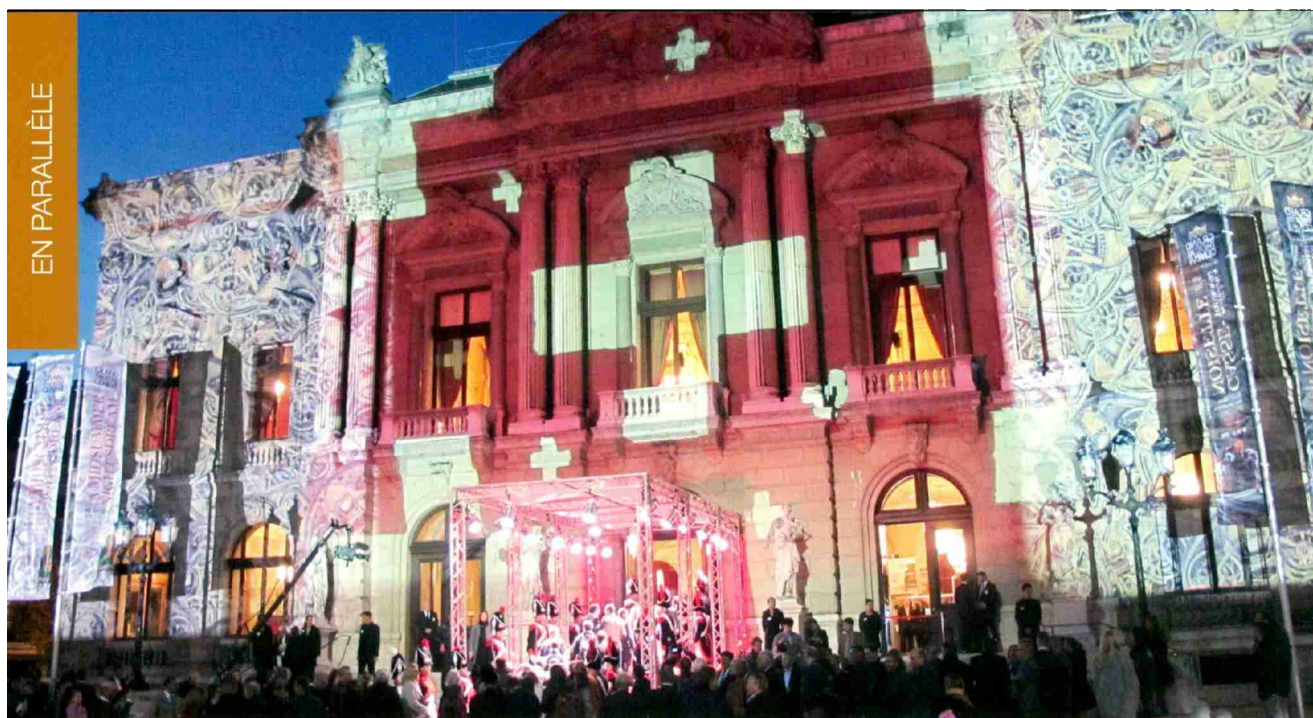
**HUMOUR** Le rire était aussi à l'honneur. Après avoir partagé la scène avec Adriana Karembeu, Solveig Rediger-Lizlow, puis Melanie Winiger, Frédéric Beigbeder a improvisé un duo comique avec Gaspard Proust. Un comédien qu'il a dirigé dans son prochain film, *L'idéal*. Cela tombe bien. Les deux hommes se sont montrés caustiques. Provoquant parfois quelques sourires coincés dans la salle. Mais, finalement, le





prix du meilleur humoriste est revenu à...  
Alain Berset, notre conseiller fédéral, pour son  
discours empreint de finesse et d'authenticité.





## Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève: Greubel Forsey wins the «Aiguille d'or»

The fifteenth edition of the GPHG has produced its roll call of honour. During the ceremony, held at Geneva's Grand Théâtre, eighteen awards paid tribute to the excellence and creativity of watchmakers.

**Janine Vuilleumier**

**A**round 1,500 people were in attendance on 29 October at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. The building's façade, lit up by Gerry Hofstetter, displayed the colours of Switzerland and watchmaking motifs to arriving guests. Hosted by Frédéric Beigbeder and Gaspard Proust, the evening offered fascinating insights as well as a dose of humour.

For the second time, Federal Councillor Alain Berset honoured the proceedings with his presence and presented the «Aiguille d'or» to the evening's supreme winner, watch-

maker Greubel Forsey for its Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.

The traditional awards ceremony began with the Prize for Best Student which went to Hugo Reymond, a youngster learning his trade at Geneva School of Watchmaking. He received a grant from the private bank Edmond de Rothschild. Next came the Public Prize, based on votes cast online or at exhibitions preceding the ceremony. Antoine Prezioso and his son Florian expressed surprise and joy when they were called onto the stage. Their Tourbillon of Tourbillons timepiece, on which they worked for more than

ten years, won a resounding thumbs up from the public.

As politeness dictates, feminine watches were next to come under the spotlight. The award for Best Ladies' Watch was won by Hublot for its Big Bang Broderie. An





Alain Berset & Stephen Forsey



Habring² Felix



Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon  
with Gold Bridges / Girard-Perregaux Répéti-  
tion Minute Tourbillon sous Ponts d'Or



ode to femininity, this timepiece featuring Saint-Gall embroidery - a time-honoured art typical of Switzerland - pays homage to our grandmothers and to the firm Bischoff, a specialist in the field. Fabergé won the Ladies' Advanced Mechanical award with its Lady Compliquée Peacock model. The movement, designed exclusively by the company Agenhor, allows the wearer to tell the time on the crown at 3 o'clock by means of a mother-of-pearl ring which rotates anti-clockwise, while the minutes are indicated by the sculpted feathers of a peacock shaped like a fan.

The awards cycle continued with the Men's category. Kari Voutilainen was singled out for his Voutilainen GMR model. Equipped with a second 24-hour time-zone and a retrograde power-reserve indicator, this timepiece allows the second time-zone to be adjusted by means of the crown, advancing in 1-hour jumps with each press rather than turning freely so as to prevent any loss of accuracy in relation to local time. The beautiful, slender lines of the Altiplano Chrono saw Piaget come top in the Chronograph category. This timepiece holds a double record in the field of extra-thin watches - an art in which the Geneva firm has excelled since 1957 - namely a 4.65 mm movement and a case with a height of just 8.24 mm. In the Tourbillon group, Ulysse Nardin received plaudits for its Anchor Tourbillon model. A concentration of mechanical technology in a timeless exterior of gold and enamel, this model features the Constant Ulysse Anchor Escape-ment, a constant force escapement whose

design marks a complete break from the traditional approach of watchmakers. This year at Baselworld, Hermès presented its new Slim collection. The QP version was singled out in the Calendar category. The understated lines of this timepiece are enhanced by the slenderness of the case. The movement with perpetual calendar counts down days and months and takes full account of leap years. Set for a period of four years, it incorporates a phase of the moon indicator and second time-zone. Other complications in the running for a prize included striking mechanisms. Girard-Perregaux won acclaim in this category with its Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges. In an original interpretation, the mechanics of this timepiece offer the possibility of simultaneously observing on the dial side the constituent parts of the striking mechanism and the hammers producing the sound. This positioning of components is not only a major innovation, but also allows for optimal sound propagation. The songbird ballet of the Charming Bird saw Jaquet Droz take first place in the Exceptional Mechanical category. Either ornamental or designed as actual singing automata, birds have been a feature of the firm's creative output for nearly three centuries and continue to captivate admirers today.

A special condition of the «Petite aiguille» award is that the price of the watch must not exceed 8,000 francs. The Austrian brand Habring<sup>2</sup> won this prize for its model Felix. With a retail price of 4,450 Euros, these timepieces feature the A11B proprietary mechanical calibre. Meanwhile the Sport

range was won by Tudor with its Pelagos diver's watch featuring a proprietary self-winding mechanical movement. The Tudor MT5612 calibre benefits from a power-reserve of 70 hours. The Diamond Punk by Audemars Piguet failed to win admirers initially, yet its creators believed in its future. It rewarded them by taking the honours in the Jewellery category. This luxury jewellery timepiece overturns received ideas in terms of jewel-setting and shows a real determination to break with established technical and aesthetic canons. Inspired by the graphic codes of the punk era, its pyramid shapes create a new conceptual language. 7,848 snow-set diamonds decorate the splendid geometrical cuff-wristlet, composed of 56 pyramidal facets. The discreet sliding »



Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk





Florian & Antoine Prezioso



Jaquet Droz Charming Bird



Tourbillon of Tourbillons



» cover reveals the beauty of the dial, set with 300 diamonds. The Craft category was won by the Villeret cadran Shakudô from Blancpain. An alloy rarely used in watchmaking, shakudo consists mainly of copper and gold, which according to its composition and texture can become patinated to a dark shade somewhere between brown, blue and black. This know-how has been brought back into fashion by Blancpain with a series of unique timepieces that highlight the manufacture's expertise in arts and craft.

The Revival prize, which rewards a design influenced by models from a bygone age, went to Piaget for its Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch. Inspired by the 1970s, this creation offers two watches in one: on one side, a natural opal dial with a delicate snow-setting on the bracelet; on the other, a natural onyx dial and a hammered gold bracelet, giving it a timeless vintage style. An award is also made to a timepiece that marked the year gone by on account of its technical innovation. Grinning from ear to ear, Antoine Prezioso and his son Florian stepped onto the stage once more to receive their second trophy. Another special distinction is the Watchmaking Revelation prize, which pays tribute to a brand established for less than ten years which has already proved its mettle in the sector. Laurent Ferrier was singled out for his Galet Square timepiece. Galet (meaning pebble in French) is the name of the first collection

unveiled in 2010. Five years later, polished by time and faceted by experience, the pebble has been reinterpreted. This year's event could not overlook an exceptional timepiece which forms the centrepiece of the manufacture's 260 years of existence, namely the Reference 57260 by Vacheron Constantin. Christian Selmoni, the brand's artistic director, accompanied the three designers of this uncommon timepiece, the watchmakers Micke and Yannick Pintus (two brothers), and Jean-Luc Perrin, who received the Special Jury Prize.

And of course, last but not least, the pinnacle of the awards, the «Aiguille d'or», was won by Greubel Forsey for its Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision model. With this creation, the La Chaux-de-Fonds watchmaker houses its 24 seconds tourbillon in a particularly sophisticated case brimming with classic elegance, its contours pared down to reduce their height. The tourbillon appears on the back of the timepiece nestled within a sapphire dome, which is a first for the manufacture.

A walkabout and champagne closed this fifteenth edition, which marked the final appearance of the Grand prix d'horlogerie de Genève at the Grand Théâtre, at least in the short term. Due to renovation work, the 2016 edition will take place at the Théâtre du Léman, where a gala dinner and an after-party will be organised for the enjoyment of participants. o



## And the winner is...

The Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève is the equivalent of the Oscars for the watchmaking industry. This year, Greubel Forsey won the coveted "Aiguille d'Or". The event contributes to spreading the reputation of this art form and its values of excellence and creativity around the world.





## Greubel Forsey gewinnt «Oscar» der Uhrmacherei

### Preis Der diesjährige Hauptgewinner am Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève heisst Greubel Forsey.

Der Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) hat sich in den mittlerweile 15 Jahren seines Bestehens zu einem der wichtigsten Preise gemausert, der in der Uhrenbranche vergeben wird. Ausgezeichnet werden beim GPHG technische Spitzenleistungen, Innovationen und uhr-

macherisches Fachwissen.

Bei der diesjährigen Preisverleihung, die vor zwei Wochen in Genf mit 1500 geladenen Gästen unter Beisein von Bundesrat Alain Berset über die Bühne ging, vergab die internationale, 26-köpfige Jury 17 Preise (siehe Infobox). Die höchste Auszeichnung, die «Aiguille d'Or», ging in diesem Jahr an die in La Chaux-de-Fonds beheimatete Manufaktur Greubel Forsey für ihr Modell «Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision». Im Gegensatz zu anderen Tourbillon-Zeitmessern, welche sich

alle 60 Sekunden drehen, rotiert der Tourbillon hier, wie der Name schon sagt, alle 24 Sekunden. Die Uhr wurde in diesem Jahr erstmals am «Salon de la Haute Horlogerie» gezeigt und ist auf 22 Stück limitiert. Der GPHG wurde

2001 von einer Stiftung ins Leben gerufen. Der Hauptpartner der GPHG-Stiftung ist die Genfer Privatbankengruppe Edmond de Rothschild. *dr*

### Die Preisträger 2015 am Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

- **Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or:** Greubel Forsey, Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision
- **Prix de la Montre Dame:** Hublot, Big Bang Broderie
- **Prix de la Haute Mécanique pour Dame:** Fabergé, Lady Compliquée Peacock
- **Prix de la Montre Homme:** Voutilainen, Voutilainen GMR
- **Prix de la Montre Chronographe:** Piaget, Altiplano Chrono
- **Prix du Tourbillon:** Ulysse Nardin, Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon
- **Prix de la Montre Calendrier:** Hermès, Slim d'Hermès QP
- **Prix de la Montre à Sonnerie:** Girard-Perregaux, Répétition Minute Tourbillon sous Ponts d'Or
- **Prix de l'Exception Mécanique:** Jaquet Droz, The Charming Bird
- **Prix de la Petite Aiguille:** Habring², Felix
- **Prix de la Montre Sport:** Tudor, Pelagos
- **Prix de la Montre Joaillerie:** Audemars Pi-

guet, Diamond Punk

- **Prix de la Montre Métiers d'Art:** Blancpain, Villeret, Cadran Shakudō
- **Prix «Revival»:** Piaget, Extremely Piaget Montre Manchette Recto Verso
- **Prix de l'Innovation:** Antoine Prezioso,

Tourbillon des Tourbillons

- **Prix de la Révélation Horlogère:** Laurent Ferrier, Galet Square
- **Prix Spécial du Jury:** Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus, Jean-Luc Perrin.

Die drei Uhrmacher von Vacheron Constantin wurde für die Konzeption und Herstellung der montre Référence 57260 ausgezeichnet

- **Prix du Public:** Antoine Prezioso, Tourbillon des Tourbillons. Der Publikumspreis wurde in diesem Jahr erstmals vergeben. *dr*

Quelle: GPHG



## Gaspard Proust, two minutes of your time!

Gaspard Proust, 39, is an exceptional kind of guy. He abandoned a career in wealth management to embrace the arts, becoming a comedian, writing shows and acting in numerous movies. On stage at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, cohosting the GPHG with his friend Frédéric Beigbeder, he was also exceptionally funny! Do you tend to be on time or late?



By : Mathilde Binetruy

Published in : WtheJournal.com

11.12.2015

Do you tend to be on time or late?

Well, I don't have any real notion of time, so I do whatever suits me. If I'm behind on my schedule, then I'll be late. If I'm ahead of schedule, then I'll be early. I don't plan things around future events, and I just adapt to past ones. Things more or less fall into place that way.

What is your motto?

I particularly like Baudelaire's statement that "Among the numerous Rights of Man to which we return so often, the demonstration of which is in everybody's interest, there is one that has been forgotten—the right to contradict oneself". I am just one element in a multitude of contradictory things.

What is your power reserve?

I am awake even when I'm asleep.

If you could stop time, what would you do?

I wouldn't want to stop time, I'd get bored.

You can always spare 10 minutes for...?

Listening to music.

On the other hand, which activity do you never have time for?

My work.

Who would be your ideal dinner guests?

That's too personal a question.

What is your guilty pleasure?

Sauternes wine.

Which is your favorite season?

Fall. Because it's the season of decay, when things come to an end, muted colors arrive and the cold creeps in. For me, rebirth happens not in spring but in fall, because I know that something is about to go to sleep and wake up again later on. I don't like the idea of being awake, but I like the idea of going to sleep!

If you were a watch, which would you be?

I would definitely be a tourbillon...yeah, totally a tourbillon! I am fascinated by them. The idea of imprisoning something in a carriage that counteracts the laws of gravity with its furious continual spinning while a watch ticks on is incredible! I don't own one, but it's definitely my favorite movement.

Where will you be one hour from now?

At the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.

Who with?

Whoever destiny chooses!

If you had to pack up and drop everything right now, what would you do?

I'd go and drink a glass of champagne.

Published in : News, WtheJournal.com

## World Events

Paul O'Neil

NOVEMBER 11, 2015

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SalonQP London calling

— The UK's premier watch exhibition opens tomorrow at the Saatchi Gallery in London.



<http://goo.gl/WPfd2b>

SalonQP brings together over 90 exhibitors from the world of watchmaking, including a large contingent of home-grown UK watchmaking talent that watch fans can usually only see at this annual London event. Three new brands will launch at the show, including Czapek & Cie. which was presented only yesterday on WorldTempus.

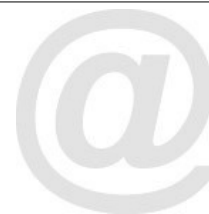


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1207 Genève  
022/ 718 33 39  
www.worldtempus.com

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Urban Jürgensen is one of 15 brands that will be exhibiting at the show for the first time, with a further twelve brands choosing SalonQP for new product launches. Traditionally, SalonQP is also the first opportunity to see the exhibition of all the winning watches from the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.

A separate exhibition entitled "Gems of Time: The Art of Colour" looks specifically at the use of coloured gemstones in fine watchmaking and two of the informative seminars during the event will be devoted to the subjects of high jewellery watches (13th November at 12.30pm with Sasha Slater of Harper's Bazaar and Caragh McKay, editor of Telegraph Time and coloured gemstones (13th November at 3pm with Daniel Struyf, International Jewellery Director at Bonhams).

Watch fans will be spoiled for choice with the broad selection of big names and smaller, independent brands and will have a rare chance to see a Grand Seiko Hibeat movement being assembled by one of the brand's master watchmakers, Mr Hiraga, who is travelling all the way from Japan. An even rarer delight is the opportunity to see a Roger Smith timepiece. The master watchmaker from the Isle of Man, who worked with George Daniels, produces only 10 pieces of his Series 2, which uses a single-wheel version of the Daniels Co-Axial escapement.





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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
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## Industry News

### Editorial Team

NOVEMBER 10, 2015

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WorldTempus GPHG 2015

— **WorldTempus organised the official after-party of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.**



View Slideshow

<http://goo.gl/oSZWuB>

The 15th GPHG prize-giving ceremony was held on October 29th at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. After the ceremony, the guests were invited to the after-party organised by WorldTempus at the restaurant of the Parc des Bastions. RDI Charles Kaeser, sponsor of this party, offered to a randomly selected guest a Vegetal watch winder, created by Parisian artist Rose Saneuil.

Click on the image above to discover a slideshow of the WorldTempus after-party.



**Greubel Forsey remporte l'Aiguille d'or pour le modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision. L'excellence et la créativité horlogères ont été célébrées ce jeudi 29 octobre au Grand Théâtre de Genève à l'occasion de la cérémonie de remise des prix du 15e Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), qui s'est déroulée en présence du Conseiller fédéral Alain Berset, et a réuni à Genève mille cinq cents invités, acteurs**

influençables des univers horloger, politique et économique. Une édition qui était marquée par la volonté de préserver le savoir-faire et les valeurs d'excellence de la haute-horlogerie et le souhait que d'autres marques viennent se présenter leur travail dans le cadre du Grand Prix. Venez admirer les 72 montres choisies par les 24 membres du jury d'experts internationaux jusqu'au 4 novembre à la Cité du Temps de Genève -> Montres présélectionnées jusqu'au 4 novembre à la Cité du Temps, Pont de la Machine à Genève. Après Hong Kong, Séoul et Dubai l'exposition des montres lauréates de cette édition 2015 se présentera pour une dernière étape à Londres du 12 au 14 novembre dans le cadre du SalonQP.

PALMARÈS 2015: Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or: Greubel Forsey, Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

Prix de la Montre Dame: Hublot, Big Bang Broderie

Prix de la Haute Mécanique pour Dame: Fabergé, Lady Compliquée Peacock

Prix de la Montre Homme: Voutilainen, Voutilainen GMR

Prix de la Montre Chronographe: Piaget, Altiplano Chrono

Prix du Tourbillon: Ulysse Nardin, Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

Prix de la Montre Calendrier: Hermès, Slim d'Hermès QP



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Prix de la Montre à Sonnerie: GirardPerregaux, Répétition Minute Tourbillon sous Ponts d Or

Prix de l'Exception Mécanique: Jaquet Droz, The Charming Bird

Prix de la Petite Aiguille: Habring2, Felix

Prix de la Montre Sport: Tudor, Pelagos

Prix de la Montre Joaillerie: Audemars Piguet, Diamond Punk

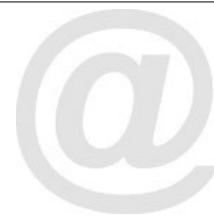
Prix de la Montre Métiers d Art: Blancpain, Villeret, cadran Shakudō

Prix « Revival »: Piaget, Extremely Piaget Montre Manchette Recto Verso

Prix de l'Innovation: Antoine Prezioso, Tourbillon des Tourbillons qui a aussi remporté le Prix du Public.

Prix de la Révélation Horlogère: Laurent Ferrier, Galet Square

Prix Spécial du Jury: Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus, JeanLuc Perrin. Les trois horlogers de Vacheron Constantin, concepteurs de la montre Référence 57260.



Lire en ligne

## Antoine Prezioso Genève vient de remporter deux récompenses au Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève 2015.



Le Tourbillon of Tourbillons AFP – TTR3X – trois tourbillons à résonance sur un plateau tournant allié à un triple différentiel planétaire (cerveau de la montre) – se voit nommé parmi 186 montres, pour deux prix très convoités:

- PRIX DE L'INNOVATION, qui récompense la meilleure montre, présentée dans une des douze catégories du Grand Prix, proposant une innovation technique remarquable et/ou un design innovant
- PRIX DU PUBLIC, décerné sur la base des votes du public exprimés lors des expositions précédant la cérémonie du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève ou sur internet, au travers du site et de ses sites partenaires

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève est la compétition la plus prestigieuse de l'industrie horlogère suisse – pour ainsi dire les 'Oscars' de la Haute Horlogerie. Créé en 2001, il a pour vocation de contribuer au rayonnement mondial de l'horlogerie et des valeurs qui lui sont chères: innovation, quête de l'excellence et transmission du savoir-faire.

Un jury composé de 26 professionnels et de passionnés sélectionne les montres en compétition en fonction de critères très strictes.

Avec ces récompenses, ANTOINE PREZIOSO GENEVE démontre son esprit innovateur et son savoir-faire inégalé des gardes temps extrêmement compliqués.





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**GPHG**  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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Le grand public international a également été séduit par le génie créatif de la marque.

Ces victoires sont une belle reconnaissance des 10 années de persévérance et des innombrables obstacles qu'il aura fallu surmonter à Antoine et son fils Florian pour parvenir à cette première mondiale, protégée par trois brevets internationaux.

Ce contenu a été rédigé par Publié dans A LA UNE, JOAILLERIE & HORLOGERIE par

Communiqué, Mots-clés:

Antoine Prezioso

## Reflections On The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Elizabeth Doerr

In this final round table discussion, my Quill & Pad colleagues Ian, Joshua, Gary, Amr, and I discuss the amazing evening of October 29, 2015 at the Grand Théâtre in Geneva. Our participants are:

Elizabeth Doerr (ED), co-founder and editor-in-chief

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Amr Sindi (AS), resident horophile



Guests ready to enter the Geneva Opera House for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

JM: The GPHG ceremony was greatly successful this year with the hosts keeping it from running long with windy speeches and comedy routines in the middle. While I still think it carried on a little long, it did feel faster paced and more efficient than normal.

And the hosts were full of typical Swiss humor which seemed to hit and miss with the audience. Granted, I could only hear what the audio picks up since I watched it online, but there were laughs and there were moments of hesitation as well.

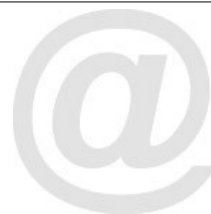


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Take your seats please for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

ED: Once again, it was overall an amazing night, Joshua! And while I'm not a huge fan of Frédéric Beigbeder – this was his third time as emcee of the GPHG – I thought the presentation was much better this year than in the recent past. And there was one parody quote I appreciated immensely, which caused huge amounts of laughter in the audience, particularly with the man sitting next to me: "In Japan, 'Philippe Dufour' is a synonym for 'orgasm'." (Yes, you guessed it: I was seated next to him.)



A good start to the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève judging by expressions on the faces of various brand CEOs in the front row

AS: It's funny, I usually leave the GPHG with a bit of discontentment toward some of the winners, but this year I was quite satisfied with just about all the award winners. Overall, it was a good mix of independents and established brands.

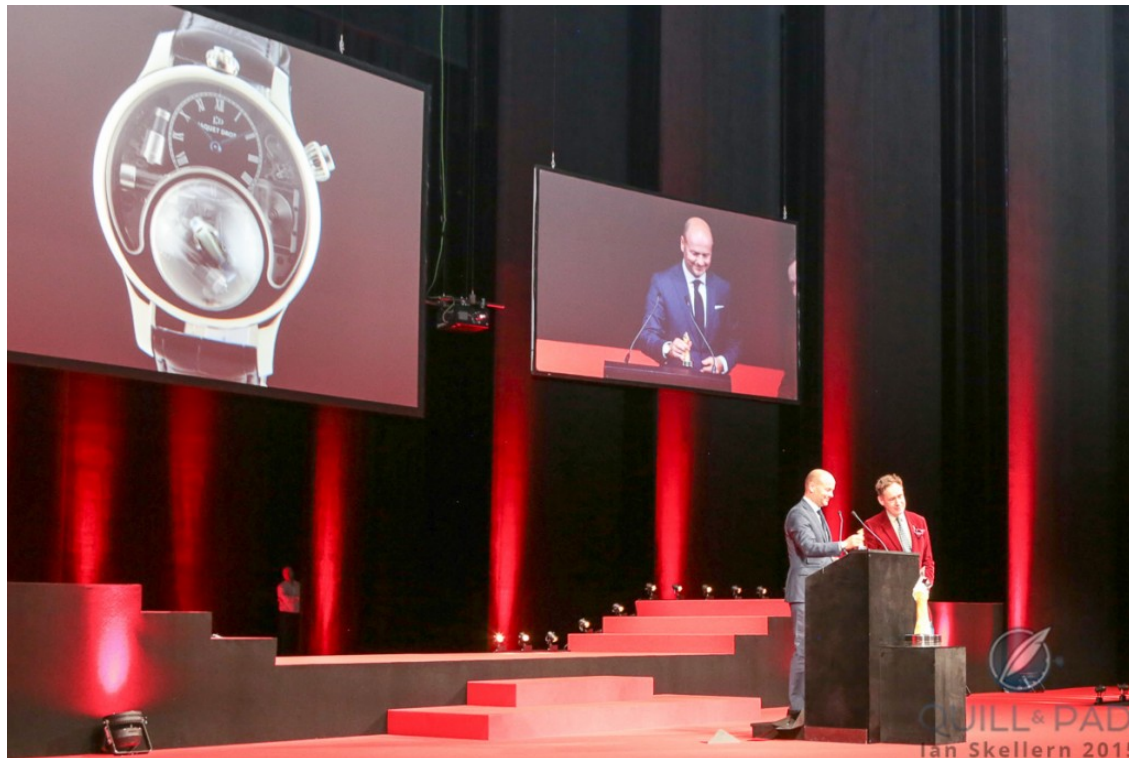
With a few exceptions, to me the choices reflect the state of the industry, where things are shifting back from loud, daring concepts to more timeless designs and executions.

Mechanical Exception: The Jaquet Droz Charming Bird

JM: Out of the thirteen categories I helped predict, I accurately chose six and missed on seven others. The most surprising for me was the choice for the Mechanical Exception category with the Jaquet Droz Charming Bird. The watch is fantastic, the mechanism incredible, and the brand is consistently among my favorites for style and innovation.

But The Charming Bird debuted back in 2013. It just seemed like it should have been entered previously and seemed out of place this year to me . . . so I would like to pose the question as to what the rule is on what can be entered. Must the watch must be in production?





Christian Lattmann, vice president of Jaquet Droz, accepting the Mechanical Exception prize for The Charming Bird

ED: I'm glad you asked that, Joshua, as it is an oft-confused point. In fact, if you read the rules section on the GPHG's website, you'll find in section 1.2 that the watch must be "commercialized" (Swiss speak for "in production and distribution") within a certain time frame in order to be entered.

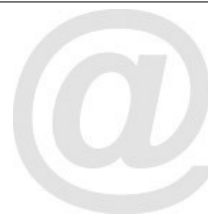
While The Charming Bird was first offered to the press for preview at Baselworld 2013, it was only at Baselworld 2015 that we saw production pieces. This sort of thing is quite confusing for consumers, and I'm not quite sure why brands choose to do things this way sometimes. Your question illustrates that perfectly.

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Jaquet Droz Charming Bird

IS: While I did not predict that The Charming Bird would win this category, it was in my top three and I described it like this, "It's a fantastic bit of technology, and I would neither be surprised or disappointed if the very aptly named Charming Bird takes the prize."

I'd be happy to watch and listen to the little automaton all day long and I'm happy to learn that the GPHG jury feels the same way.



Jaquet Droz Charming Bird: winner of the Mechanical Exception category at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

GG: The jury and I definitely agreed on the Jaquet Droz Charming Bird!

AS: A bit predictable, but well deserved nonetheless. The Charming Bird is hands-down one of the greatest feats of miniaturization I've ever seen (and heard) in a modern watch. This is precisely the kind of mechanical art that goes beyond just chronometry. It makes Jaquet Droz stand out from other historical watchmaking names.

For more on this watch, see The Whimsical Song Of Jaquet Droz's Charming Bird.

Ladies: Hublot Big Bang Broderie

IS: This was the biggest surprise for me as the Hublot Big Bang Broderie was neither in my top three nor the top three of anybody (both male and female) that I spoke to. While I can appreciate the (mainly male) jury thinking that embroidery is a nice feminine craft, I just don't see how the Big Bang case can be considered feminine by any stretch of the imagination, and certainly not more feminine than any of the other contenders in this strongly contested category.

I can only assume that the jury's votes were so split among the other watches that the Big Bang Broderie was able to slip past and win by the law of averages. And admittedly the predicted winner from own panel of four was split between three different watches (though none mentioned the Hublot). This was a disappointing result for me – I had picked the DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony – though it was certainly a very happy result for Hublot.





Jean-Claude Biver accepts the prize for the Ladies category for the Hublot Big Bang Broderie

GG: I also felt that Audemars Piguet Millenary was hard done by in the Ladies category, in which the jury selected the Hublot watch that received exactly zero mentions in the top three from our four Q&P panelists. Best Ladies watch? Sorry, but I'm a big "no" on that one.

ED: This category is a perfect example of why more women are needed on the GPHG jury. Neither the Big Bang Broderie nor the DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony are very wearable on a typical feminine wrist with their dimensions. In fact, both of these timepieces are typical men's watches that have been given some sort of embellishment to turn them into "ladies' watches" – according to men.

While I truly love and admire the artful embellishments on both of these timepieces, I personally would never choose to wear them. There were timepieces in this category perfectly suited to the female wrist because they were purpose-built for exactly that purpose. Unfortunately, however, this aspect is often lost on the male-dominated watch industry.





The Hublot Big Bang Broderie, winner of the Ladies watch category at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

AS: I can see why this one surprised more than a few people. The problem with Hublot is that it's doing some pretty innovative things with materials, but sadly that often goes unnoticed with all the noise surrounding the various partnerships and consequent limited editions.

Beyond the polarizing aesthetics on this watch, applying embroidery right into the case and bezel elements is pretty spectacular to see in the metal (and carbon fiber).

Ladies' High-Mech: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

IS: The Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock was a well-expected and very popular winner. Not only was our panel unanimous in predicting that the Lady Compliquée Peacock would take this prize, it was also a crowd favorite at the event if the clapping and cheers were any indication.

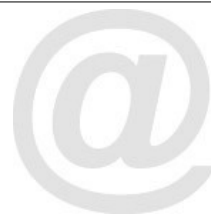
I also thought that it was nice of Fabergé's CEO to credit the design and watchmaking team as well as Aghenor, which developed the whole movement and complication from scratch.

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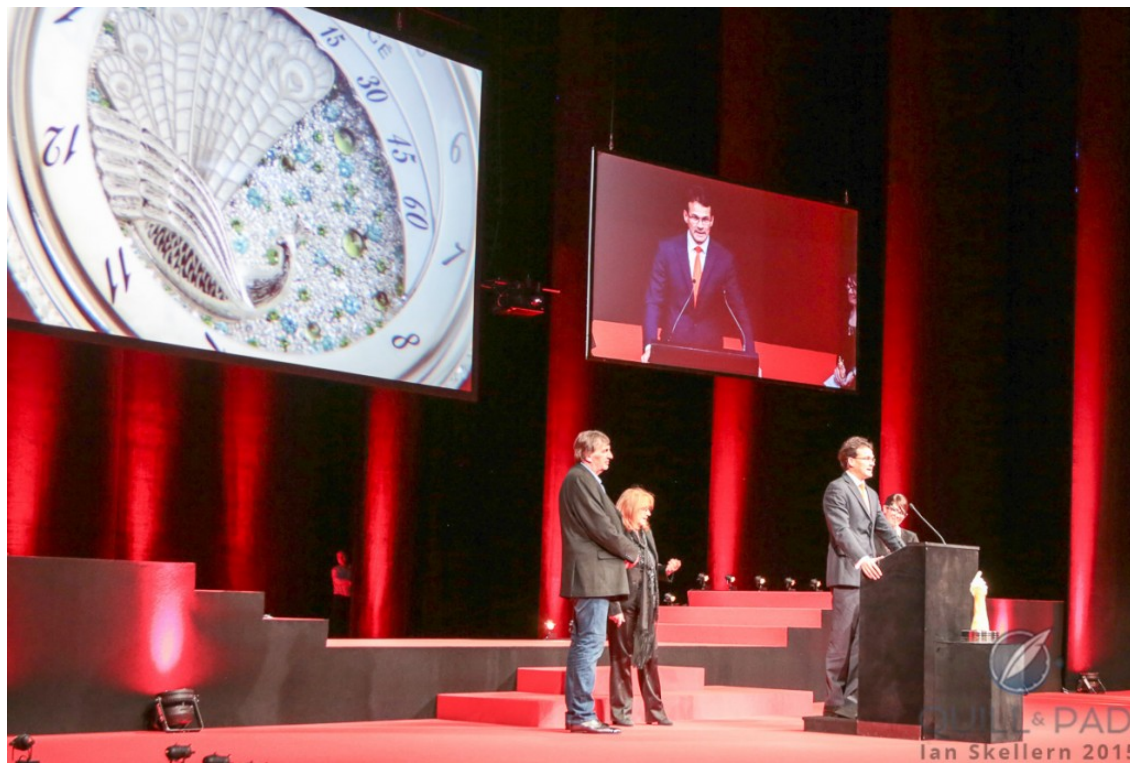
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Fabergé CEO Sean Gilbertson accepts the Ladies' High-Mech prize at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Lady Compliquée Peacock

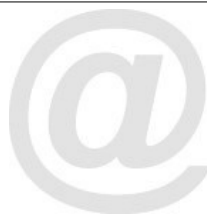
AS: Fabergé really hit it out of the park with the Lady Compliquée Peacock. Sure, this kind of original display has Agenhor's Jean-Marc Wiederrecht written all over it. And it brings a certain jeweler-turned-watchmaker to mind, but the result is distinctive enough for Fabergé to mark its territory.

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The Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock, winner of the Ladies' High-Mech category at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

ED: I can only concur on every single point mentioned here. This timepiece is an exceptional instance of mechanical art and has deserved every single accolade attributed to it since Baselworld 2015.

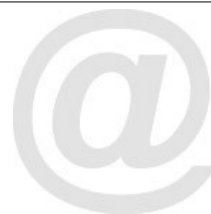


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### Fabergé Lady Compiquée Peacock

For more on this stunning timepiece, please see Fabergé Inaugurates Rebirth With Exceptional Lady Compiquée.

Men's: Voutilainen GMR + Revelation: Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

IS: Kari Voutilainen should think about getting his own box at the Geneva Opera House, where the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève is held each year. He has become – for very good reasons – a regular winner: Best Men's watch in 2013, best Artistic watch in 2014, and now again best Men's watch in 2015.

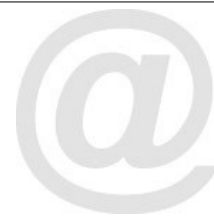


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N° de thème: 781.033  
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Voutilainen GMR

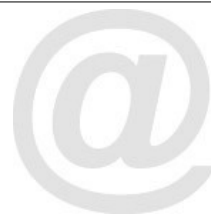
However, because I thought that the jury would want to spread the love, I expected it to select another watch in this category, the Laurent Ferrier Galet Square. But as Laurent Ferrier picked up another prize, and I'm a big fan of Voutilainen's work, I'm very pleased with this result.

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Kari Voutilainen accepting the prize for Men's watch at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Voutilainen GMR from the mayor of Geneva

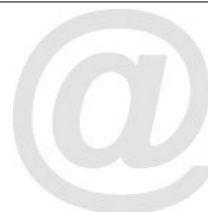
GG: In the Men's category I felt that the Laurent Ferrier watch was one of the pieces of the year, and despite my love for Kari Voutilainen and his work, as well as ownership of one of his watches, I just didn't see the logic to bestow an award on another variant of his Vingt-8. Perhaps views were also divided among the jury members as the brand received what I might consider a "consolation" prize in the form of the Revelation award.

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The Voutilainen GMR, best Men's watch at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

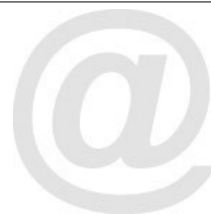
IS: The Revelation is another prize awarded at the discretion of the jury for brands that are a maximum of ten years old. While I'm always happy to see small independent brands getting any recognition at all, I don't understand the criteria for this prize well enough to comment. But well done to Laurent Ferrier for making beautiful classic wristwatches.

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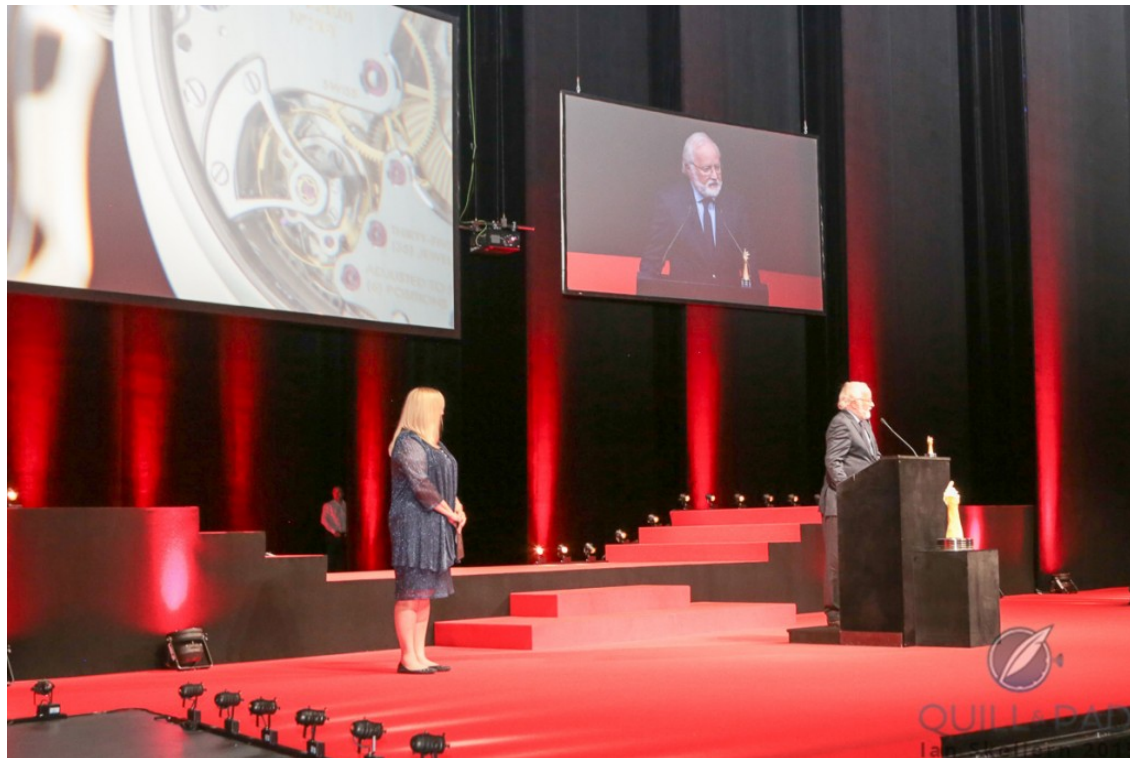
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Laurent Ferrier accepts the Revelation prize from Quill & Pad's own Elizabeth Doerr for the Galet Square at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

AS: It's always great to see Laurent Ferrier get the recognition he deserves. While the micro rotor movement in the Galet Square isn't exactly new, coming out with a more contemporary case and relatively attractive price tag makes this one pretty hard not to love.

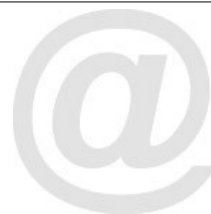


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Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

I'm still disappointed that Voutilainen's fellow Finn Stepan Sarpaneva's Northern Lights didn't make it to the final six in the same category, though. But no hard feelings.

Chronograph: Piaget Altiplano Chrono

IS: I did not expect the Piaget Altiplano Chrono to win this category; my money was on the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher because to my thinking, a chronograph is more of a sports or tool watch than a dress watch. However, the Altiplano Chrono did make my top three because of its sheer elegance.

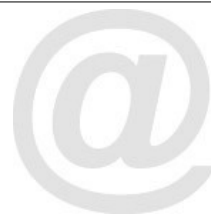
As the world's thinnest chronograph, the Piaget Altiplano Chrono wins for both its technical prowess and unparalleled comfort on the wrist. Yet another good choice.

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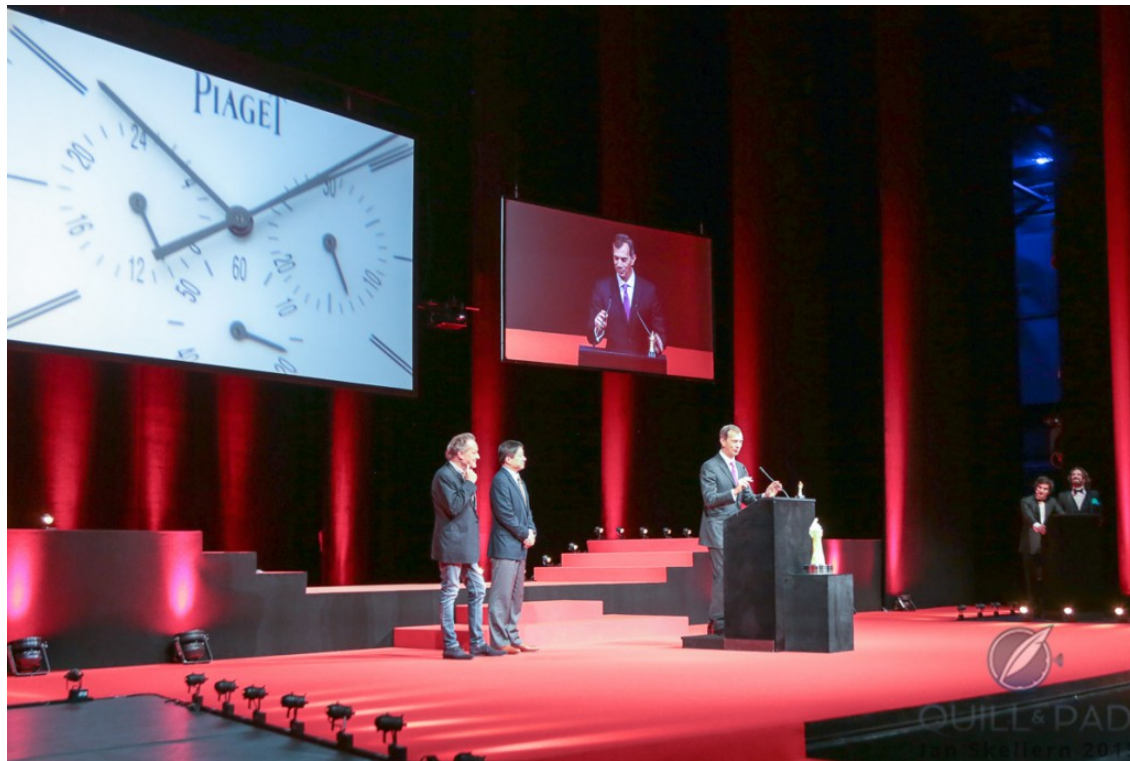
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Piaget CEO Philippe Léopold-Metzger accepts the Chronograph prize for the Altiplano Chrono at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

GG: However, I'd love to hear the rationale put forward for selecting the Piaget chronograph over the others in the category – particularly the Audemars Piguet Michael Schumacher watch that our entire Q&P panel selected. The Piaget received exactly one third-place vote from our group (from Ian), and in his rationale even he pointed out some of the obvious issues with the watch, including the crowded subdials.

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Best chronograph at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève: the Piaget Altiplano Chrono

AS: You've got to love how Piaget does ultra thin, Gary. While the 900P was quickly surpassed as the thinnest mechanical watch, I think the Altiplano Chronograph will keep the title of thinnest chronograph for some years to come.

And even if it doesn't, it's got a minimalistic charm that will last a lifetime.

Tourbillon: Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

IS: While I predicted that the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision would win the Tourbillon category – and technically it would have won here except that it was promoted to Aiguille d'Or champion – the Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon made my top three in the category and is very worthy of the prize. It's not often we see a completely new escapement.

And hats off to Ulysse Nardin for placing its new Ulysse Anchor Escapement in such a well-executed package.

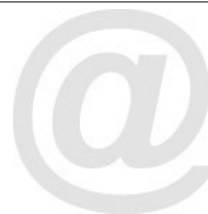


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Patrik Hoffmann, CEO of Ulysse Nardin, accepts the prize for best Tourbillon at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

GG: How about my complete misses? As for the Tourbillon category, I frankly think I initially under-appreciated the technical advances in the Ulysse Nardin piece that took home the trophy, so see it as a very worthy "lucky loser" in that group to the Greubel Forsey, which took the night's big prize.

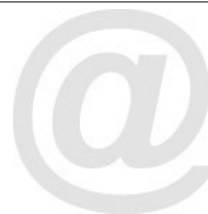


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Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

AS: This was definitely one of the watches I was rooting for in the pre-selected Tourbillon category, and it wasn't an easy choice!

The Ulysse Anchor Escapement is a significant milestone piece for Ulysse Nardin, one that the late Rolf Schnyder would certainly have been proud of. After all, Ulysse Nardin was the pioneer of silicon in the watch movement, and in many ways this is the culmination of a decade's worth of research and fine-tuning.

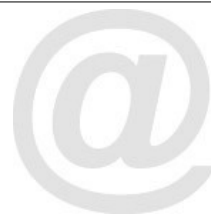
I see this piece as a "back to basics" exercise for Ulysse Nardin, foregoing some of the edgier designs the brand has been coming out with in the past couple of years for something much more classical and reminiscent of its marine chronometer origins. I just love how unassuming it looks.

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Ulysse Nardin Anchor Tourbillon

ED: You've just said everything I feel about this piece, Amr. The connection to previous owner Rolf Schnyder, the incredible yet understated technical excellence in that "anchor" tourbillon escapement, and the beautiful marine-chronometer visuals of the enamel dial.

This is a timepiece for eternity despite its forward-thinking silicon elements.

For more on the Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon, please see The Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon By Ulysse Nardin.

Calendar: Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP

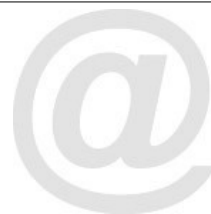
IS: I predicted that the Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP would win this category because, "Not only is it the only perpetual calendar among the pre-selected watches, but it is one of the most legible perpetual calendars on the market. And legibility is often a big issue with perpetual calendars as there are so many indications to fit in the limited real estate available on a watch dial."

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Laurent Dordet, CEO of La Montre Hermès, accepts the prize for the Calendar category for the Slim d'Hermès QP at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

ED: This timepiece was a fairly clear front-runner in this category: if for nothing else than the svelte, timeless visuals resulting from both Agenhor's clever mechanics paired with the appealing new look of the whole Slim d'Hermès collection. And then there is the more than fair retail price of 35,000 Swiss francs in red gold.





Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP in red gold

AS: Overall it was a pretty slow year for calendars, so I would also say that Hermès' seriously stylish Slim d'Hermès was an easy choice. The Philippe Apeloig-designed numeral font alone deserves an award!

For more, please see [Introducing Slim d'Hermès: The Elegant New Backbone Of The Hermès Collection](#).

Striking: [Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges](#)

IS: I can't stress enough what a crapshoot it is trying to judge watches from photos as most look quite different in reality. And watches are incredibly tactile, which is another sensation you do not get from photos.

But when it comes to chiming watches, sound is everything. While I predicted that the A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater would win, I later had a chance to listen to all of the pre-selected Striking watches (well, at least those that were working) and the Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges clearly sounded much better than the others here. Great job, GP.

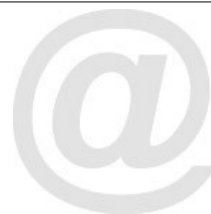


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Stefano Macaluso, design director at Girard-Perregaux, accepts the prize for best Striking watch at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

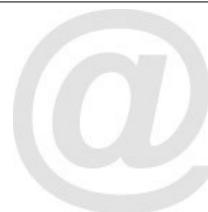
GG: I had the Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater as the bronze medalist in its category, but felt that the top three Striking watches were almost too close to call, so could have just as easily picked the jury's preference.

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Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges: winner of the Striking category at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

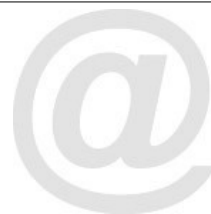
ED: This Girard-Perregaux not only looks fantastic and beautifully fits in with the historical cohesiveness of this brand, but it also sounds amazing.

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Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

AS: It really isn't fair to judge a minute repeater or striking watch without ever handling it – or, more importantly, hearing it.

For more, please see Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon With Gold Bridges.

Petite Aiguille: Habring2 Felix

IS: Well, it just goes to show how much salt readers should take (spoiler alert: lots and lots of it) with our predictions as our panel of three – which includes me – each predicted a different winner for this category . . . none of which was the excellent Felix by Habring2.

I thought that the jury would pass over the Felix because Habring2 had won exactly the same prize two years ago at the 2013 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Jumping Second Pilot. (See Emotions Run High At Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, The 'Oscars' Of Watchmaking.)

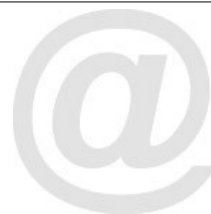


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Maria and Richard Habring accept the Petite Aiguille prize for the Felix at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

This well-merited prize for the Habring2 Felix again highlights that the jury is focusing solely on judging the present year's pre-selected watches on their merit without consideration for past results. And rightly so!



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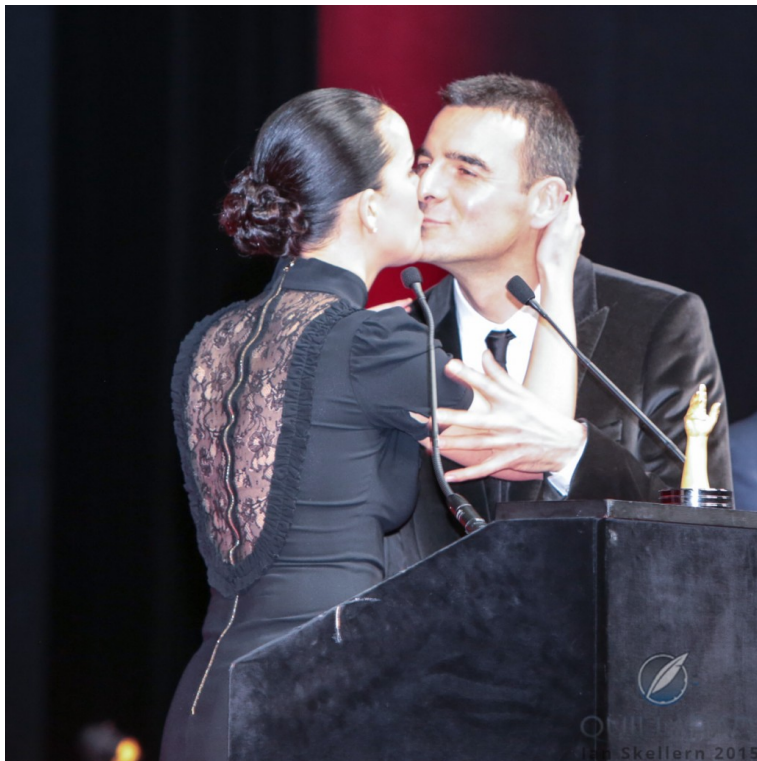


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### Habring2 Felix

JM: Something that I was not expecting was the real show of emotion from Maria and Richard Habring. They were the most "real" winners, revealing a bit about their own world and how much the prize means to them at this time in their lives. Humbling, kind, and true people.



Maria and Richard Habring share an intimate moment (with 1,500 onlookers) at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

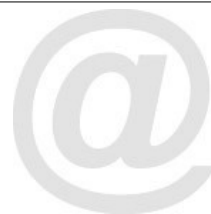
ED: Some of the most “real” people you’re likely to ever meet, Joshua. And some of the most “real” watches, too. This is certainly why Habring2 could win the GPHG Petite Aiguille time and again: a timepiece by Habring2 is so much watch for the money! And the Felix is a fantastic example of this, containing Austria’s very first manufacture movement and retailing for just €4,450. This price is jaw-dropping, particularly when you consider both the rarity of the watch and brand and the amount of work done by hand in the movement.

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The Habring2 Felix on Elizabeth Doerr's wrist

For the full story on Habring2's Felix, please see Habring2 Gets Happy (And Serious) With Felix, Featuring First Austrian Movement.

Sports: Tudor Pelagos

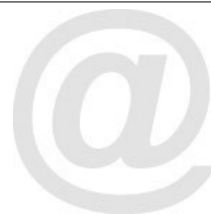
IS: Well, this is one choice that I can't claim shock or surprise at as I predicted the Tudor Pelagos to win here. And it did. My reason for choosing this watch was, "I've picked the Tudor Pelagos for the number one slot because it's the sports watch I would buy for myself in this category; at around \$4,500, it is easily the most affordable as well." In fact, I went one further than that and suggested that the Tudor Pelagos might even take the Aiguille d'Or.

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Tudor CEO Philippe Peverelli accepts the prize in the Sports category for the Pelagos at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

AS: I've always had a soft spot for Tudor's Pelagos as a more serious dive watch compared to the stylish fan favorite Black Bay, but this year's new blue dial version and the addition of an in-house movement really makes it hard to beat in terms of both form and function, as well as what I consider an excellent value for money.

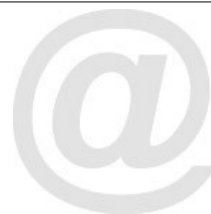


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The Tudor Pelagos, best Sports watch at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

Jewellery: Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk + Revival: Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch

IS: While the Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk wasn't in my top three predictions for this category – I went for the Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch, which ended up taking the Revival prize – after having had a chance to handle the Diamond Punk a couple of weeks ago I can see the attraction.

The Revival prize was optional for the jury and is only given if a suitable candidate exists. In 2015 a suitable candidate was found in the form of the very convolutedly named Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch. I'm happy to see that Piaget didn't go home empty-handed.



François-Henry Bennahmias (right), CEO of Audemars Piguet, accepts the award for the Jewellery category at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for the Diamond Punk

The chunky, square lines may not be to everyone's taste, but the Diamond Punk is beautifully made and seriously eye-catching. Congratulations to Audemars Piguet for undertaking such a bold development, as we don't tend to associate this brand with high-end jewelry. I wonder if that may change in the not-too-distant future?



The Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk, best watch in the Jewellery category of the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

ED: I highly doubt it, Ian, though it wasn't all that far back in the past that AP was regularly bringing out unique highly jeweled delicacies for women. These were just so few and far between that most people tend to forget they existed. They have also largely been discontinued in the modern era of Royal Oak Offshores and beefy concept watches at the brand.

The design of the Diamond Punk was overseen by former artistic director Octavio García, who departed Audemars Piguet in January 2015. I had the distinct feeling it might have been a pet project of his.

Artistic Crafts: Blancpain Villeret Shakudō

IS: The Blancpain Villeret Shakudō didn't make my top three mainly because the aesthetics just didn't float my boat, but there is no denying the skill that went into creating the meticulously crafted dial. My vote would still go to the Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke for this category, but I can't say that the Villeret Shakudō is a surprising winner. The prize is well merited.

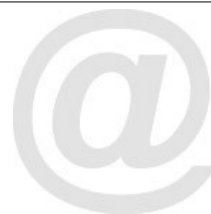


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Lionel a Marca, vice president of Blancpain, accepts the award for best Artistic Watch for the Villeret Shakudō at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

JM: To throw in a little bit of my own randomness in here, I would like to say that if I had to choose just one of the watches that won to be my own personal watch, this would be a very hard choice indeed. But I was the most happy to see Blancpain win the Artistic Crafts category with the Shakudō.





Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

It isn't the most complicated watch or the most decorated, and in any normal circumstance it wouldn't be the one I consider most "increditable" among some of the superwatches that won. But this piece touches my inner core for complexity of design and my eyes could never get tired of looking at it! If Blancpain wants to send it my way, even for a day, I would be incredibly happy to strap that watch on my wrist and fall in love all over again!

GG: In the Artistic Crafts group, two of my esteemed colleagues predicted the winning Blancpain, so I guess I will just have to admit I'm wrong on that one!

Innovation + Public: Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons

IS: While neither the Innovation nor the Public prize were part of our GPHG predictions as there was no list of pre-selected candidates, it would be remiss not to mention what a fantastic night it was for Antoine Prezioso and his Tourbillon of Tourbillons. This incredible watch with three tourbillons connected by a specially developed differential took both the Public prize (voted directly by the public) and the prize for technical innovation.

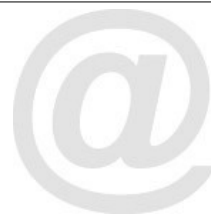
Take a bow, Antoine Prezioso. You deserve it.

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Antoine (right) and Florian Preziuso accept the Innovation prize at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for their Tourbillon of Tourbillons (Philippe Dufour stage left)

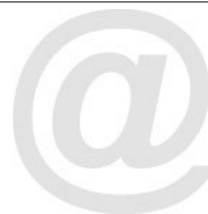
JM: Antoine Preziuso won twice, showing that this watch stands out among its peers for things that are harder to categorize and quantify.

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The Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons, winner of both the Public prize and (technical) Innovation prize at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

AS: I couldn't be happier for the Prezioso family's double win this year. The Tourbillon of Tourbillons is a watch worthy of its name, and definitely the best surprise from an A.H.C.I. watchmaker in a while.

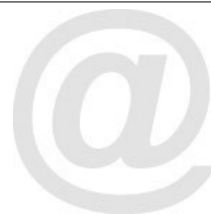
Three tourbillons working together on a revolving plate is a sight to behold. You can actually feel the tourbillons interaction happening on your wrist! I also love the fact that Antoine Prezioso worked with his son Florian to make this watch a reality. As mesmerizing as the watch is, to me it's really this human element that makes it that much more appealing.

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Antoine (right) and Florian Prezioso celebrating the Innovation prize at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève for their Tourbillon of Tourbillons

Independent watchmaking is alive and well!

For more on this watch, see Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon Of Tourbillons: Fractals Meet 'Inception.'

Special Prize of the Jury: Vacheron Constantin Reference 57260

JM: It was great to see the Special Jury award for the watchmakers responsible for the Vacheron Constantin 57260; three men who labored for eight years together to create one amazing timepiece.





The team responsible for developing the Vacheron Constantin Reference 57260 accepts the Special Jury prize at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève from Aurel Bacs: Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus, Jean-Luc Perrin, and Christian Selmoni

GG: The Special Jury award for the Vacheron Constantin wizards who built the world's most complicated watch was, in my view, inspired.

IS: It's hard to see how anybody could disagree with this special prize: three watchmakers, eight years work and the world's most complicated watch. This prize was a well-deserved tip of the hat to Vacheron Constantin.



### Vacheron Constantin Reference 57260

ED: I couldn't be happier about this particular prize, Gary!

As readers may know, a brand must enter its own watches into the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. Which means that the jury may only vote on timepieces that the brands themselves put forth. This special prize is the only way for the jury to recognize something special in the world of watchmaking upon our own nomination.

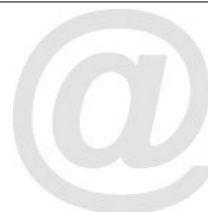
As Vacheron Constantin chose not to take part in the 2015 edition of the GPHG, despite the fact that it had presented so very many worthy timepieces in its 260th anniversary year, I will admit to having felt a slight tinge of disappointment.

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Views from all angles of the Vacheron Constantin Reference 57260

So I felt a great deal of personal satisfaction by helping to award this prize to the trio of brilliant watchmakers in charge of bringing this specially commissioned timepiece to life: Jean-Luc Perrin and brothers Micke and Yannick Pintus. They worked on this timepiece for a full eight years under the direction of Dominique Bernaz (head of Vacheron Constantin's Atelier Cabinotiers division) and artistic director Christian Selmoni.

And I hope that this prize sufficiently inspired Vacheron Constantin to enter some watches into next year's competition!

For more on the most complicated portable watch in the world, please see Vacheron Constantin's Reference 57260 Is The Most Complicated Portable Watch In The World.

Aiguille d'Or: Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

GG: Overall, this year's jury certainly saw things very differently than I did! Of the winners in the 12 main categories, only two were my first picks, another two my second picks, and three were watches that I placed third.

That means that in a full five categories, the jury picks were not even on my top three list! And the Aiguille d'Or winner from Greubel Forsey was a watch that I placed third within the Tourbillon category.



Stephen Forsey accepts the Aiguille d'Or for the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

IS: I thought that the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision was a very deserving winner of the big best-of-the-best Aiguille d'Or prize as it has no weak points. The Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision features clean design, an interesting bubble window on the back, impeccable hand finishing, and well thought-out movement architecture.

While I chose the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision as a winner of the Tourbillon category, I didn't pick it for the Aiguille d'Or as Greubel Forsey won the big prize five years ago for the Double Tourbillon 30° Edition Historique and I thought that the jury might think it too early for another Aiguille d'Or. But I am pleased to have been proved wrong.

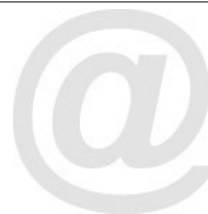


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Winner of the 2015 Aiguille d'Or, the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

JM: While Greubel Forsey was not who I originally predicted, the result was definitely awesome. This boutique brand always pushes the edges of horology and no argument can ever truly be made against its work!

AS: This is probably the one that escapes me a bit, but don't bring the pitchforks out just yet! I can totally see the appeal in a minimalist Greubel Forsey and have the utmost respect and admiration for what this brand does.

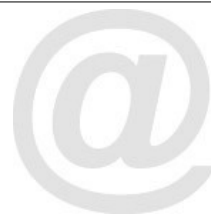
In its own right, the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision is a stupendous watch. But I feel like this was more of an award for Greubel Forsey and all that the Naissance d'une Montre project represents rather than the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision itself. But that's just me.

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Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

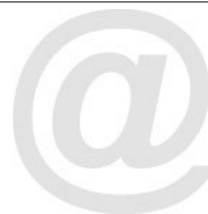
GG: Even Stephen Forsey confessed that he was surprised that the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision was the night's champion, Amr! I love pretty much everything about GF and, as an owner of one of the brand's watches, have put my money where my mouth is. But I didn't have this one as the winner in its category, let alone the top watch of the year.

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Stephen Forsey at the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève with the Aiguille d'Or in one hand and a Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision on the other

For more on this timepiece, please see SIHH 2015 Photo Essay: Greubel Forsey.

That completes our coverage of the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. Now I admit to already wondering what's in store for next year!



## Industry News

Paul O'Neil

NOVEMBER 03, 2015

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GPHG 2015 A celebration of the exclusive

— Avoiding any knee-jerk reactions, we gave ourselves a week to digest the results of this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève and take stock of their significance for the watch industry.



<http://goo.gl/TifkA3>

With a record number of different brands participating in this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), the jury's decision was more difficult than ever. As always, there were some surprises mixed in with some more logical choices. Nobody could deny, for example, a moment of glory for Micke Pintus, Yannick





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Pintus and Jean-Luc Perrin as they collected the Jury's Special Prize for the world's most complicated watch ever, the Vacheron Constantin 57260, or indeed Jaquet Droz for its spectacular Charming Bird in the mechanical exception category (see complete prize-list here)

Dig a little deeper, however, and the results are skewed in favour of watches costing in excess of 100,000 Swiss francs that few people will ever get to see, let alone wear. The winner of the men's watch category, the Voutilainen GMR, costs in excess of 100,000 Swiss francs, while the overall winner, the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Seconds Vision, costs around 300,000 Swiss francs. The Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons, which scooped both the Innovation Prize and the Public Prize, is even more expensive at a cool 318,000 Swiss francs (and completes a podium of tourbillons in the competition: since Greubel Forsey were in the tourbillon category, the second-placed watch, the Ulysse Nardin Anchor tourbillon, won the category).



Alain Berset, Federal Councillor, and Stephen Forsey.

© GPHG.org

The very finest in watchmaking comes at a price, of course. But this year it seems to dominate all but four of the 12 categories. The exceptions are the sports watch (Tudor Pelagos), calendar watch (Hermès Slim perpetual calendar), chronograph (Piaget Altiplano chronograph) and the only category where price is an issue: the "Petite Aiguille", which crowns a watch whose retail price is under 8,000 Swiss francs.

For the second time in three years, the jury picked as its winner in this category a watch that does not come from Switzerland, nor from Germany, nor even from Japan but from... Austria! If Habring2 was a combination of lottery numbers, it would be a very lucky one, since this little brand from Völkermarkt has not just been preselected four times but has also gone on to win its category three times in the past five editions of the GPHG, starting with the sports watch prize in 2012. At just 4,450 Swiss francs with a "manufacture" movement, its "Felix" model does indeed represent excellent value for money. But you might find it difficult to

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GPHG

GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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get your hands on one compared with, say, the Tudor North Flag that was preselected in the same category (and has a manufacture movement and costs nearly one thousand Swiss francs less), since Habring expects to deliver just 50 of them this year.

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WorldTempus

## Horlogerie - Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève Hermès : la touche régionale

Est Républicain - Il y a 14 heures

Montbéliard. \_ L'heure de gloire de la Franche-Comté ne retentit pas chaque année, à Genève lors du Grand Prix d'horlogerie. Quoi que... On se souvient que ce fut le cas, en 2012, quand TAG Heuer avait décroché le titre suprême (l'Aiguille d'Or), avec ...



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## Industry News

Paul O'Neil

NOVEMBER 02, 2015

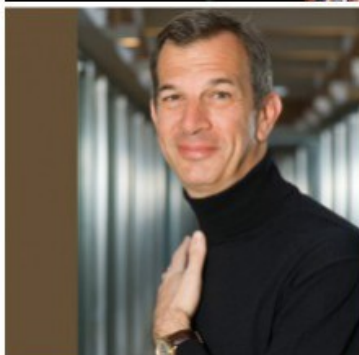
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Newsletter Watch brands and collectors join forces in aid of a good cause

— After marvelling at the new Opus and rewarding the best watches of the year, collectors this week have a chance to acquire some unique pieces in aid of a good cause at the Only Watch 2015 charity auction.


<http://goo.gl/I0KQPI>

When I spoke to Stephen Forsey at the SIAR ahead of last week's Grand Prix de l'Horlogerie de Genève, his main concern was that the jury take a much closer look at the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Seconds Vision during their deliberations, ideally using the eyeglass. By 8.30pm Swiss time last Thursday, we knew that they



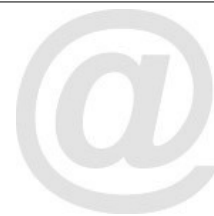


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had, since this very timepiece was awarded the coveted Aiguille d'Or trophy for the best watch of the year (see the full results here).

“Two reminders last week that the very best in watchmaking doesn't come cheap”

Paul O'Neil

WorldTempus was proud to host the official after-party of the GPHG once again, with the generous support of RDI Charles Kaeser, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended, among whom many were kind enough to express their appreciation of this newsletter.

Like the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Seconds Vision, the new Opus 14 presented by Harry Winston last week belongs to a very exclusive club of watches whose price tags hover around the half a million Swiss franc mark. It's a reminder that the very best of fine watchmaking can come at an eye-watering price, so I decided to counterbalance this and the pomp of the annual GPHG ceremony with a reality-check on Sunday by visiting the annual watch market at the Museum of Watchmaking in La Chaux-de-Fonds to browse through some much more down-to-earth watches.

Exclusivity trumps price, at least to some extent, this week with the Only Watch 2015 charity auction in Geneva on Saturday, where 44 unique watches will go under the hammer in aid of the Monaco Association for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Read more about the auction and the special watches that have been donated by the participating brands in our special section and stay tuned to WorldTempus this coming Saturday for live coverage from the sale. The Only Watch auction will be immediately followed by the Phillips Geneva Watch Auction Two, as part of Aurel Bacs's mammoth stint at the gavel next weekend.

For those who failed to find happiness in the results of the Grand Prix, the watch flea market, the Only Watch sale or the Phillips auction, we offer solace with our latest monthly competition, in which you can win an Emile Chouriet timepiece. As always, the answers to three simple questions about the brand are your only barrier to entry. Good luck!

## Behind the Scenes with GPHG President Aurel Bacs

1 hour ago



Aurel Bacs commands the gavel during important watch auctions and events. He'll oversee the upcoming ONLY Watch auction for Phillips auction house (Bacs is co-founder and partner with Phillips, in association with Bacs & Russo) and just last week ended an extensive world tour as president of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie GPHG.

iW had a moment to catch up with Bacs in Geneva for behind-the-scenes insight just moments before announcing the winners of the GPHG last week.

What improvements or changes did you make in this year's GPHG?

Overall, the GPHG is a world wide recognized event in our industry. Certainly there are other prizes, but the GPHG is the Prize. It is like the Oscars standing above all the other prizes a movie could win. Having said that, I am the first one to admit it is never perfect. Therefore, we are trying to increase the quality, the professionalism, the rules and the knowledge of the jury year after year. Sometimes there are touches that are so small that even some members of the jury have not even noticed we have changed something.

First, I think it is important that throughout the year I am wearing my GPHG badge. That means when I am meet watchmakers I am an ambassador, reassuring them of how professional everything is and that we do not have any secret behind-the-scenes discussions and that it is a totally democratic vote where twenty-some members express their will free of any influence or conflicts of interest.

Second, I upheld to occasionally adapt the rules. Sometimes a word can change the meaning of the category, what watch qualifies for the category or what is the focus of the category. Simply because some members of



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the foundation are not professionals in the watch industry, I'm occasionally asked to share my own humble opinion.

The jury has to constantly be in rotation. It is one of the key beliefs and ethics of the GPHG that it's not a static jury that stays for ten or twenty years, but every couple of years there's somebody new... one out and one in. I am helping to spot within the worldwide industry. Here with my professional background I can recommend specialists around the world.

Why has the selection of watches been expanded?

We have more prizes then in previous years and that is simply a result of the fact that we felt that in certain categories apples and oranges were mixed. You cannot have a \$5,000 watch in steel running in the same category against a two-million-dollar grand complication that many years ago was considered a Men's watch. Today the Men's category is coming back to the rules. There's a clear definition of what complications are not allowed to be in the Men's categories, which is why you don't have minute repeaters, tourbillons, perpetual calendars and chronographs in the Men's watch category. However, that meant once you kick out something from a category you have to put it elsewhere, so now we have expanded the amount of categories so we have an apple category and an orange category. We needed to narrow down the scope of the categories so the candidates are as close as possible and it is a fair competition.

How do you choose the final six watches in each of the twelve categories?

The deadline is before the summer in which any brand can submit their watches. Then the commissioner is going to approve that the watch is apt and suitable for the category. Once this is done, the list of 300 or 400 watches is posted online so the public can see who is competing. We the jury receive the ballots and we eliminate those that we think are not worthy of the final.

What does that mean? You need to spend several working days reading about 400 watches. Earlier you had in Baselworld and SIHH the opportunity to handle the watches. We need to say which watches are not in our view worthy of being a finalist.

What category generated the most heated debate this year?

I cannot remember having such a struggle picking my favorites in each category. That means that the finalists are very, very close together. This means several things. The pre-selection process was well done by the jurors and it means that the manufacturers have submitted extraordinary watches worthy of winning. I can only say that in certain categories—I remember the repeater category—we refused to go to lunch because we had a minute repeater on each ear, comparing the purity of the sound of the gongs. We had Eric Singer, the drummer of Kiss who is said to have the absolute ear, debating which is the pure sound. I am sure in the end there was not a unanimous opinion.

What do you believe the impact of winning the GPHG has on the brand or the watch?

I think there are multiple impacts based on the price. First, there is a big distinction whether it is a large group or a small independent maker. Some independent makers with ten, twenty, thirty employees, it is eventually a breakthrough in terms of recognitions and credibility. They essentially peel off their start-up costume and become a fully accepted member of the horological landscape today. For larger groups, it is more a matter of approval that the direction they are taking is supported by either the public or the professionals on the jury.

There is so much happening right now with new technologies and new materials. I can just imagine how



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many engineers or heads of production are going to the CEO saying 'I need five million to develop a new movement,' and he says, 'why would you want to do that? You are out of your mind because that is not going to work with our P&L.' When, one to two years later, he is being called on stage accepting a prize for his hard work it has multi-faceted impact around the globe. It is not just for the brand, sometimes it is the career of one person that may change with such a prize.

You live and breath watches... how do you stay so passionate?

Good question, I sometimes wonder myself. On one hand it is the surge for perfection, the perfect watch, which at the same time you probably know does not exist.

So on one hand you could abandon the whole quest, but let me do it one more season, and tomorrow morning I might find the Holy Grail. It is like why Indiana Jones goes into caves with snakes and spiders. He wants to find that one big thing. It is not only the watches that I love – it is also watch collectors. I have had the chance to meet some of the most intellectual, cordial, genuine, funny, education, elegant, quirky, powerful men and women through this profession and I believe that if I would worked in a firm behind a desk in Geneva I wouldn't meet them.

How do you describe your perfect watch?

A watch has to be wearable, has to be practical and legible. Sometimes you see watches with more pushers and hands that, if you are not studying engineering, you don't even know which way to look at it.

The size has to be right because by growing a watch anything is technically possible, but to fit it on my rather thin wrist it is quite a challenge. The ratio between dial, case, shape, thickness, width and diameter has to be right. The quality has to be right. I cannot ever imagine wearing a watch that was made by a robot or a computer without the attention to detail that only a skilled watchmaker can give it.

Then, to make it even more complicated, I would like this super watch not to be ostentatious, but actually very, very discrete. That alone is a contradiction and this is why in some instances certain complications are not even available in steel because the watchmaker that makes this multi-hundred-thousand-dollar complicated movement would want to case it gold or platinum, not steel. Then I would like this watch to be a unique piece. If even the most perfect thing becomes accessible to anyone, it is no longer that treasure or the Holy Grail.

I think that never in my life will I find that watch that does everything that I can afford, that I will be able to wear. As long as it does not exist, I will look for it.

If you could find one watch to put on the block at auction, what watch would that be?

There are certain watches by eminent watchmakers, certainly Patek Philippe, Rolex, Vacheron Constantin and Audemars Piguet, where there is a consensus. It is my hope that forty, fifty, sixty years ago watchmaker or an owner of a company had exactly that same instinctive thought or reaction that said, 'Lets do that a little bigger or in steel.'

Of those that we know exist, I think the Patek Philippe stainless steel reference 1518 is, to me, a holy grail. Moreover, within the Rolex family, I believe some of the moonphases that are said to have never been made in white gold or platinum, would be a holy grail. Then there are also models in Vacheron Constantin or Audemars Piguet that are either too small or too large. It's what doesn't exist that is desired.

The post Behind the Scenes with GPHG President Aurel Bacs appeared first on iW International Watch



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Le Point

## Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève : Greubel Forsey remporte l'Aiguille d'or

Le Point - Il y a 5 heures

Présentée en duo par Frédéric Beigbeder et Gaspard Proust, la cérémonie a réuni à Genève mille cinq cents invités... Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève : Greubel Forsey remporte l'Aiguille d'. Le Point Montres.  
L'excellence et la créativité horlogères ...

October 30, 2015 2:53:00 PM GMT

## Diamond Punk wins at the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève 2015

We are proud to announce that our Haute Joaillerie piece, the Diamond Punk, won in the "Montre Joaillerie" category at this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) last night. In a tough race against its competitors, this exceptional piece convinced the jury unanimously.



1

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The Diamond Punk timepiece disrupts traditional ideas of gem-set watches and displays a true desire to break the rules, technically and creatively. Taking inspiration from the graphic design codes of the punk era, a rhythmical pattern of pyramid studs constructs a new Haute Joaillerie design language that resonates with creative energy. The Diamond Punk's aesthetic is expertly considered and refined, in keeping with Audemars Piguet's rich heritage of crafting exceptional jewelled timepieces.

The awards ceremony took place last night in Geneva, at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. The international watchmaking industry gathered for an exciting evening to discover the winners of the 12 existing categories featured at the GPHG. The jury of 26 professionals from the watchmaking world and media was headed by the Haute Horlogerie specialist and auctioneer Aurel Bacs. 193 watches were submitted and the judges had pre-selected 72 finalists, which were running for a total of 18 awards.

After Hong Kong, Seoul and Dubai, the exhibition of the watches pre-selected by the jury is still on show in Geneva until November 4th at the Cité du Temps. As the last stage of this road show, the prize-winning watches in this 2015 edition will be presented in London at the SalonQP from November 12th to 14th.

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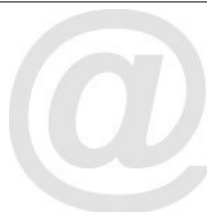




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Haute Horlogerie  
1205 Genève  
022 705 83 00  
[www.hautehorlogerie.org/en/](http://www.hautehorlogerie.org/en/)

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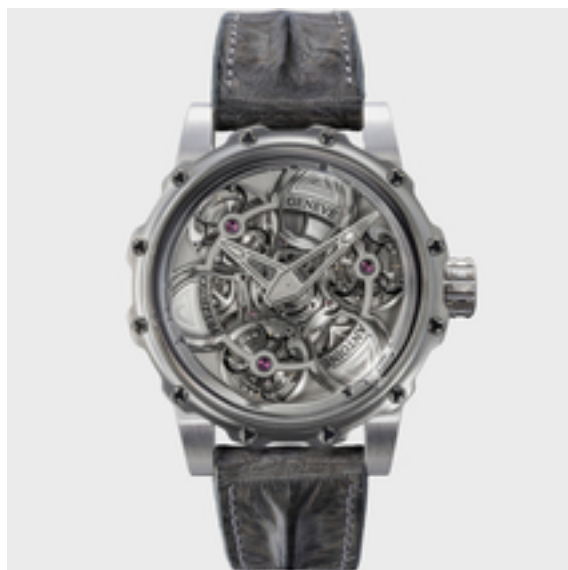
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Point of view // Ad alert

## GPHG crowns Greubel Forsey

Friday, 30 October 2015

Christophe Roulet

Aiguille d'Or Grand Prix : Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

The Aiguille d'Or, the ultimate accolade of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, has been presented to Greubel Forsey. This year, the jury has shown its appreciation of the classic beauty of watchmaking embodied by the profession's leading lights. The very ones who, for this one evening, spoke in unison to defend Swiss excellence.

Under the wing of an independent and neutral foundation, the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) has continued to gain in stature. Year after year, its aura grows, its travelling exhibition of shortlisted watches takes in more countries, and the event is broadcast in new territories, confirming its status as the Oscars of the watchmaking world. The hard work is finally beginning to pay off, not least among the last pocket of resistance: the watchmakers themselves who not only are now more inclined, across all categories, to underline the importance of a prize in terms of sales, but are also quick to rally the troops and fly the flag of Swiss excellence. "There are a good fifty companies in the world with revenue in excess of 50 billion francs," declared François-Henry Bennahmias, CEO of Audemars Piguet who collected the Jewellery Watch Prize for Diamond Punk. "I didn't pick that figure by chance. It represents total retail sales of Swiss watches. This gives an idea how small our industry is, and why we must promote it. Certain events can contribute to this, such as the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. On condition that everyone plays along. All the brands must take part. This is an appeal to all those who are conspicuous by their absence. At the end of the day, Switzerland benefits."

Jean-Claude Biver, who picked up the Ladies' Watch Prize for Hublot's Big Bang Broderie, echoed these words. "I'm delighted this evening, because an award for a lady's watch has gone to a man's watch. This is clearly the sign of a change that fits perfectly with the mission we must give ourselves, which is to sell Switzerland. Swiss watchmaking is an activity steeped in culture, tradition and innovation. Let us not be afraid



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to say that ours is a patriotic activity. So what if the current climate is less favourable! The best need to be in the front line, promoting a vision. Such is your role. Such is our role. As watchmakers, we need to get down to business and work together for the Switzerland brand."

### The generation game

As for who the best are, Robert Greubel, Stephen Forsey and their teams carried the day and claimed the highest prize, the Aiguille d'Or, for the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision. When thanking the members of the jury and staff at the Manufacture, Stephen Forsey reminded the audience of an important fact, a remark again intended for the watchmaking community as a whole that had gathered inside Geneva's Grand Théâtre: "We can thank collectors that we are here this evening, eleven years on. Yet we must also look these same admirers of exceptional timepieces in the eye and admit the painful truth: traditional watchmaking is in danger. Hence why Philippe Dufour and ourselves initiated the Naissance d'une Montre project. There are skills that need safeguarding, a tradition that must be preserved."

As though anticipating these words of warning, the judges of this 2015 GPHG showed admirable consistency by singling out those watches with a more classic style and horological substance. The winner of the Aiguille d'Or is one example, as are the Voutilainen GMR (Men's Watch Prize), the Piaget Altiplano Chrono (Chronograph Watch Prize), the Ulysse Nardin Anchor Tourbillon (Tourbillon Watch Prize), the Laurent Ferrier Galet Square (Horological Revelation Prize) and the Tudor Pelagos (Sports Watch Prize). Not forgetting the Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges (Striking Watch Prize), the brand's signature throughout the ages. Even the Mechanical Exception Watch Prize highlighted ancestral skills, and specifically those which have forged the reputation of Jaquet Droz and its android automata, a science which the brand has transferred into the winning The Charming Bird watch. As for the need to keep this knowledge alive, Antoine Prezioso and his son Florian made it abundantly clear that this is far from a lost cause. The Tourbillon of Tourbillons, the result of ten long years of combined effort, took the Public Prize as well as the Innovation Watch Prize. Agenhor, meanwhile, is behind two of the evening's distinctions, namely the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock and the Slim d'Hermès QP. Agenhor whose founder, Jean-Marc Wiederrecht, recently passed the torch to his sons...



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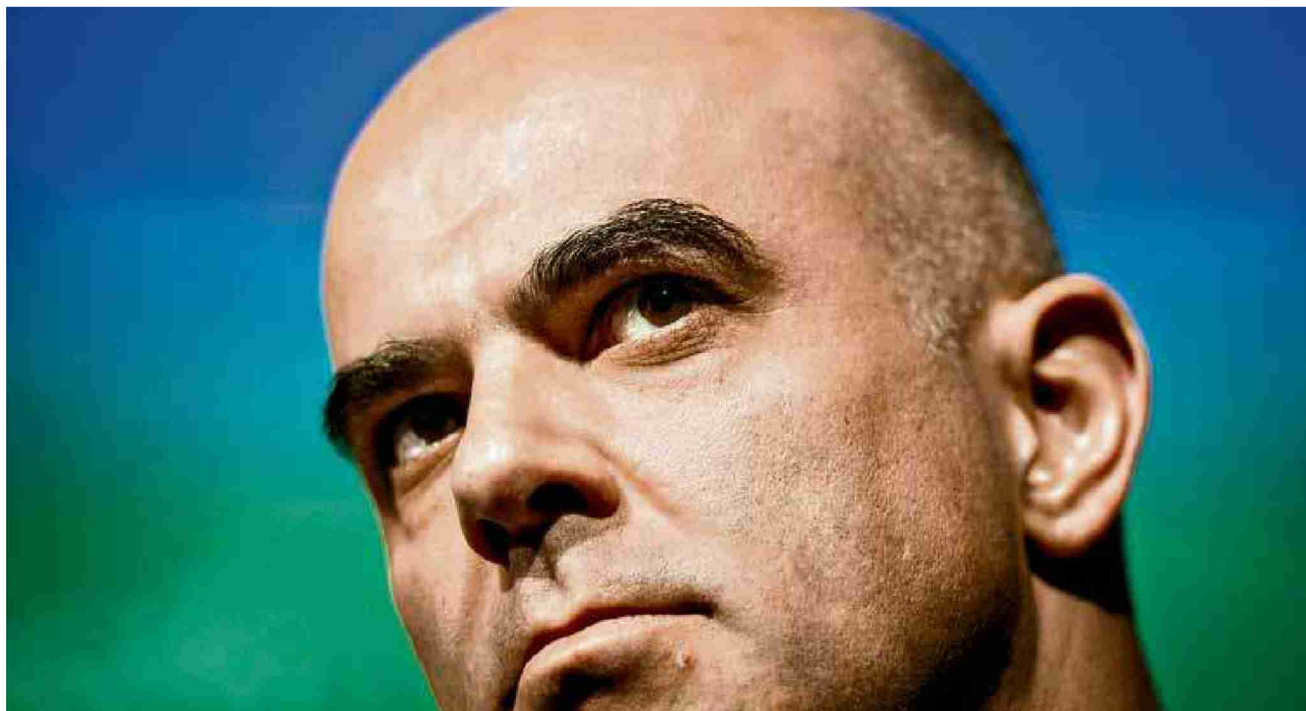
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# Le brassage migratoire, «la force du pays»

**HORLOGERIE** Invité au Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève jeudi, le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset donne sa vision de l'horlogerie, de l'immigration et de sa future ex-collègue, Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf. «Je vais la regretter», affirme le ministre socialiste



Alain Berset: «J'aime les montres, mais je ne suis pas un grand connaisseur.» (KEYSTONE/OLIVIER MAIRE)

PROPOS RECUEILLIS PAR SERVAN PECA  
ET VALÈRE GOGNIAT

Le conseiller fédéral fribourgeois aime les montres, admire les horlogers et connaît les bienfaits du «brassage migratoire» suisse. Invité au Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), il salue aussi l'esprit collégial d'Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf, qui quittera le gouvernement à la fin de l'année.

**Quel rapport personnel avez-vous avec les montres?** J'aime les montres, mais je ne suis pas un grand connaisseur. J'en ai reçu une à ma première communion... J'en porte toujours une, aujourd'hui une Maurice Lacroix, et j'essaie, autant que possible, d'être à l'heure.

**Et avec les horlogers?** Je suis très impressionné par leur capacité d'innovation et de créativité, qui plus est dans ces petits espaces. C'est une vraie performance!

**Les vainqueurs de l'Aiguille d'or, Stephen Forsey et Robert Greubel, sont des immigrés qui vendent désormais le «Swiss made» à l'étranger. C'est un symbole important?** C'est la force de notre pays! Il est un lieu où l'on se rencontre pour travailler ensemble. Cela signifie que la création de richesse se fait ici. L'histoire de l'horlogerie l'illustre

**«Nous négocions avec une UE qui a d'autres questions**

**à traiter»**

ALAIN BERSET, CONSEILLER FÉDÉRAL

à merveille: à Genève en particulier, ce sont des horlogers d'autres pays fuyant des persécutions qui ont trouvé un cadre pour se développer. Ces impulsions venues de l'extérieur, la Suisse a su les concrétiser. Il est très important de s'en souvenir.

**Est-on en train de l'oublier?**

Non, je pense que l'on en reste conscient. Il y a un lien fort entre cette histoire et les problèmes de migration d'aujourd'hui. Je ne dis pas que ces migrants vont tous inventer de nouvelles montres mais ce brassage d'idées a toujours été le terreau de notre prospérité. Il faut s'en souvenir et le

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cultiver. Nous avons la chance d'avoir de très grandes entreprises, mais aussi des entités plus petites et extrêmement pointues qui, chacune à leur manière, font briller l'image de la Suisse dans le monde entier.

**Concrètement, le vote du 9 février 2014 vous fait-il craindre que l'on ne puisse plus profiter de cette capacité à réunir pour réussir?** Il ne faut pas nier le signal envoyé par le peuple. L'initiative et le débat qui a eu lieu à son sujet sont très clairs: le brassage migratoire pose un certain nombre de questions, en matière d'accès au logement, d'infrastructures, de protection du marché du travail ou de prospérité personnelle. Ces questions méritent des réponses. Mais il ne faut pas qu'elles deviennent des décisions

qui assécheraient le pays. Le message n'est pas de mettre des portes aux frontières et de bloquer toute l'immigration. Si c'était le cas, cela se ferait au détriment de notre propre économie.

**Quelle voie d'application permettrait de concilier le message des Suisses et la préservation de cet équilibre?** Nous la cherchons, il y a des possibilités... Mais il ne faut pas se le cacher, la situation n'est pas évidente. L'initiative nous demande de négocier avec une Union Européenne qui, avec la crise migratoire et ses défis économiques, a bien d'autres questions à traiter. Mais le mandat est là, et la discussion a bel et bien lieu.

**Quel souvenir vous laissera Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf, qui ne va pas se représenter à l'élec-**

**tion du Conseil fédéral le 9 décembre?** C'est une personnalité remarquable. Elle a une vraie vision politique. Bien sûr, elle n'est pas du même bord que moi. Les lignes qu'elle défend sont clairement celles d'une politicienne bourgeoise. Mais elle recherche toujours ce que peut être l'intérêt commun, l'intérêt public, celui du pays. Elle a cette volonté de chercher ensemble des solutions sur lesquelles nous pouvons nous retrouver. Et ce, malgré des valeurs qui peuvent être différentes. J'ai eu énormément de plaisir à travailler avec elle. Je comprends sa décision, je la respecte, mais c'est une excellente collègue que je vais regretter. ■

## HONNEUR

### Greubel Forsey récompensé

Greubel Forsey a remporté l'Aiguille d'or à Genève, jeudi soir. La marque chaux-de-fonnière, distinguée pour son modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision, avait déjà gagné la récompense suprême du Grand Prix de l'horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) en 2010. Environ 1500 invités étaient réunis au Grand Théâtre de Genève, où 17 prix ont été distribués. Hublot (Montre dame) Voutilainen (Montre homme), Tudor (Montre sport) et Piaget (Montre chronographe et «Revival», pour la meilleure réinterprétation) font partie des lauréats de cette 15e édition. Le Tourbillon des tourbillons, de la marque Antoine Prezioso, a reçu deux statuettes. Le Prix spécial du jury est allé à trois horlogers de Vacheron Constantin et leur Référence 57260, présentée comme la montre la plus compliquée du monde. ■ S. P.

Date: 31.10.2015

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## Le ministre Alain Berset loue le «brassage migratoire»

**RENCONTRE** «Le message n'est pas de mettre des portes aux frontières et de bloquer toute l'immigration. Si c'était le cas, cela se ferait au détriment de notre propre économie.» Paroles du conseiller fédéral Alain Berset, chef du Département fédéral de l'intérieur, qui était invité au Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève.

## GPHG: An Evening to Celebrate Watchmaking

6 hours ago

At the 15th annual Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, the so-called "Oscars of the watch industry," the Aiguille d'Or Grand Prix (The Golden Hand) award went to Greubel Forsey for its Tourbillon 24 Secondes while the category prizes were awarded to both independent watchmakers and established firms. Vacheron Constantin took home the Special Jury Prize for its super-complicated Reference 57260.

The event drew an audience of 1,500 guests, including watchmakers, watch company executives, press and watch enthusiasts. A comical duo of Frédéric Beigbeder, a French writer and Gaspard Proux, a comedian, kept the evening rolling for the audience at the Grand Theatre in Geneva. This year, the twenty-seven Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève jury members faced tough decisions and heated debates when choosing the winner for each of the competitive categories. Below we've compiled a complete list of all the winning timepieces and their makers.

"Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prix – The Golden Hand

Greubel Forsey, Tourbillon 24 Secondes



The team of Stephen Forsey and Robert Greubel from Greubel Forsey earned the top prize this year with the classic yet modern Tourbillon 24 Secondes.





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## L'horloger Greubel Forsey récompensé

Greubel Forsey pour son modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision a remporté jeudi soir la prestigieuse Aiguille d'Or, distinction suprême du Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève.

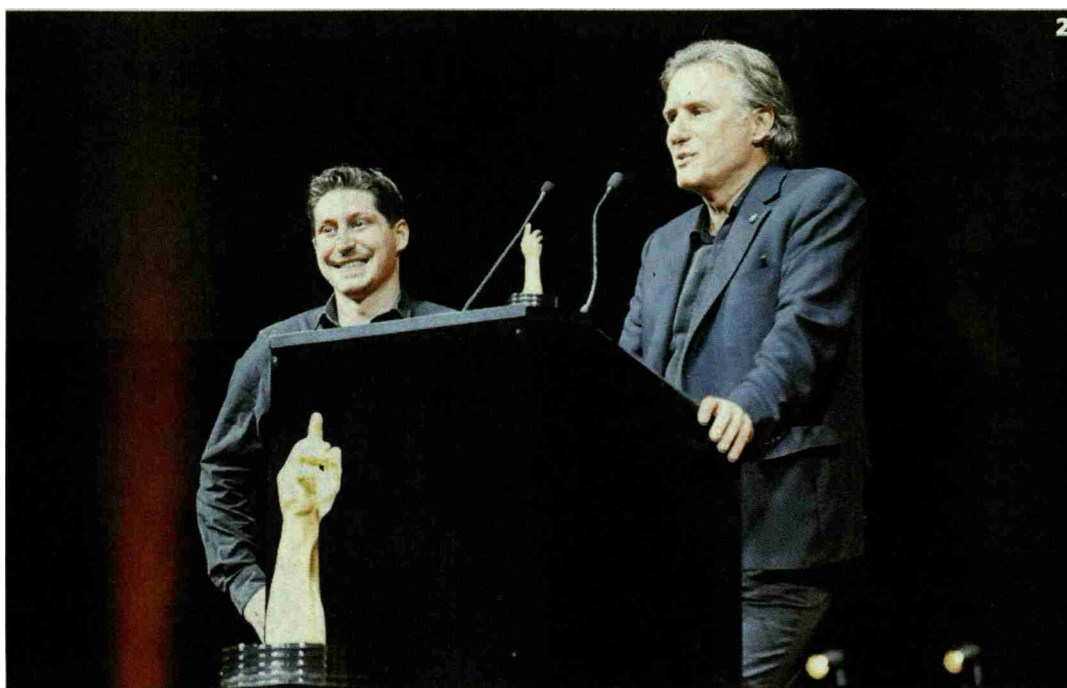
Un peu moins de 200 montres ont été présentées par les marques pour décrocher l'un des 17 prix de la manifestation, en présence de 1500 invités. Le jury rassemblait les compétences de vingt-six experts et collectionneurs faisant autorité dans le domaine.

Le Prix Spécial du Jury est allé à Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus et Jean-Luc Perrin, concepteurs de la montre Référence 57260 chez Vacheron Constantin,

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## Grand Théâtre





# Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie s'offre un tourbillon de beaux vainqueurs

**Cinq ans après, Greubel Forsey remporte à nouveau l'Aiguille d'Or. Un prix remis par Alain Berset**

**Jean-Daniel Sallin**

«Quand on est membre d'un jury, on a toujours peur de vivre le syndrome «Danse avec les loups»: en 1991, ce film, réalisé par Kevin Costner, avait reçu l'Oscar, soufflant la politesse à Scorsese et Coppola... Qui nous dit que, dans dix ans, on ne va pas réaliser qu'on a raté la meilleure montre pour l'Aiguille d'Or?» Cette remarque, on la doit à William Rohr, collectionneur, expert chez Bonhams et... membre du jury du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie. Quelques jours avant la lecture du palmarès au Grand Théâtre, il avait souligné la complexité de sa tâche: comment choisir parmi ces 186 garde-temps d'exception? Voter pour l'une plutôt que l'autre?

Aujourd'hui, cinq ans après avoir déjà remporté l'Aiguille d'Or, Greubel Forsey s'est à nouveau hissé au zénith de l'horlogerie avec son Tourbillon 24 secondes Vision. Pas mal pour une mar-

que créée en 2004 seulement par un Alsacien, Robert Greubel, et un Britannique, Stephen Forsey, à La Chaux-de-Fonds. Etait-ce vraiment la montre de l'année? Va-t-elle éclipser toutes celles qui l'ont précédée au champ d'honneur - comme le laissait entendre le trublion, Gaspard Proust?

Car il y avait d'autres vainqueurs dans la salle, c'est sûr! Président du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie, Carlo Lamprecht n'était pas le moindre. Depuis cinq ans, il se bat pour insuffler de la crédibilité et du prestige à cet événement. Voir la plupart des CEO se bousculer sur le tapis rouge pour recevoir leur prix est certainement un gage de réussite à ses yeux. Le Genevois a surtout dû boire du petit-lait, lorsqu'il entendit François-Henry Bennahmias, patron d'Audemars Piguet, exhorter les marques défaillantes à «faire un effort pour être présentes l'année prochaine». Mais oseront-elles seulement remettre leur statut en question, en se comparant aux autres? On aimerait y croire...

Les horlogers indépendants ont aussi connu leur moment de gloire. On pense à Jean-Marc Wie-

derrecht, créateur de la Lady Complicé Peacock pour Fabergé et de la Slim d'Hermès QP, à Laurent Ferrier, qui a créé sa marque en 2010, ou à Kari Voutilainen - dont le génie créatif a une nouvelle fois séduit le jury. Cependant, un homme doit encore être en état de lévitation ce matin: c'est Antoine Prezioso! Son Tourbillon des Tourbillons - un garde-temps qui l'a hanté pendant dix ans et qu'il a fini par développer avec son fils, Florian - lui a valu deux prix. Celui du public et celui de l'innovation. On peut difficilement rêver mieux, non?

Aurel Bacs et son jury ont également tenu à récompenser une équipe: celle de Vacheron Constantin. Pour ses 260 ans, la marque genevoise s'est offert une petite folie: un garde-temps à double cadran qui présente un éventail de... 57 complications. Ce qui en fait «la montre la plus compliquée au monde». Il a fallu huit ans de recherche et de développement à trois hommes, Jean-Luc Perrin et les deux frères Pintus, Micke et Yannick, pour faire naître cette œuvre d'art. Impossible de passer à côté!



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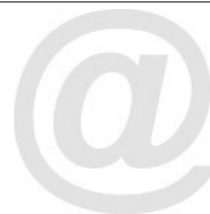


## Palmarès 2015

**Dame:** Hublot, Big Bang Broderie.  
**Haute mécanique pour dame:** Fabergé, Lady Compliquée Peacock. **Homme:** Voutilainen, Voutilainen GMR. **Chronographe:** Piaget, Altiplano Chrono. **Tourbillon:** Ulysse Nardin, Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon. **Calendrier:** Hermès, Slim d'Hermès QP. **Sonnerie:** Girard-Perregaux, Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges. **Exception mécanique:** Jaquet Droz, The Charming Bird. **Petite aiguille:** Habring, Felix. **Sport:** Tudor, Pelagos. **Joallerie:** Audemars Piguet, Diamond Punk. **Métiers d'art:** Blancpain, Villeret cadran Shakudo. **Prix spécial du jury:** Vacheron Constantin, Référence 57260. **Prix du public:** Antoine Prezioso, Tourbillon of Tourbillons. **Révélation horlogère:** Laurent Ferrier, Galet Square. **Revival:** Piaget, Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch. **Innovation:** Antoine Prezioso, Tourbillon of Tourbillons. **Aiguille d'or:** Greubel Forsey, Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.

1. Pierre Maudet, Alain Berset, Carlo Lamprecht, Anja Wyden Guelpa et Esther Alder.
2. Double prix pour Antoine Prezioso et son fils, Florian!
3. Stephen Forsey (Greubel Forsey) avec son prix de l'Aiguille d'Or.
4. Dieter Meier, fondateur du groupe Yello et membre du jury.
5. La façade du Grand Théâtre affiche ses couleurs. Vive l'horlogerie suisse!
6. Les deux présentateurs de la soirée: Frédéric Beigbeder et Gaspard Proust.

PHOTOS MAURANE DI MATTEO



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Servan Peca

Publié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 07:30,

modifié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 08:37.

Horlogerie

## Greubel Forsey remporte sa deuxième Aiguille d'or à Genève

La jeune marque chaux-de-fonnière a reçu le plus prestigieux des dix-sept prix distribués jeudi soir au Grand Théâtre. Elle l'avait déjà gagné en 2010

Servan Peca

Publié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 07:30,

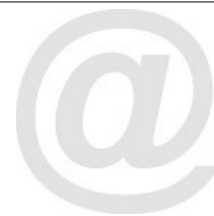
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Un an après Breguet, propriété de Swatch Group, c'est l'horloger indépendant Greubel Forsey qui a remporté cette année l'Aiguille d'or à Genève.

La marque chaux-de-fonnière, fondée par Robert Greubel et Stephen Forsey en 1999, a été distinguée pour son modèle Tourbillon 24 secondes Vision. Elle avait déjà reçu le prix de la «montre à haute complication» en 2009 et avait déjà gagné la récompense suprême en 2010, à l'issue de la 10e édition du Grand Prix de l'horlogerie de Genève (GPHG).

Piaget double vainqueur

Pour ces 15e «oscar de l'horlogerie», environ 1500 invités, dont le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset, étaient réunis au Grand Théâtre de Genève, jeudi soir. Au total, dix-sept prix ont été distribués.

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Dans la catégorie Montre dame, Hublot a été distingué. Fabergé remporte le prix de la Haute mécanique pour dame, Voutilainen celui de la Montre Homme, Tudor celui de la Montre sport, tandis que Piaget a reçu deux distinctions. Celle de la Montre chronographe et celle de la «Revival», qui récompense la meilleure réinterprétation d'un modèle ancien et emblématique.

La marque genevoise Antoine Preziuso, avec son Tourbillon des tourbillons, a aussi été doublement récompensée, par le prix du public et le prix de l'innovation. Enfin, le prix spécial du jury est allé à trois horlogers de Vacheron Constantin, concepteurs de la montre Référence 57260, présentée comme la montre la plus compliquée du monde et qui a nécessité huit ans de développement.

#### Chacun son message

Sur la scène, les patrons de marque se sont succédés, certains avec la volonté de faire passer leur message à l'ensemble de l'industrie horlogère. Philippe Léopold-Metzger (Piaget) a remercié la concurrence, «qui nous incite à nous dépasser». Jean-Claude Biver (Tag Heuer, Hublot) a exhorté ses pairs à innover davantage et de manière plus constante. Stephen Forsey, lui, s'est attardé sur la nécessité, parfois négligée, de préserver et de transmettre les savoir-faire. Quant à François Bennahmias (Audemars Piguet), il a invité «toutes les marques à participer au Grand Prix», sans pointer une absente en particulier.

Après avoir été exposées à Hong Kong, Séoul et Dubai, les 72 montres qui avaient été présélectionnées seront encore visibles à la Cité du Temps à Genève jusqu'au 4 novembre. Ensuite, la quinzaine de montres lauréates seront présentées à Londres au SalonQP.





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Servan Peca

Valère Gogniat

Publié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 13:00,

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Horlogerie

## Alain Berset: «Je vais regretter Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf»

Le Conseiller fédéral était l'invité du Grand Prix de l'horlogerie de Genève, jeudi soir. L'occasion pour le Ministre socialiste de préciser son rapport à l'horlogerie, à l'immigration et à sa future ex-collègue du gouvernement

Servan Peca

Valère Gogniat

Publié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 13:00,

modifié vendredi 30 octobre 2015 à 13:27.

En marge de la cérémonie du Grand Prix de l'horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), dont il était l'invité jeudi soir, le Conseiller fédéral fribourgeois s'est étendu sur son rapport à l'horlogerie et sur les défis de la gestion suisse de l'immigration. Le Ministre socialiste salue aussi l'esprit de collégialité de la future ex-conseillère fédérale, Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf.

Le Temps: Quel rapport personnel avez-vous avec les montres?




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Alain Berset: J'aime les montres, mais je ne suis pas un grand connaisseur. Comme tout le monde, j'en ai reçu une à ma première communion...J'en porte toujours une, aujourd'hui une Maurice Lacroix, et j'essaie, autant que possible, d'être à l'heure.

–Et avec les horlogers?

–Je suis très impressionné par leur capacité d'innovation et de créativité, qui plus est, dans ces petits espaces que sont les montres. C'est une vraie performance! Et encore une fois, je le dis en tant que non-spécialiste.

–Les vainqueurs de l'Aiguille d'or, Stephen Forsey et Robert Greubel, sont des immigrés qui vendent désormais le «swiss made» à l'étranger. C'est un symbole important?

–C'est la force de notre pays! Il est un lieu où l'on se rencontre pour travailler ensemble. Cela signifie que la création de richesse se fait ici. L'histoire de l'horlogerie l'illustre à merveille: à Genève en particulier, ce sont des horlogers d'autres pays fuyant des persécutions qui sont venus en Suisse et qui ont trouvé un cadre qui leur a permis de travailler et de se développer. Ces soutiens et ces impulsions venus de l'extérieur, la Suisse a su les concrétiser. Il est très important de s'en souvenir.

–Est-on en train de l'oublier?

Non, je pense que l'on en reste conscient. Il y a un lien fort entre cette Histoire et les problèmes de migration que l'on observe aujourd'hui. Je ne dit pas que ces migrants vont tous inventer de nouvelles montres. Mais ce brassage d'idées et ces échanges ont toujours été le terreau sur lequel nous avons construit notre prospérité. C'était vrai avant, il faut s'en souvenir et il faut le cultiver. Nous avons la chance d'avoir de très grandes entreprises, mais aussi des entités plus petites et extrêmement pointues qui, chacune à leur manière, font briller l'image de la Suisse dans le monde entier. Ce n'est pas un hasard si, à l'autre bout du monde, la Suisse est reconnue pour ses produits de pointe, par exemple ses montres.

–Concrètement, le vote du 9 février 2014 vous fait-il craindre que l'on ne puisse plus profiter de cette capacité à réunir pour réussir?

–Il ne faut pas nier le signal envoyé par le peuple. L'initiative et le débat qui a eu lieu à son sujet sont très clairs: le brassage migratoire pose un certain nombre de questions, en matière d'accès au logement, d'infrastructures, de protection du marché du travail ou plus généralement, de prospérité personnelle. Ces questions méritent des réponses. Mais il ne faut transformer ce signal en des décisions qui assécheraient le pays. Le message n'est pas de mettre des portes aux frontières et de bloquer toute l'immigration. Si c'était le cas, cela se ferait au détriment de notre propre économie.

–Quelle voie d'application permettrait de concilier le message des Suisses et la préservation de cet équilibre?

–Nous la cherchons, il y a des possibilités...Mais il ne faut pas se le cacher, la situation n'est pas évidente. L'initiative nous demande de négocier avec une Union Européenne qui, avec la crise migratoire et ses défis économiques, a bien d'autres questions à traiter. Ce n'est jamais une bonne chose de se mettre soi-même sous contrainte pour mener une négociation. Mais le mandat est là, et la discussion a bel et bien lieu.

–Un mot sur Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf, qui a décidé de ne pas se représenter à l'élection du Conseil fédéral le 9 décembre. Quel souvenir vous laissera votre future ex-collègue, que vous avez côtoyé durant quatre ans au gouvernement?

–Soyons francs: c'est une personnalité remarquable. Elle a une vraie vision politique. Bien sûr, elle n'est pas

Date: 30.10.2015

# LE TEMPS

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du même bord que moi. Les lignes qu'elle défend sont clairement celles d'une politicienne bourgeoise. Mais elle recherche toujours ce que peut être l'intérêt commun, l'intérêt public, celui du pays. Elle a cette volonté de chercher ensemble des solutions sur lesquelles nous pouvons nous retrouver. Et ce, malgré des valeurs qui peuvent être différentes. J'ai eu énormément de plaisir à travailler avec elle. Je comprends sa décision, je la respecte, mais c'est une excellente collègue que je vais regretter.

Date: 30.10.2015



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Genre de média: Médias imprimés  
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Tirage: 8'245  
Parution: 5x/semaine



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
Page: 13  
Surface: 1'584 mm<sup>2</sup>

## GENEVE - HAUTE HORLOGERIE

### Une distinction qui compte

Greubel Forsey, pour son modèle Tourbillon  
24 Secondes Vision, a remporté jeudi la prestigieuse  
Aiguille d'Or, distinction suprême du Grand Prix  
d'Horlogerie de Genève. **ATS**

## HORLOGERIE La marque de La Chaux-de-Fonds sacrée à Genève parmi plusieurs autres lauréats neuchâtelois.

# L'Aiguille d'or à Greubel Forsey

Greubel Forsey fait désormais partie du cercle très rare des marques ayant remporté plus d'une fois l'Aiguille d'or: sacrée déjà en 2010, la marque de La Chaux-de-Fonds a décroché hier soir l'oscar de l'horlogerie, remis dans le cadre du Grand prix d'horlogerie de Genève. Une récompense qui va au Tourbillon 24 secondes vision, modèle présenté en janvier au Salon international de la haute horlogerie.

### Devant 1500 invités

Quelque 1500 invités étaient réunis hier soir au Grand théâtre de Genève, en présence du conseiller fédéral Alain Berset. Ils ont eu droit à une cérémonie animée par Frédéric Beigbeder et Gaspard Proust. Le jury a décerné 17 prix. Exactement 73 montres étaient en compétition.

Outre Greubel Forsey, plusieurs autres marques neuchâte-



C'est la deuxième fois que Greubel Forsey remporte l'Aiguille d'or. SP

loises se sont mises en évidence: le Fleurisan Kari Voutilainen a remporté le prix de la montre homme, Piaget celui de la montre chronographe et Ulysse Nardin (Le Locle) le prix du tourbillon, pour son superbe Anchor Tourbillon. Le prix de la montre calendrier est allé à la Slim

d'Hermès, dotée d'un mouvement Vaucher, alors que la marque chaux-de-fonnière Girard-Perregaux a obtenu le prix de la montre à sonnerie. Jaquet Droz, aussi à La Chaux-de-Fonds, et son oiseau automate Charming Bird ont remporté le prix de l'exception mécanique. **FRK**



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## Aiguille d'Or décernée à Greubel Forsey

**GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE.** Dix-sept distinctions ont été distribuées à Genève en présence d'Alain Berset.

Greubel Forsey pour son modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision a remporté hier la prestigieuse Aiguille d'Or, distinction suprême du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. Au total, 17 prix ont été distribués en présence de 1500 invités au total.

L'excellence et la créativité horlogères ont été célébrées au Grand Théâtre de Genève à l'occasion de la cérémonie de remise des prix du 15<sup>e</sup> Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG). Le conseiller fédéral Alain Berset était venu saluer la vitalité de l'industrie horlogère suisse.

Le jury rassemblait les compétences de vingt-six experts et collectionneurs faisant autorité dans le domaine horloger. Des modèles de Hublot, Fabergé, Voutilainen, Piaget, Ulysse Nardin, Hermès, Girard-Perregaux, Jacques Droz,

Habring, Tudor, Audemars Piguet, Blancpain, Antoine Preziuso, Laurent Ferrier ont aussi été récompensés pour leurs prouesses techniques.

Le Prix Spécial du Jury est allé à Micke Pintus, Yannick Pintus et Jean-Luc Perrin, les trois horlogers de Vacheron Constantin, concepteurs de la montre Référence 57260. Le public, qui s'est prononcé sur internet et lors des expositions, a récompensé le Tourbillon des Tourbillons d'Antoine Preziuso.

Après Hong Kong, Séoul et Dubaï, l'exposition des montres présélectionnées par le jury est encore à découvrir à Genève jusqu'au 4 novembre à la Cité du Temps. Dernière étape, les montres lauréates seront présentées à Londres du 12 au 14 novembre dans le cadre du SalonQP. – (ats)

## Blancpain remporte le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève dans la catégorie Métiers d'Art

Partager

La Manufacture Blancpain est fière de voir le travail de son atelier Métiers d'Art récompensé par le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. En effet, le prix de la catégorie Métiers d'Art a été décerné cette année à la nouvelle montre Villeret Shakudo Ganesh. Le jury a ainsi récompensé les caractéristiques esthétiques et le savoir-faire de la manufacture.



Blancpain et les Métiers d'art : le shakudo

Blancpain et les Métiers d'art : le shakudo

Créé en 2001, le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève récompense annuellement l'excellence des créations horlogères. Cette année, 72 montres présélectionnées, représentant les grands groupes horlogers comme les marques indépendantes, concouraient dans 12 catégories. C'est le modèle Villeret Shakudo Ganesh de la Manufacture Blancpain que le jury du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie a récompensé dans la catégorie Métiers d'Art, lors de la cérémonie de remise des prix qui s'est déroulée ce jeudi 29 octobre au Grand Théâtre de Genève.

Après le succès de l'exposition itinérante à Hong Kong, Séoul, Dubai et Genève qui a permis au public de découvrir les plus belles créations horlogères de l'année réunies exceptionnellement pour l'occasion, les montres lauréates seront présentées au SalonQP de Londres du 12 au 14 novembre 2015.

Date: 30.10.2015



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## L'Aiguille d'or à Greubel Forsey

HORLOGERIE -

La marque de La Chaux-de-Fonds sacrée à Genève parmi plusieurs autres lauréats neuchâtelois.

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20 secondes  
**Montres à la fête**  
PRIX. L'excellence et la créativité horlogères ont été célébrées jeudi au Grand Théâtre, à l'occasion de la cérémonie du 15e Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève, en présence du conseiller fédéral Alain Berset.


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## Le Grand Prix de Genève décerné à Greubel Forsey

L'horloger chaud-de-fonnier a été primé pour son modèle Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.



La montre Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision a remporté le Grand Prix. (photo: Greubel Forsey)

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Montres exposées



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Lancé en 2001 et destiné à saluer annuellement l'excellence des créations horlogères mondiales, le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève contribue au rayonnement de cet art et de ses valeurs dans le monde. Des valeurs partagées par le partenaire principal de la Fondation du GPHG, le groupe Edmond de Rothschild, qui récompense depuis 2011 le meilleur jeune élève de l'école d'horlogerie de Genève en lui remettant une bourse d'étude.

(nxp/ats)

## Industry News

Paul O'Neil

OCTOBER 26, 2015

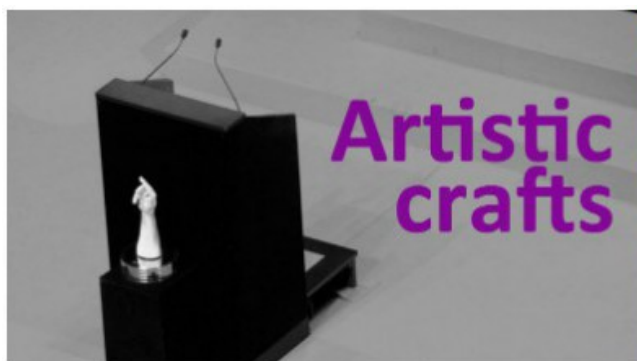
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Newsletter The new Opus 14 and the Oscars of watchmaking

— WorldTempus heads off to the unlikely location of Baden-Baden to discover the new Harry Winston Opus 14 tomorrow. You can see it on our homepage on Wednesday and then watch the GPHG awards ceremony live on Thursday evening.



<http://goo.gl/ZVDjJL>

The 2015 edition of the SIAR in Mexico last week further cemented the regional exhibition's excellent reputation among brands, visitors and the watchmaking press. There were some new exhibitors, a healthy mix of big names and innovative independent brands and an impressive number of CEOs who were happy to talk



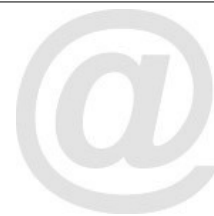


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to WorldTempus in the relaxed ambiance of this luxury exhibition. Read all about it over the next couple of weeks. At the same time, the first-ever Dubai Watch Week was held by local retailer Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons in collaboration with the GPHG and the Dubai Ministry of Culture, who brought together an exceptional panel of independent watch brands for a week-long exhibition with a human and educational vocation. WorldTempus presented the artistic, commercial and human dimensions.

"The closely-guarded secret of the Opus 14 will be revealed this week."

Paul O'Neil

In the meantime, however, we have two huge watch-related events to cover this week: The first is the much-anticipated launch of the Harry Winston Opus 14. In the fifth and final part of my series of articles reviewing the Opus series, I consider what Harry Winston might have in store for us. This remains pure personal speculation, of course, since the new model has been kept so tightly under wraps that there is not even the slightest hint of what it might be. All will be revealed in full on our homepage on Wednesday right after the launch, with a more in-depth follow-up article to come once I have had time to see the latest Opus up close.

On the very next day we have one of the highlights in our annual calendar: The Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. You can watch the ceremony live on our homepage from 6:00 pm (local time) and be among the first to see the results. We will publish the full list of finalists as soon as they are announced and bring you live updates on our social media channels. If you have been following us since the candidate watches were announced, you know that we have the GPHG covered. Our series of round tables, for example, concludes today with our in-house team's thoughts on which watch should or might win the coveted Aiguille d'Or ?



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## Industry News

Editorial Team

OCTOBER 26, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round table: Aiguille d'Or

— Our series of round tables concludes today with our in-house team's thoughts on which watch should or might win the coveted Aiguille d'Or. Opinions are very divided...



<http://goo.gl/jpLkpW>

Paul O'Neil – Editor in chief WorldTempus

After racking our brains to make the difficult choice of just one watch in each of the twelve categories in this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, you start to sympathise with the members of the jury when you are faced with the even more difficult task of choosing a winner for the Aiguille d'Or, the "Golden Hand" category that is the equivalent of "Best Picture" in this ceremony that is widely considered the "Oscars of Watchmaking".

At this point it's worth recalling Rule 5.7 in the GPHG rules, since the most coveted prize is the subject of a separate secret ballot by the jury based on a shortlist of three to five watches. Our in-house team have missed



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out the shortlist, assuming that the watch should logically be one of our favourites from the individual categories. In this case, of course, our eventual choice would subsequently be excluded from the vote in its individual category and replaced by the watch with the second most votes if it had won that category.

My final choice was split between several watches but the winner of the Aiguille d'Or needs to have that extra special something. The candidate that rises head and shoulders above the others for me is the Bovet Braveheart® Tourbillon. It's a watch that you can just sit admiring for ages, completely forgetting that you are supposed to try it for size. The transparency and the unbelievably high level of finishing and decoration are astounding but the piece truly comes alive when you plunge into its heart. This is best done with one of the watchmaking specialists from the brand (which is probably not beyond the realms of possibility if you have the kind of money needed to acquire one) to truly appreciate the innovation that has gone into this watch, which is supported by six new patents. If I have to pick only one watch that deserves the accolade of "watch of the year", then this is it.



Amadeo Fleurier Braveheart.

© Bovet

Camille Gendre - WorldTempus

The Aiguille d'Or is the supreme distinction at the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. Awarded by a jury consisting of the most eminent collectors and watch journalists, this prize is the most coveted in the world of watchmaking. So the question is according to which criteria do the jury vote for the best watch of the year? Design, technical innovation, performance, personal appreciation, aesthetics etc. The criteria are as diverse and varied as the 72 finalists in the competition this year.

I will therefore let my subjectivity guide me and choose the Zeitwerk Minute Repeater by A. Lange & Söhne, a



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watch that combines technical prowess with creative force. The brand goes much beyond a « simple » minute repeater by presented a decimal repeater. Specifically, this means that the hours and minutes are chimed decimally, which corresponds with the display on the dial. I like the sober and pure design of the Zeitwerk Minute Repeater, which makes it a classic with a timeless style. Last but not least, and this is just my personal opinion, I think it would be great for an international brand to win the Aiguille d'Or. To date, the only non-Swiss brand to have won the Holy Grail of watchmaking was... A. Lange & Söhne with its Lange Zeitwerk en 2009.



Zeitwerk Minute Repeater.

© A.Lange &amp; Söhne

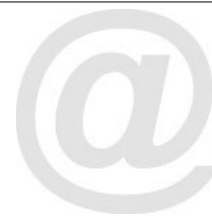
Michèle Brunner - WorldTempus

Innovative watchmaking, tradition, technology, know-how, design... all these ingredients that go into an exceptional timepiece should guide the decisions of the judges in the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève 2015 when they vote for the Aiguille d'Or. But it would be too simple if just one watch or a small handful of them met all these conditions! Unfortunately for the jury which has the responsibility of making the "right" decision, and fortunately for the good health of the Swiss and global watch industries, worthy candidates are crowding at the gates. It would be easier to find a (golden) watch hand in a haystack...

The watch that deserves the prize more than any other for me – given that I prefer the smallest – is the Piaget Altiplano 900P.

It merges innovatively the case and the movement, with the caseback serving as the mainplate of the manually-wound movement with its 48-hour power reserve. The quest for ultimate slenderness – the watch is just 3.65mm thick – dictated all choices and all technical and aesthetic solutions for the Altiplano 900P: bridges on the dial side, suspended barrel, hands below the bridges, off-centre hours and minutes, and of





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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVEN° de thème: 781.033  
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course slimming down all components in the watch as much as possible, meaning that some wheels are just 0.12mm thick. The design is splendid, with the roundness of the case and the subdial for the hours mirroring the visible gear train, and the grey and black tones giving the watch great distinction.



Altiplano 900P.

© Piaget

## GRAND PRIX VIEW: GPHG 2015 Chronographs

6 hours ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site, enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for Public Prize at the GPHG site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th annual ceremony at the Grand Théâtre de Genève on October 29. Today we look at the watches nominated in Chronograph category.

Audemars Piguet

Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher



This watch, another in Audemars Piguet's always creative Concept series, is the world's first mechanical chronograph with alternating consecutive lap timing and flyback function specifically designed and engineered for continuous action to time laps on the racetrack. The watch features a single chronograph driving two central hands that can be controlled independently via three push pieces. The first pushpiece, at the conventional two o'clock position, starts and stops the chronograph. The second, at the four o'clock position, resets the chronograph, and the all-important third pushpiece is at the nine o'clock position. As seen on previous Audemars Piguet Concept watches, the Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher features a 44 mm case made from forged carbon. The bezel, case edges and caseback, meanwhile, are made from

titanium and the push pieces from ceramic and pink gold.

Longines

The Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph



This impressive retro-styled chronograph again draws from Longines' long watchmaking tradition (the brand is among the very oldest in Switzerland). The 41mm case, while larger than the original, is nonetheless collector-bait as it recalls the golden age of single-pusher chronographs in the first half the last century. As with equally prominent recent debuts from Vacheron Constantin and Patek Philippe, this two subdial-dial with tachymetric scale layout is in demand at auctions today.

Louis Moinet

Memoris



This model from the company named after the inventor of the chronograph drew crowds at Baselworld this past March, and it will likely draw votes at the GPHG. This Memoris brings its chronograph functions front and center by highlighting its skeletonized Concepto-built chronograph movement, which can be seen in action at the top of the cut-away dial. The monopusher chronograph features a column wheel with a traditional clutch. Press the pusher and the show begins. In addition to the dial, Louis Moinet here offers a new case, new hands, a new oscillating weight and a new folding clasp. For many GPHG observers, including myself, the Memoris is the odds-on favorite to win this category.

Montblanc

Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama





As the horological highlight in this firm's Heritage Chronometrie Collection, this 44 colorful glimpse of the sky combines two of the most important chronometric complications: a chronograph to measure the duration of brief intervals and a tourbillon. Montblanc offers for the first time a stop-second function that directly halts the screw balance by means of a tiny spring. Such a construction rarely accompanies a tourbillon and is very useful whenever the wearer wishes to precisely set not only the hour- and minutes, but also the second-hand. Montblanc's own in-house chronograph combines all the elements of a traditional chronograph: monopusher with column wheel, efficient and precise vertical coupling, automatic winding and two barrels. Two semicircular counters with hands of different lengths to match the appropriate scales.

Piaget

Altiplano Chronograph

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For the first time Piaget places a chronograph in its ultra-thin collection. Among its credentials, good for swaying GPHG judges, this watch sets a new record for a chronograph in the ultra-thin field with its 4.65 mm in-house 883P chronograph caliber movement and its 8.24 mm case. Remember that Piaget's long history making ultra-thin watches dates to 1957. Piaget has created 25 ultra-thin movements, many of them world record holders. To keep its slim profile, the watch's chronograph counters are not hollow but instead are on the same level as the rest of the dial. The long pushers blend into the 41mm case.

TAG Heuer

Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph

Watchonista  
1004 Lausanne  
021 624 39 00  
www.watchonista.com

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Organisations spécialisées  
UUpM: 185'568  
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As a master chronograph maker, TAG Heuer can draw from many earlier models in its rich history making sporting timepieces. Carrera of course is among the most frequently reprised designs, and is often considered among the first sports chronographs specifically designed for professional drivers and sports car enthusiasts. This model takes its good looks from the very first Carrera model created in 1963. At 39 mm, the Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph is slightly bigger than the original chronographs of the collection, but it maintains vintage consistency with the same push buttons, the glass box crystal, hand-applied indexes, Heuer vintage logo and aged calfskin leather strap.

The post GRAND PRIX VIEW: GPHG 2015 Chronographs appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

[View the entire article on iW Magazine](#)

## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Striking Watches

47 minutes ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches visible on the organization's own site, enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry on October 29. iW has been annotating the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for Public Prize at the GPHG site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th annual ceremony at the Grand Théâtre de Genève on October 29. Today we look at the watches nominated in Striking category.

A.Lange & Söhne

Zeitwerk Minute Repeater



This is the first A. Lange & Söhne model with a striking mechanism that sounds the hours, ten-minute intervals, and minutes. The 44.2mm platinum watch is an unconventional repeater. It displays time digitally, for starters, and its chiming sequence reproduces the digitally displayed time whenever the striking mechanism is triggered with a pusher. As Anthony de Haas, director of product development at A. Lange & Söhne told a crowd witnessing the watch's debut earlier this year at SIHH: "You hear what you see."

What you hear is the time sounded with a low-pitched tone for each elapsed hour, a double tone for each elapsed ten-minute period, and a high-pitched tone for each elapsed minute. The black-polished steel gong



hammers are visibly arranged on both sides of the seconds dial. The hours are struck on the left, the single minutes on the right. For the double-tone ten-minute counts, both hammers strike both gongs slightly offset in time. Also atypical is the replacement of the conventional repeater slide. Instead, the watch features an elaborate pusher system for activating the striking mechanism. Also unusual is the patented constant-force mechanism that ensures that the watch's power delivery remains uniform.

Akrivia

Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour



This is the first movement developed and designed in-house for this young brand, whose founder, watchmaker Rexhep Rexhepi, once worked at the now defunct BNB Concepts and for François-Paul Journe. Clearly he knows how complex timepieces operate and how to build them. This model combines a somewhat unusual association of horological complications: a tourbillon, jumping hours as well as a mechanism striking the hours in passing with a silent function. Its equipped with a mechanical manual-winding movement with a single barrel and a 100-hour power reserve, while a pusher at 3 o'clock serves to switch the striking mechanism to silent mode which is indicated to the right of the hammer at 12 o'clock. The time is displayed through a central hours aperture in association with a single minutes hand. The 60-second tourbillon performs one turn per minute at 6 o'clock,

Christophe Claret

Allegro

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This miniature masterpiece of art and sound unites several high complications, including a minute repeater with cathedral gongs, a GMT with big date, a small second and a day/night indicator. The Allegro highlights Claret's expertise in developing new technical solutions to age-old functions. Fully three patents have been awarded for this model, including one patent each for its big date, balance micro-regulation (with components all made in-house) and the gongs. The Allegro continues Christophe Claret's legacy of unpredictable, inventive and technically innovative timepieces.

Franco Vila

Inaccessible Tourbillon Minute Repeater FVn N°3

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As explained by M. Franc Vila, the creator of the brand, this model is called "Inaccessible" because there will not be any identical watches in this collection. Indeed, this watch arrived at Baselworld 2015 initially in platinum, a metal only used by a few other repeater makers. This model combines different case metal and movement component densities to create a unique sound channel for the repeater's chime. With this technical approach, utilizing Vila's knowledge of chemistry and materials, he delivers this GPHG model in red gold, with results comparable to those found in the platinum model.

Girard-Perregaux

Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

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This Vintage 1945 70th Anniversary model is made in a white gold case and is based on what is perhaps the firm's best-known design. The Gold Bridges has been re-interpreted by Girard-Perregaux since it won a gold medal at the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1889. The anniversary example here is powered by an automatic Girard-Perregaux movement with a platinum micro-rotor positioned under the barrel. This 45mm round skeletonized model displays on its front side not only a Tourbillon with Gold Bridges, but also the majority of the components that enable the minute repeater to produce a clear sound, even when in position on the wrist. Also, the owner can simultaneously observe on the dial side both the components of the striking-mechanism and the repeater's hammers as they strike the wires of the gongs. In addition, the inside of the case has been crafted and finished to limit acoustic interference. iW prediction: Look for this watch to give the A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater a serious run for the GPHG trophy in this category. The Claret Allegro, however, to my ears had the overall richest sound among the three I've actually had the opportunity to hear.

Hublot

Big Bang Alarm Repeater



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1004 Lausanne  
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Hublot is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its iconic Big Bang model by revisiting and bringing a spirit of innovation to one of its most practical complications – the alarm clock. This model fuses two functional complications: a mechanical alarm clock and a second time zone. The alarm clock – a complication that belongs to the chiming clock category – is indexed on the reference time. At 1 o'clock, a triangular window gradually shows the day/night indicator for the local time. At 5 o'clock, a 24-hour counter with two hands shows the programmed alarm time. An "on-off" indicator shows the alarm status at 6 o'clock. At 7 o'clock, the hammer visible under the sapphire is coated with SuperLuminova so it can be seen at night. The second time zone has a 24-hour display at 11 o'clock. The alarm clock chimes for around sixteen seconds as a steel hammer strikes a gong.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Striking Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

[View the entire article on iW Magazine](#)



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## Industry News

Brice Lechevalier

OCTOBER 24, 2015

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Dubai Watch Week Interview with Hind Seddiqi

— WorldTempus talked to the Marketing Director of Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons and organiser of the first Dubai Watch Week



<http://goo.gl/90vmMS>

Organised in conjunction with the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, the Dubai Watch Week attracted thousands of local Dubai inhabitants. What do you see as the most important aspects of the Dubai Watch Week?



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For starters, this is the first event of this caliber in the region and we are very proud that it is taking place in Dubai, and in collaboration with the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG). Secondly, the quality of the participants promises to be incredible: our guests will rub shoulders with 57 exceptional speakers come to share their passion in small groups through private conversations or during workshops throughout the week, not to mention the themed exhibitions. It is well worth emphasizing the unique character of this concentration of unique talent in the same place and at the same time: it is truly unprecedented. Finally, the section of the exhibition devoted to the rebels of watchmaking is particularly dear to my heart, because it promotes creative entrepreneurs taking up the challenge of venturing into the watchmaking industry as small-scale artisans. We give them visibility that is both local among thousands of visitors and international via the invited media representatives.



Stephen Forsey explaining one of Greubel Forsey's models.

© CalibreImages

How was the Financial District chosen for the organization of the Dubai Watch Week?

For practical reasons and because the gallery in which we are located was the setting for the itinerant exhibition of the GPHG that we hosted in 2013. This time, however, we have involved four more, because the event has taken on a whole new dimension. As you know, people in Dubai are always in a hurry and you need to simplify their lives for them: businessmen from the Financial District can easily visit us, the quality of the welcome in the Village Gate art galleries is superb and the surrounding restaurants offer excellent food! We have been working on this concept for more than a year.

Ever since we announced its launch, we have been inundated with requests from watchmakers who would like us to include their creations in our exhibition, so we have a large reserve to display other aspects of watchmaking craftsmanship during the next edition. We are currently realising that it will inevitably acquire


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increased importance and that its dimensions will necessarily evolve in terms of both size and content. We have also been asked to introduce a stronger commercial aspect that is currently not part of our current approach. But if we do decide to do so, it will be in our own way, while maintaining our authenticity and the original vision of the Dubai Watch Week.

What makes Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons stand out as a Middle Eastern retailer?

It all started with my grandfather, whose passion for watches motivated him to open a boutique in the 1950s (today we have more than 50) and who then left it to two of his sons that he sent to Geneva to study and get to know this industry at close quarters. So we all grew up in an atmosphere of close ties with watchmaking. We are the third generation of Seddiqis to love watches and today we try to communicate this around us. Notably by showing clients things they can't see in a simple display window, through explaining the passion which drives watchmaking artisans, and sometimes even taking them to Switzerland to see what happens behind a dial. This earns us a lot of respect in the sector and the Dubai Watch Week has received an extremely positive response, even though it is a cultural and not a commercial event. It is the result of years of positive relationships.



Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons boutique at Dubai mall.

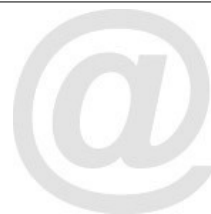
© Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons

Do you see the principle of a family business as being particularly important?

The family in general is very important but working with your family is a challenge because you need to give even more! However, it all comes from the heart so it's feasible.

Do you remember your first beautiful watch?





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For my 12th birthday, my father gave me a two-tone TAG Heuer Link. It was the right moment to start learning how to master time and respect it.

Tell us what you are wearing today...

A Patek Philippe's Calatrava World Time from the 175th anniversary collection that I was lucky enough to have been given for my 30th birthday. Another present from my father!



Hind Seddiqi is wearing a Patek Philippe's Calatrava World Time from the 175th anniversary collection.

© WorldTempus / Brice Lechevalier

In your opinion, what qualities should a ladies' watch have?

It all depends on the woman who is going to wear it and her character, but this is usually swiftly apparent. If she simply regards it as an accessory to finish off her outfit, that corresponds to a certain kind of watch; but if she is interested in the watchmaking content of what she is going to wear on her wrist, then there are other watches that will suit her better. Our clients' tastes often reflect their styles but fortunately the offer has grown considerably over the past decade. Brands have created more and more ladies' models, and in parallel women have begun taking a greater interest in watches. Was this to have a better understanding of why their husbands spent so much money on horological complications? Now they not only buy men's watches that can be worn by women but also mechanical watches specifically designed for them.

## Dubai Watch Week: The Good, The Bad, And The Ugly

by Ian Skellern

The inaugural Dubai Watch Week (DWW) has just closed its doors. And what a week it has been: sunny days filled with (beginner) watchmaking classes, informative and often entertaining discussion panels, conversations with CEOs and watchmakers, and a multitude of watch collectors and aficionados enjoying all the event had to offer.

Listening to a discussion panel at Dubai Watch Week, I happened to notice the A. Lange & Söhne Datograph and the F.P. Journe on the wrists of my neighbors (this caliber of watches was not unusual for many visitors to the exhibition I encountered)

But before we take a look at what was good about DWW, let's get the "bad" and the "ugly" out of the way first.

### The Bad

In one word, the biggest drawback was the heat. Or to be more precise, the very humid heat.

And in case anyone is (understandably) thinking, "Well, of course somebody living in Switzerland is likely to find Dubai a tad on the warm side," you should know that I spent the first decades of my life in tropical North Queensland, Australia and grew up with hot, humid summers.

But, wow! Just as it does with so much else, Dubai took heat to a completely new level!



Even the peacocks in Dubai were looking for shade once the sun cleared the horizon

I'm not exaggerating when I say that within two minutes of leaving an air-conditioned building or car, it feels like stepping into a sauna with a broken thermostat.

On the plus side, you generally do not have to bear the humidity for very long (unless you want to) because most of the city is designed so that you can quickly step from air-conditioned buildings to cars and vice versa.

And apparently it was unusual for it to be this hot and humid in late October (so I will have to come back again to confirm that).



Just a few of the many incredible skyscrapers in Dubai

### The Ugly

Dubai is like a model skyscraper exhibition for giants, and the sheer scale and diversity of the buildings are mind blowing.



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Behind the glitzy buildings, Dubai looks like a giant construction site

However, it's a city still very much under construction as it continues to boom: while the skyline in some directions is impressive in its grandeur, a turn of the head quickly reveals great big holes in the ground and lots of raw concrete.

The Good

Unfortunately, I was too busy to do much sightseeing – but will definitely schedule time for that next time (and hopefully there will be a next time). So I'll focus here on what I thought was good (or even great) about Dubai Watch Week.





Bovet at Dubai Watch Week 2015

First of all, while this may not suit everyone, as a big fan of independent watchmaking I loved the focus at DWW on small independent watch brands. And when I say focus I mean exclusive focus: there were zero big brands exhibiting, something unheard of for an international exhibition in my experience.

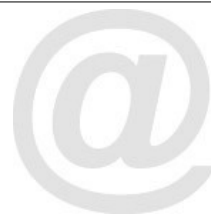
The ten brands on show at Dubai Watch Week were: Bovet, Cabestan, De Bethune, Greubel Forsey, Hautlence, Laurent Ferrier, MB&F, H. Moser & Cie, Moritz Grossmann, and Urwerk. They were grouped in an art gallery under the title Rebels of Horology.

Date: 23.10.2015



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Urwerk at Dubai Watch Week 2015

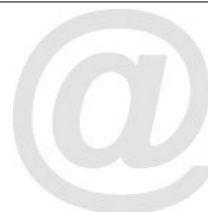
And to add a little more horological spice to the mix, the 72 watches pre-selected in the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève were also on display at DWW all week. The winners of the 2015 Grand Prix will be announced on Thursday, October 29. You will be able to follow the Grand Prix live here on Quill & Pad.

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The pre-selected watches for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève on display at Dubai Watch Week

Now, normally a watch fair is all about exhibiting watches. And while Dubai Watch Week ticked that box, it was the first watch fair I've been to that was so non-commercial that the watches actually played second fiddle.

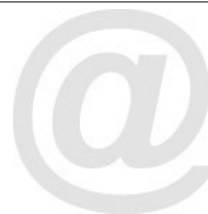


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**GPHG**  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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Watchmaking master class with Marco Lang of Lang & Heyne at Dubai Watch Week 2015

The real aim of DWW was to inform and educate, and it was the watchmaking master classes, discussion panels, and talks that were the real highlights. And not just with the public, but the participants as well. Both Elizabeth and I moderated discussion panels on a wide range of interesting topics and were impressed by the caliber of questions and knowledge of local collectors.



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An interesting discussion panel at Dubai Watch Week: (l to r) Alexander Friedmann (moderator), Jean-Marc Wiederrecht, Guilio Papi, and Philippe Dufour

And it was a real pleasure meeting and talking to so many watch enthusiasts, because that is not always so easy at larger exhibitors due to the time constraints imposed by trying to cover a large number of brands in an editorial sense.

Date: 23.10.2015



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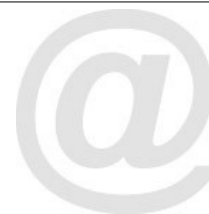


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Greubel Forsey at Dubai Watch Week

We will be sharing more on Dubai Watch Week soon, but now I've got a plane to catch. And it surely will not be long before I'm complaining about the cold in Europe and dreaming of the warm sunshine in Dubai!



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## Industry News

### Editorial Team

OCTOBER 21, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Artistic Crafts

— Our in-house teams produces a three-way split in this difficult-to-judge category.



<http://goo.gl/R3b840>

Paul O'Neil, editor-in-chief, WorldTempus

Judging the artistic crafts category involves balancing your personal preferences as far as the aesthetics of the different pieces are concerned with your appreciation of the techniques that have been used to produce them. With the variety on offer this year including porcelain dials with miniature painting from Japan, exquisite engravings and jewellery settings, the competition is fierce. Two pieces grabbed my attention, however, by establishing a personal connection. Thanks to my father my DNA includes some kind of code that has me fascinated by maps of any kind, so the Altiplano Scrimshaw by Piaget and the Chamber of Wonders models by Girard-Perregaux immediately caught my attention. Both offer historical views of the world that differ from the Mercator projection that most of us are familiar with. The Girard-Perregaux Chamber of Wonders has a slight edge in this respect with its three different views of the world from three different eras and the New World showcased in the Artistic Crafts category of the GPHG 2015 is my favourite. The faithful reproduction of



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the period map, with its strange arrangement of countries and oversized yacht pictogrammes is a wonderful marquetry of semi-precious stones, each painstakingly cut down to a height of just 0.5mm and polished by hand.



Altiplano Scrimshaw by Piaget & and The Chamber of Wonders models by Girard-Perregaux.

© Piaget/Girard-Perregaux

Michèle Brunner

In this category, it is primarily the mastery of the artistic crafts used that should be judged. The six finalists present a wide choice of materials and techniques: engraving, damascene, painting, enamel and marquetry are used with materials as varied as porcelain, ivory, stones or even butterfly wings. It's difficult for me to imagine the amount of knowledge and expertise, of meticulousness and artistic feeling that have been invested by the craftsmen and craftswomen who produced the dial in butterfly wing powder for the Premier Precious Butterfly by Harry Winston, the splendid engraving of Ganesh on the Villeret Shakudo by Blancpain and the miniature painting on other pieces.

So I will let aesthetics guide me and choose the Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke by Romain Gauthier. Its main attractions? Its sober dial with a modern, graphic design with vaporous colours. Designed by the Brazilian artist Kakau Höfke, the city of Rio de Janeiro has been produced on the dial in micro-marquetry. The 352 miniscule fragments of lavender-coloured jade and blue agate are almost indistinguishable. Mirror polished, the reflect light and form a contemporary three-dimensional painting.





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Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke by Romain Gauthier.

© Romain Gauthier

Camille Gendre

Each of the six watches preselected by the jury in the Artistic Crafts category is an example of a unique and exceptional expertise, totally mastered by the craftsmen; so the choice was not easy. Upon reflection I would choose the Premier Butterfly Automatic 36mm by Harry Winston, the only ladies' watch in this category. The brand uses a totally new technique with the iridescent powder found on butterfly wings. Magnetic and luminous, the dial thus offers a miniature painting based around the delicately extracted pigments. The Premier Butterfly watch is also interesting from a technical point of view: it has a self-winding movement with a silicon hairspring that gives it excellent precision.



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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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Premier Butterfly Automatic 36mm by Harry Winston

© Harry Winston

Vote for your favourite watch in the Artistic Crafts category in our readers' poll.

## Dubai in pursuit of watchmaking culture

The most dynamic emirate of the Arabian Peninsula is the hub of fine watchmaking until Thursday. Dubai Watch Week brings together hundreds of industry players and enthusiasts to celebrate extraordinary watchmaking.



By : Louis Nardin

Published in : [WtheJournal.com](http://WtheJournal.com)

10.21.2015

It seems that the financial crisis of 2008 has had unexpected consequences in the Middle East, particularly on fine watchmaking consumption. While they continue to indulge in luxury creations, customers in the region seem to have developed a huge appetite for watchmaking culture ever since. Their aim: to gain a better understanding of what they are buying in order to become more discerning consumers. And almost

paradoxically, the future of the watchmaking business now lies in its cultural dimension, which is woefully underrepresented elsewhere in the world. We interviewed Maleka Yazdjerdi, head of communications for retailer Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons and director of Dubai Watch Week, the first edition of which opened on Sunday and will finish on Thursday in the arty Gate Village district.

What is Dubai Watch Week?

I think Max Büsser, founder of MB&F—present at the event—summed it up well during his opening speech when he said that “Dubai Watch Week is now the world’s most important cultural event linked to fine watchmaking.” Our aim was to gather as many industry figures as possible in the same place so that watch enthusiasts could meet them directly. We wanted to create a platform that would facilitate discussion and offer a different kind of watchmaking experience. To do so, we split the program between conferences-discussions and workshops, all led by 57 watchmakers or representatives of high-end, mostly independent watchmaking brands. We have been incredibly lucky to welcome Philippe Dufour, for example, who has never visited the region before. And visitors have traveled from as far as South Africa, Nigeria, Egypt, and Europe. We weren’t expecting that!

Who or what gave rise to the event?

In 2013, an exhibition of the watches preselected for the Grand Prix d’Horlogerie de Genève attracted unprecedented attention during its stopover in Dubai. Since then, demand and interest have remained so high that Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons decided to set up this event in the fall of 2014. And this spring, the Ministry of Art and Culture also lent us its support.

Is Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons the only instigator?

Yes, financially speaking, the event is funded entirely by the company. Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons is the main retailer in Dubai and across the entire Middle East. The company was founded 65 years ago, and has since formed strong ties with Swiss brands and with the fabric of the Swiss watchmaking industry. Following the financial crisis of 2008, our role changed. Watchmaking needed to be presented in greater detail and in direct relation to those who shape it. Our customers wanted to gain a better understanding of the watches they were purchasing. Admittedly, we organize around 50 evening events to this end annually, but we needed something bigger, more inclusive and more influential.

Has this thirst for knowledge had any other effects?

Yes, by broadening their knowledge, our customers have also refined their tastes. Today, their decisions are based on criteria that are more personal than before. People dare to express their personality through their watch. And sometimes, the timepiece reveals part of their character in turn. This phenomenon is completely new.

Published in : News, WtheJournal.com



## Initial Impressions Of Dubai Watch Week

by Ian Skellern

Quill & Pad has landed in Dubai for the exciting inaugural event known as Dubai Watch Week, which targets both local and international watch collectors and aficionados.

“Dubai Watch Week is a first for the Middle East and an incredible initiative by the Seddiqi Group,” said Maximilian Büsser of MB&F of the event co-organized by Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons and the Grand Prix d’Horlogerie de Genève.



Follow the red arrow to Dubai Watch Week

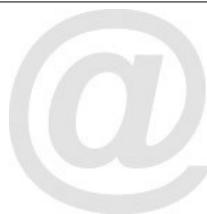
The compact show comprising five sections spread among a number of interesting art galleries is centrally located in the thriving Emirati metropolis, easily accessible from the downtown area (where the Dubai Mall and the Burj Khalifa are located) and the business hotels.

Date: 20.10.2015



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A packed press conference opening the inaugural Dubai Watch Week

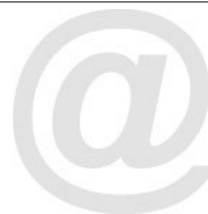
The show opened with a press conference comprising local and international journalists, who have come to learn about the event and watchmaking in general.

Date: 20.10.2015



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N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Panel discussing social media at Dubai Watch Week

Various panels in the Art of Horology section have already taken place, and the turnout has been encouraging. Here we see Alexander Friedman of Watchonista moderating a panel on social media.





Watchmaking master class with Peter Speake-Marin at Dubai Watch Week

Various master classes with famous watchmakers have also already taken place, such as the one pictured above with Peter Speake-Marin of Speake-Marin. These have proven extremely popular.



Rebels of Horology exhibition at Dubai Watch Week

Another popular element has been the Rebels of Horology exhibition, which features recent innovations by independent watchmakers including Bovet, Cabestan, De Bethune, Greubel Forsey, Hautlence, Laurent



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Ferrier, MB&F, H. Moser & Cie, Moritz Grossmann, and Urwerk.



Rebels of Horology exhibition at Dubai Watch Week

The exhibitors that we have spoken to are thus far quite content with the public turnout of the inaugural event.

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Watchmaking master class with Daniel Reintjes, CEO and chief designer of Van der Klaauw astronomical watches

Guests are thrilled to go hands on with real watch movements under the tutelage of famous watchmakers.

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Dubai is known for the varied and extremely aesthetic architecture of its skyscrapers



Guests enjoying a “conversation” with Greubel Forsey’s Stephen Forsey at Dubai Watch Week



Relatively intimate “conversations” with brand CEOs constitutes one of the wonderful program points at Dubai Watch Week. The photo above depicts one such conversation with Stephen Forsey of Greubel Forsey.



Watchmaking master class with Lang & Heyne CEO Marco Lang at Dubai Watch Week



The Opera Gallery makes a very appropriate setting for the 72 pre-selected watches in the running for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève



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The Opera Gallery makes a very appropriate setting for the 72 pre-selected watches in the running for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

All 72 of the pre-selected timepieces of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève are also on display at Dubai Watch Week.

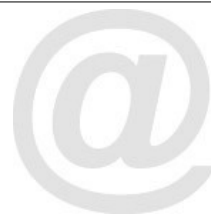
"The appetite for greater insight into the world of watchmaking continues to grow exponentially in the Middle East, which has become a key export market during the last several decades," said Abdulhamied Seddiqi, vice chairman of Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons. "Dubai Watch Week (DWW) is being established as a leading platform for education, debate and discovery into the world's most innovative and covetable timepieces."

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The Transmission of Knowledge discussion panel featuring Stephen Forsey and Philippe Dufour moderated by Marc-André Deschoux (The Watches TV) at Dubai Watch Week

Stay tuned for more of the participating brands and the watches seen at Dubai Watch Week.

For more information, please visit [www.dubaiwatchweek.com](http://www.dubaiwatchweek.com).



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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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## World Events

Brice Lechevalier

OCTOBER 19, 2015

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GPHG 2015 The 12th art on show at the Dubai Watch Week

— The Dubai Opera Gallery is exhibiting the 72 finalist watches for this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève under the watchful eye of the Sheikh.



View Slideshow

<http://goo.gl/gAnR4o>

After Hong Kong and Seoul and before the Cité du Temps in Geneva and SalonQP in London, the travelling exhibition of the GPHG 2105 started its most important foreign stop-over at the heart of the first-ever Dubai



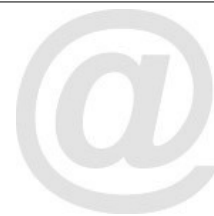


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Watch Week, of which the GPHG Foundation is a co-organiser together with the big local retailer Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons. While the City and Canton of Geneva support the Grand Prix in its home town, the Dubai authorities are also involved at the top level in this watch event, whose vocation is above all a cultural one\*. The department of culture supports it officially, while the inaugural cocktail party on Sunday evening was held under the patronage of his Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum. Another sign of high-level interest is the involvement of some of the region's most emblematic companies, such as Emirates and the Dubai Mall. During the press conference, the spokesperson for the Emirate defended the watchmaking craft of small independent brands and the growing role of Dubai as an exceptional place to discover it.

The organiser of the Dubai Watch Week and a representative of the third generation of the Seddiqi family, Hind Seddiqi\* mentioned her family's close links with watchmaking and the non-commercial aspect of this week of promotion of fine watchmaking, as well as her pride in bringing together 57 exceptional speakers who have come to share their passion with VIPs from the region throughout the week. Even though Aurel Bacs (Phillips), Jean-Claude Biver (LVMH), Edouard Meylan (H. Moser & Cie), Pierre Jacques (De Bethune) and Stephen Forsey (Greubel-Forsey) regularly travel to Dubai, they can rarely be found there together, while Philippe Dufour is visiting for the first time! Hind Seddiqi chose to organise the Dubai Watch Week at the Gate Village in the Dubai International Financial District, renowned as much for the quality of its visitors as for its restaurants and art galleries. Artspace, Cuadro, Empty Quarter, Farjam and Opera have all played their part in the Dubai Watch Week, showcasing a particular theme. WorldTempus visited the Opera Gallery, which is hosting the GPHG exhibition.

#### Swiss ambassador in Dubai

When the 2nd art (painting) and the 3rd art (sculpture) meet the 12th art (the art of measuring time) in Dubai, Switzerland can never be far away. In fact, the director of the Opera Gallery in Dubai is Swiss, and specifically from Geneva, and he naturally gets enthusiastic when he spots a fine Swiss watch on the wrist of his customers. It is hardly surprising, therefore, to see a huge smile on the face of Sylvain P. Gaillard, who has taken great care to arrange the twelve monolithic red and black showcases between the works of art he displays. Even with 500 square metres of space on two floors, the individual locations had to be thought out. The watches in the Ladies' category take pride of place as the first showcase to greet the visitor. The diversity of the watchmaking creations with their compact content is in tune with the variety of paintings and sculptures by artists as different as Iceland's Katrin Friedricks, China's Kang Yong-Fen and Gully and Gérard Rancinan from France. Découvrez cet espace avec notre galerie exclusive ici.

\*read our interview with Hind Seddiqi later this week





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17.10.2015, 14:57

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## Les plus belles montres neuchâteloises de l'année en lice à Genève

horlogerie -

C'est devenu le rendez-vous horloger incontournable de la fin de l'année: 72 montres seront en compétition le 29 octobre au Grand prix de l'horlogerie de Genève. Une trentaine, de 14 marques différentes, sont neuchâteloises. Voici notre sélection subjective des plus garde-temps réalisés par les talents d'ici. Et notre pronostic pour le gagnant de l'Aiguille d'Or, récompense suprême. Avec les photos!

C'est la maison Piaget, établie à la Côte-aux-Fées, qui est la marque neuchâteloise à avoir obtenu le plus de sélections: elle est en lice pour six montres, dont quatre féminines. Suivent Bvlgari, marque très en vue cette année, avec quatre montres, Ulysse Nardin et Montblanc (3 chacune, au Locle toutes les deux).

Les autres marques neuchâteloises présélectionnées dans les 12 catégories du concours sont Voutilainen, Moinet, TAG Heuer, Bovet, Greubel Forsey, Claret (2), Girard-Perregaux (2), Hautlence, HYT et Zenith (2). Pas de Chopard, par contre, parmi les finalistes cette année.

Le 29 octobre à Genève

La cérémonie se déroulera le 29 octobre au Grand Théâtre de Genève devant un bon millier d'invités. Les pronostics vont déjà bon train sur les sites horlogers spécialisés pour savoir qui décrochera l'Aiguille d'Or, récompense suprême, ou le prix de sa catégorie. Reviennent souvent dans les discussions: la Pelagos de bleue de Tudor (marque soeur de Rolex), la Slim d'Hermès (avec mouvement Vaucher) ainsi que la magnifique Lady Peacock de Fabergé. Mais les Neuchâtelois HYT, Girard-Perregaux et Claret sont aussi souvent cités, tout comme, hors du canton, la Royal Oak Concept Michael Schumacher (Audemars Piguet n'a jamais eu l'Aiguille d'Or) ou et la HMX de MB&Friends.

Notre favorite: une complication féminine

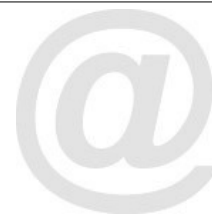
Une montre pour dame pourrait-elle remporter l'Aiguille d'Or, ce qui n'est plus arrivé depuis 2001 avec Vacheron Constantin? Pas impossible, et c'est en tout cas notre favorite à nous: la Lady Peacock de Fabergé est dotée d'un mouvement à la fois compliqué et poétique, un paon qui indique les minutes en faisant la roue (vidéo ici). Un mécanisme bien plus compliqué qu'il n'y paraît, dû à la société Aghenor, à Meyrin, spécialisée dans la conception de modules mécaniques.

Groupe ou pas groupe?

Sinon, cela fait dix ans qu'une marque du groupe Richemont n'a pas été couronnée, alors que LVMH (TAG Heuer), Kering (Girard-Perregaux) et le Swatch Group (Breguet) ont gagné ces trois dernières années. Alors pourquoi pas, en 2015, Montblanc ou Piaget? Et pourquoi pas le retour d'un horloger indépendant?

Liens

La Lady Peacock de Fabergé


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## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Sports Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the GPHG's rules, the Sports watches linked to the field of sports, whose functions, materials and design are suited to physical activities.

Sports watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Royal Oak Offshore Selfwinding Tourbillon Chronograph, Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe, Harry Winston Project Z9, Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000, Zenith El Primero Sport, and Tudor Pelagos

IS: I'm going to take the category definition at its word, i.e. " . . . functions, materials and design are suited to physical activities" and at the stroke of my virtual pen, rule out a couple of watches pre-selected here: the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Offshore Selfwinding Tourbillon Chronograph because I don't think that a tourbillon is particularly suited to physical activities and the Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000 because it is a dedicated diver's watch, not a general sports watch.

I'm also ruling out the Zenith El Primero Sport because it seems like very year in the GPHG that I see at least two Zenith El Primeros pre-selected. They are great watches, but I've had my fill.

JM: The Sports category is filled with some watches that most watch wearers could own, and a few that many would love to own representing watch grails for many watch lovers.

Tudor Pelagos

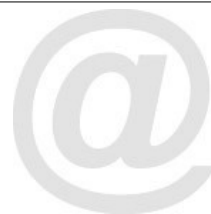
IS: I've picked the Tudor Pelagos for the number one slot because it's the sports watch I would buy for myself in this category; at around \$4,500, it is easily the most affordable as well. With a stated water resistance of 500 meters, the Pelagos has the credentials of a dive watch, but unlike the 10,000-meter Seiko, the Pelagos is much more wearable because it is so much slimmer (though it would never be called svelte).

Date: 16.10.2015



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Tudor Pelagos Blue

And there is so much more to like about this Tudor including a titanium case (low mass means more comfort in active sports); extreme legibility (again a big plus during active sports); in-house movement with silicon balance spring (low mass = less effect of shocks and energetic movement); and I quite like the idea of an auto-adjustable folding buckle.

For the price the Tudor Pelagos is unbeatable, but it would rank high in any price bracket.

JM: My first runner-up is the Tudor Pelagos. This watch is a stunner, especially considering it features a titanium-and-ceramic case, great style, and a price that should make anybody stand up and take notice. This watch really does not stand in anybody's shadow, certainly not now that it features Tudor's first in-house movement. This watch makes many ask, "Rolex who?"



Tudor Pelagos Blue

GG: It's my first runner-up too, Joshua. And it's great to see Tudor using in-house movements with useful features such as a 70-hour power reserve. The watch is certainly fit-for-purpose for diving with a 500-meter water resistance rating and helium escape valve.

The all-matte design motif isn't to my personal taste, but I understand the design choice related to low-reflectivity functionality and admire the coherence with which it is executed. At the end of the day, I'm still wondering a bit if we'd be so enthusiastic about this piece if it didn't have the word "Tudor" on the dial, though.

#### Quick Facts Tudor Pelagos

Case: 42 x 14.3 mm, titanium and ceramic

Movement: automatic in-house Caliber MT5612 with official chronometer certification and 70 hours power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date

Price: 4,200 Swiss francs

#### Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe

JM: For my second runner-up I went with the Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe. It is a truly beautiful and simple dive watch with a half century (or more) of history behind it. I mean, it's a Fifty Fathoms. For many, that is all they need to hear.



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It's also the most expensive watch I chose, which means my other two are even sweeter!



### Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe

IS: My second choice (first runner-up) is the Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe, Joshua, and I particularly like this model for the ceramic insert in the proprietary Sedna gold bezel. Active sports usually means lots of knocks and scratches, and a scratch-resistant ceramic bezel is likely to be a big plus. I also like the 300-meter (which is fifty fathoms) water resistance, matching black date ring with black dial, and longish 120-hour power reserve of the Fifty Fathoms.

Like my other two picks in this category, the Blancpain has a silicon hairspring (low mass = less effect from shocks and energetic movement), and the brand gets bonus points from me for using the term “non-magnetic” silicon balance-spring rather than the incorrect, but ubiquitous, “anti-magnetic.”

### Quick Facts Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe

Case: 43 x 13.4 mm, red gold

Movement: automatic Caliber 1315 with silicon balance spring and 5 days power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date

Price: 25,000 Swiss francs

Harry Winston Project Z9

GG: This was a tough category for me to call. For instance, the Audemars Piguet is perhaps the best watch on

the list, but for me it doesn't meet the test of being "suited to sports activities" as set out by the category criteria.

The Harry Winston Z9 appeals to me as representing a happy medium between interesting features such as the flyback chronograph and a 5 Hz silicon balance, an attractive and masculine appearance, and enough sporting nature to make the grade in this class.



### Harry Winston Project Z9

IS: The Harry Winston Project Z9 is my third pick, and I like this model for its zanium case, which is harder than steel (less scratches during rough use), but lighter (so more comfortable) than steel. The flyback chronograph is likely to be a useful feature for some sports, and the 100-meter water resistance is (just) enough to be a contender in this category.

But my particular interest in the Project Z9 is the high-speed silicon escapement because that seems ideally suited for a sports watch. The silicon balance spring for reasons we have already discussed, i.e. the low mass of the balance spring means that it will be less influenced by shocks, and the high balance frequency of five Hertz (36,000 vph) means that shocks will affect the balance spring for less time.



Harry Winston Project Z9

The Z9 is let down by its lower legibility than other pre-selected watches in this category (aside from the Audemars Piguet Tourbillon Chronograph) and the dial is a bit messy for my taste (which is sure to mean that everyone else will love it). But the Project Z9 has a lot going for it and should be a strong contender.

## Quick Facts Harry Winston Project Z9

Case: 44.2 x 13.2 mm, zanium

Movement: automatic Caliber HW3304 with silicon balance spring and high-frequency 36,000 vph balance

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date, flyback chronograph

Limitation: 300 pieces

Price: 23,000 Swiss francs

## Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000

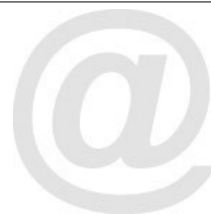
JM: As is my tendency, I chose my winner because I love what it stands for and the fact that it has the highest depth rating out of all the sports watches. My winner is the Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000 (whew, long name) because, gosh darnit, this Japanese company makes one heck of a watch.

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Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000

As the name implies, this watch can go to a depth of 1,000 meters with an accuracy not found in many sports watches. Also, this thing just looks tough. It's not dainty; it doesn't feature a delicate tourbillon (I mean, come on, Audemars Piguet, really), and it stands as it is instead of what it could pretend to be.

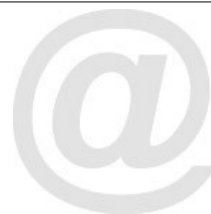


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Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000

This watch is for people who truly need a watch to perform under serious conditions. That is why it's a winner to me.

#### Quick Facts Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000

Case: 48.2 x 19.7 mm, titanium

Movement: automatic Caliber 8L55 beating at high frequency of 36,000 vph with Spron 530 mainspring, Spron 610 balance spring, and LIGA/MEMS escape wheel and pallet fork

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date

Limitation: 700 pieces

Price: 6,700 Swiss francs

Zenith El Primero Sport

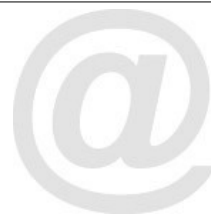
GG: This is an attractive watch with a classic movement, to be sure, and that was enough to lift the Zenith to my third pick in a category in which the entries are more diverse in type than first meets the eye.

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Zenith El Primero Sport

At the same time, there wasn't enough "new news" with this latest variant of the venerable El Primero to lift it to the top of my list.

#### Quick Facts Zenith El Primero Sport

Case: 45 x 14.05 mm, stainless steel

Movement: automatic Caliber El Primero 400 B beating at high frequency of 36,000 vph, power reserve 50 hours

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date, chronograph

Price: 9,900 Swiss francs

Predicted Winners

Ian: Tudor Pelagos

Joshua: Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000

GaryG: Harry Winston Project Z9

15.10.2015

## Savoir-faire neuchâtelois en lice à Genève

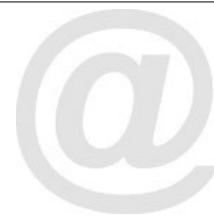


La montre Charming Bird, de la marque neuchâteloise Jaquet Droz, est en lice dans la catégorie "exception mécanique".

Les marques implantées dans le canton de Neuchâtel sont présentes dans les douze catégories du Grand Prix d'horlogerie de Genève. Le palmarès sera dévoilé dans deux semaines, le 29 octobre. Il récompense chaque année la créativité et la recherche de l'excellence dans le domaine.

Sur les 193 montres en compétition au départ, 72 ont été présélectionnées. Toutes les personnes intéressées peuvent voter par internet pour le Prix du public, jusqu'à la veille de l'événement. Pour le reste, le choix appartient à un jury international composé de 26 personnalités reconnues pour leur expertise en horlogerie.

Au total, 19 prix seront remis. Le plus prestigieux, c'est le Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'or, qui récompense la meilleure montre toutes catégories confondues. L'année passée, c'est une création de Breguet qui l'avait emporté. La marque dont la manufacture est basée dans la Vallée de Joux est donc hors-concours cette année. /msa



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## Industry News

Editorial Team

OCTOBER 14, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Sports Watches

**— Three sports watch fans independently reach a unanimous verdict on the watch that should scoop the sports watch category at GPHG 2015.**



<http://goo.gl/agNkBq>

Keith W. Strandberg, WorldTempus contributor

I have always gravitated to sports watches, because of their do-it-all nature. The best sports watches are timepieces that can be put under all sorts of stresses and still perform. Remember the old Timex slogan, "Takes a licking and keeps on ticking"? That's what I look for in a sports watch.

This year's GPHG has some great sports watches in the category, but two watches in particular stand out to me. The first is the Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000M Hi-Beat 36000. Seiko has a long history producing sports watches designed for professional use (its first high beat diver's watch was introduced in 1968, water resistant to 300 meters), and this Prospex is no different. Using the Seiko high beat mechanical movement in a diver's watch is a nice touch, and making a watch water resistant to 1,000 meters





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is no mean feat. The design is also reminiscent of Seiko's early, iconic diver's watches.

My second choice is the Tudor Pelagos. Not only is it water resistant to 500 meters, it has a clean and purposeful design that is very attractive, its blue-on-blue of the bezel and the dial echoing the deep blue sea. In addition, the Pelagos is powered by Tudor's own in-house movement, complete with a power reserve of 70 hours.

Which one do I choose? To go out on the town, I'd wear the Tudor but to go beneath the waves, the Prospex is my choice.

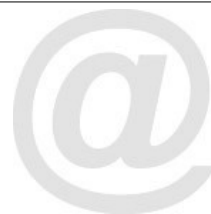


Tudor Pelagos.

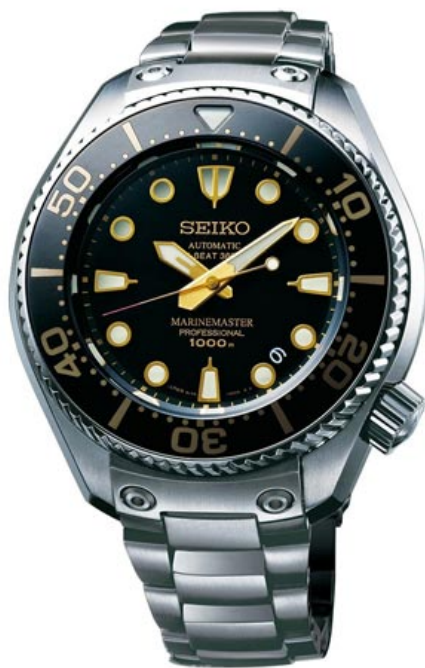
© Tudor

Paul O'Neil, editor-in-chief, WorldTempus

No discussion needed here for me, since one of my top three watches from Basel this year has been preselected in this category. I may come under fire for choosing a non-Swiss brand, but Seiko already scooped a prize at the GPHG last year, and rightly so. As a non-diving diver's watch fan I love the robust appeal of the Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional 1000m, with its imposing 48.2mm case and its offset crown. The high-frequency Hi-Beat movement, which beats at 36,000 vibrations per hour, is an extra bonus. It's just a shame that only 700 of these watches will be available worldwide, only a handful of which will make it to Europe, because it's been on your editor-in-chief's wish list since April.



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Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000M Hi-Beat 36000.

© Seiko

Timmy Tan, editor-in-chief, Timewerke

There are more than 20 reasons why Seiko's Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36,000 SBEX001 deserves to be named the best sports watch. The SBEX001 comes with pedigree; this SBEX001 Marinemaster is a descendant of Seiko's first Professional Diver's 600m, launched in 1975, that secured 23 world firsts and was granted 20 patents.

To begin with, that 1975 original was the world's first diver's watch to have a case made of titanium. What made it very special was that it had a two-layer case construction and though it was made for deep dives, having the water-resistance of 600 metres, Seiko did not include a helium-escape valve feature as the case was made to be impermeable to helium. The outer case not only protects the watch from hard knocks, it also keeps the bezel in place. Like the original, the 2015 Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m can be used for saturation diving. New features include the Lumibrite where the lifespan of the luminescence is 60% longer than existing models and the Calibre 8L35 is adjusted for extreme depths.

Seiko tested the SBEX01 in the ocean and the movement only seized up after going down to 4,299 metres, which is more than quadruple its claimed water-resistance. This means that the SBEX001 is more than a sports watch; it is also a professional instrument.

Vote for your favourite watch in the Sports watches category in our readers' poll.

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Jewellery Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Nancy Olson (NO), resident pen expert and watch journalist

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the GPHG's rules, the Jewellery watches should demonstrate exceptional mastery of the art of jewellery and gemsetting, and also distinguished by the choice of stones.



**Audemars Piguet**  
Diamond Punk



**Bulgari**  
Mvsa High Jewellery  
Watch



**Chaumet**  
Joséphine Aigrette  
Impériale



**de Grisogono**  
Grappoli



**Fabergé**  
Summer in Provence  
Multicoloured Sapphire



**Piaget**  
Extremely Piaget  
Double Sided Cuff  
Watch



Pre-selected Jewellery watches in the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

IS: I find the Jewellery category to be the most difficult to judge by images alone. While I can make an educated guess as to how most watches will feel, I cannot do the same with high-end jewelry, and static

photos do not convey the animation and movement in many of these pieces. Please take my comments with a sack of salt.

JM: The Jewellery category of the 2015 Grand Prix is the hardest for me to choose from. Not because I don't know what I like (I definitely have favorites), but because out of every pre-selected timepiece, only one is mechanical. And, sadly, that one is not one of my favorites. For this reason I have to choose on style and craft alone, which is still impressive, but it mostly leaves the horology out of my calculations.



Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch (front)

Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch

IS: My vote goes to the Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch because it both looks interesting and I imagine that it will feel quite pleasing as well. I've not much else to say because, while it appears to be covered in hundreds – if not thousands – of diamonds, there is no mention of their quality or quantity in the information provided.

It may be worth putting a bit more effort in the submission process next time, Piaget.





Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch (back)

GG: Piaget calls it audacious in the description, and it is certainly that! The retro 1970s styling really works, in my view, and having both opal and onyx dials ready to show on a moment's notice is a very clever idea. It gets my vote for runner-up.

JM: It is my second runner-up, Gary. I loved the style and period grace of the Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch. Having two dials of different materials is an awesome way to make one piece of jewelry into a versatile accessory. Plus, the skeleton-style cuff covered in snow-set diamonds reminds me of a delicate spider web glistening with frost in the late-fall morning sun. It is seriously a stunning and "simple" piece from Piaget.

#### Quick Facts Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch

Case: 23 x 24 x 6.5 mm, white gold

Movement: quartz, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: amount of diamonds not specified; opal dial with diamonds on one side; onyx dial on the other side

Limitation: one unique piece

Price: 250,000 Swiss francs



Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

NO: I think this watch is a gorgeous example of various artisanal techniques, such as enameling and stone setting. Fabergé somehow managed to pull all the colors, textures, and different gemstones into a beautiful and summery floral tableau without making the watch look busy.

I really like the way the case and dial décor spills onto the bracelet. I admit that I gave this watch high marks for having a mechanical movement – the only one in the Jewellery category. This is a trend that I plan to continue to support.



Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

IS: I would have liked to have been able to place the Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire as my number one pick, especially given Piaget's paucity of information. But while I love the fun party atmosphere of the Summer in Provence, the colors of those pastel green stripes and pastel blue acorns (at least they look like acorns to me) just don't work for me.

I'd like bright colors all over, and the tamer hues of the green and blue soften the impact of what may have been. While this shouldn't be counted officially, I cannot help but give the Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire extra points for having a nice Vaucher mechanical movement, especially as all of the other pre-selected watches are quartz-powered.

For more background on Fabergé's rebirth and jewelry watches, please see Fabergé Inaugurates Rebirth With Exceptional Lady Compliquée.

#### Quick Facts Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

Case: 37 x 11.7 mm, white gold

Movement: automatic Vaucher caliber

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: diamonds, emeralds, Paraiba tourmalines, and pink and blue sapphires; mother-of-pearl flowers, grand feu enamel, turquoise

Limitation: 5 pieces



Price: 290,000 Swiss francs



Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk

Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk

NO: When I first saw it, I wasn't sure I liked this watch since it's so bold and out of the box. But after thinking about it a while, those are the very same reasons why I fell in love with it.

GG: This is a sensational watch from a technical perspective with 7,848 snow-set diamonds (count 'em!) and a non-traditional form. It gets my vote as second runner-up

NO: It's very much in keeping with the brand – if not in looks, then in its independent spirit. The 56 pyramid facets are designed to conjure punk-style studs or the Alpine peaks of the Les Brassus region where Audemars Piguet is situated – or both, depending on one's orientation.

But what I think is truly amazing is that it is set with more than 8,000 diamonds on the dial, and case and takes about 1,500 hours to make. That's a lot of commitment of time and resources. I love secret watches, and though this piece is a little more substantial than what I normally gravitate toward, it still beautifully qualifies and it gets my vote for first runner-up.

GG: But if there can be such a thing as “too diamond-y,” Nancy, this monochromatic presentation may just slip over into that space. The diamond-and-onyx version comes closer, but that's not the one nominated here, and, for me, the overall presentation is a bit bulky to begin with and the large black surfaces don't quite do the trick.





Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk

JM: My winner for the jewelry category is something that I love for its boldness in style and the function of its engineering. My winner is the Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk watch.

It stands as the most encrusted of the group by far with 7,848 diamonds in 56 pyramid facets around the cuff plus another 300 diamonds on the dial. It awesomely has a hidden dial with a secret panel that slides out of the way to reveal the time. This piece is simply mesmerizing, and it has attitude. I admire that from something usually designed to be classy. Simply incredible, and deserving of the top prize!

#### Quick Facts Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk

Case: 44 x 30 x 12.2 mm, white gold cuff

Movement: quartz, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: 7,848 snow-set diamonds on case; 300 snow-set diamonds on secret dial

Price: 702,000 Swiss francs

De Grisogono Grappoli

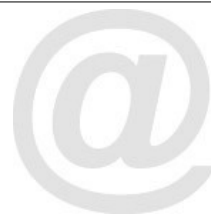
GG: Technical merits of the jewel work aside, for me it's really important in this category that the final appearance be striking without being too much; and I love the look of this watch! And it combines snow-setting in the central sectors with a halo of moving briolette sapphires on the perimeter to make for a stunning show.

Date: 13.10.2015



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N° d'abonnement: 1096742



de Grisogono Grappoli

IS: My third pick has to be for the de Grisogono Grappoli. And just to let you know how flaky and un-educated my thought process is for this category, there is absolutely zero I like about the Grappoli from the photos provided.

But, I had the pleasure – and it honestly was a pleasure – of handling a similar watch at Baselworld this year and I loved the way the outer fringe of jewels were supported on thin “stalks” that swayed to and fro. I found it very tactile, and that’s something to look out for in a jewelry watch.

#### Quick Facts de Grisogono Grappoli

Case: 36 x 11.6 mm, white gold

Movement: quartz, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: 980 brilliant-cut diamonds and blue sapphires, 70 moving briolette-cut sapphires (73 cts total)

Limitation: one unique piece

Price: 150,000 Swiss francs

Bulgari MVSA High Jewellery Watch

NO: This small, bejeweled cocktail watch is very much on trend, since we’re seeing more smallish and sparkly

high-jewelry pieces lately, and it is my second runner-up. What I find so intriguing is the variety of stones and sizes and cuts that somehow work together so cohesively on the case and articulated bracelet.



This is an obvious tribute to the Bulgari artisans who designed and produced this one-of-a-kind piece. It's said to be inspired by the ancient architecture of Greece and Rome, but I'm sure it didn't go unnoticed that it's also designed in the colors of the Italian flag!

#### Quick Facts Bulgari MVSA High Jewellery Watch

Case: 15.8 x 15.8 x 8.4 mm, white gold

Movement: quartz, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: not specified

Limitation: one unique piece

Price: 1,100,000 Swiss francs

Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale

JM: My first runner-up is what I believe to be the most classically feminine watch in the bunch, for the woman who carries herself with well-earned grace. That piece is the Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale.





### Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale

Wrapping around the wrist seductively in loops of diamonds, the watch rests, slightly tear-dropped, in a very peaceful manner. It does not scream out for attention, yet it pulls you in with impeccable diamond settings and flowing movement that enhance the sparkle of the almost 1,400 stones.

I would picture this watch gracing the wrist of many important women, including its namesake.

#### Quick Facts Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale

Case: 24 x 8.23 mm, white gold

Movement: quartz, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes

Gem-setting: almost 1,400 diamonds (more than 17 cts)

Price: 269,500 Swiss francs

#### Predicted Winners

Ian: Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch

Nancy: Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

GaryG: de Grisogono Grappoli



Date: 13.10.2015



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Joshua: Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk



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## Industry News

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OCTOBER 12, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Mechanical Exception

— One model stands out for the majority of our tripartite panel, with the third member torn between two other watches.



<http://goo.gl/h7VC2Z>

Paul O'Neil, editor in chief, WorldTempus

In this category, there is a clear split between pure mechanical and “design mechanical” from the likes of Hautlence and HYT, possibly even with a hint of “original mechanical” from De Witt with its hands-free Academia Mathematical model. But my vote goes to the Jaquet Droz Charming Bird, which has succeeded in miniaturizing the automaton technology from the brand’s history to a size that has allowed it to be incorporated into a wristwatch complete with a whistle system that mimics the bird’s song. It is indeed the mechanical exception, since there is no other model like this.



Lire en ligne



The Charming Bird.

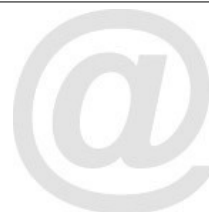
© Jaquet Droz

David Chokron, WorldTempus contributor

Calling upon a glorious past is a tried and tested method in watchmaking. But the result is often illusory, anecdotal or just downright insufficient. In the case of the Charming Bird, the past of Jaquet Droz is brought up to date with a thoroughly modern efficiency. In the 18th century, the Jaquet Droz brothers were renowned for their automata and singing birds. The Charming Bird is the resurrection of this concept that was long thought unsuitable for adaptation in a wristwatch. Inside the case the bird flutters and sings just like it would in a cage fifty times the size. He could have just chirped and ruffled its feathers. But its singing is powerful and harmonious and, above all, it lasts long. And while it is singing, the bird twists and turns in all directions, from left to right. The mechanical performance is an accomplishment, the animal is animated and the name Jaquet Droz fully deserves its place on this unique watch.

Olivier Müller, WorldTempus contributor

The Mechanical Exception category is the toughest to call. What is exceptional and what isn't? Two watches stand out for me, each different from the other: the Christophe Claret Maestoso and the Hautlence Vortex. The former deals in perfection, taking the detent escapement from marine chronometers and adapting it to a wristwatch inside which beats a cylindrical hairspring. It's a watch for the ultra-purist and a concentrate of technical mastery that is aimed at aesthetes of fine watchmaking in the new millennium.



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Maestoso.

© Christophe Claret

At the other extreme, the Hautlence Vortex. What does it remind you of? Without question, nothing from the world of watchmaking at least. It has an audacious case shape, a regulating organ that turns through 60 degrees every 60 minutes, jumping hours and retrograde minute, all in a surprisingly wearable case size. It's superb! And according to those in the know at MELB, it has excellent isochronism.





Lire en ligne



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Vortex.

© Hautlence

Vote for your favourite watch in the Mechanical Exception category in our readers' poll.

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Artistic Crafts Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

What Makes Me Tick (WMMT), resident opinionator and storyteller

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the GPHG's rules, Artistic Crafts watches should demonstrate exceptional mastery of one or several artistic techniques such as enameling, lacquering, engraving, guilloché (engine-turning), skeleton-working, etc.



Artistic craft watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Romain Gauthier Logical One, Secret Kakau Höfke, Blancpain Villeret with Shakudo dial, Girard-Perregaux The Chambers of Wonders – The New World, Hermès Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabé, Piaget Altiplano Scrimshaw, and Harry Winston Premier

## Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm

JM: In the Artistic Crafts category, the beauty of skill is on display. This skill is hard to quantify, truly, as once you pass a specific level of excellence the techniques and processes are so unique that they have no equals. So it is up to us to find ways to make them equal, or at the very least say why one is better than the other.

WMMT: What an amazing set here, all six watches are a sight for sore eyes: delicate, elegant, and definitely wearable.



Roman Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

IS: While I had problems selecting my two runners-up, first place in this category was a no-brainer for me: Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke. Even without the artistic Rio de Janeiro/Christ the Redeemer-inspired marquetry cover, I'd pick Logical One just for the movement as that's a work of art in itself as far as I'm concerned.

But let's leave aside the movement to focus on the art. Brazilian artist (and longtime friend of the Gauthier family) Kakau Höfke first came up with the subject, style, materials and colors, and then Geneva-based micro-marquetry specialist Olivier Vaucher laser-cut, polished, and applied the miniature tiles – which are cut from the same stone and applied in the same pattern as the promenade on Ipanema Beach in Rio de Janeiro.



Roman Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke with cover half open

The cover (like the sapphire crystal underneath) is slightly curved, which would have created unwanted gaps between the tiles, so the sides of each tile are cut at an angle. And rather than polishing the tiles after setting, which would have been quick and easy, the tiles were all polished flat before setting so that light reflects off the many facets rather than a simple curve.

And I also think it's a nice touch that the subdials underneath the cover are also set with the same micro-marquetry. Great watch, great art, great execution. Easy choice.

GG: The marquetry work on this piece is just marvelous-looking, and the image depicted is both inspiring and harmonious with the look of the watch overall. Of course, the underlying piece is pretty special too, but this category is about the crafts! It's my runner-up.





Roman Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

JM: For my second runner-up I had to go with the Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke for the pure beauty and delicacy with which it delivered an impeccable example of micro-marquetry. Covering an outer case and the dial of the watch, 352 tiny slivered tiles of lavender jade and blue agate make up a stone copy of a painting depicting the Christ the Redeemer statue. The blue agate overlaps the lavender jade and provides depth where it seems to be impossible.

For more information see Christ The Redeemer On A Watch: Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke By Romain Gauthier.

#### Quick Facts Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

**Movement:** in-house manufacture movement with constant force, push winding, sapphire link chain, extremely high level of hand-finishing

**Case:** 43 x 15 mm, white gold

**Cover and dial:** stone micro-marquetry adaptation of Kakau Höfke's Rio de Janeiro artwork on white gold cover and subdials, 270 lavender jade tiles plus 82 blue agate tiles, laser-cut, mirror-polished and hand-fitted

**Functions:** hours, minutes, small seconds; 46-hour power reserve indicator

**Limitation:** unique piece

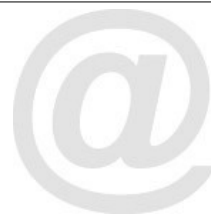
**Price:** 225,000 Swiss francs

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Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm

Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm

IS: What enamors me to the Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly is the fact that the dial doesn't use butterfly wings as such. Instead, the dial has been meticulously painted with the iridescent powder harvested from the surface of butterfly wings. The effect is extraordinary and the colors flash in the light.

One of I'm sure many benefits of Harry Winston being part of the Swatch Group is access to good movements, and the beautifully finished automatic movement with silicon hairspring and 72-hour power reserve powering the Precious Butterfly shows that the relationship is bearing fruit.



Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly

GG: This was a bit of a tough call for me. I think that the watch is just gorgeous and the use of novel material is quite inventive. That said, I feel really bad for the poor butterflies who gave their all for this watch (even though none were harmed in its making)!

I will be interested to see whether the potential “eeew” factor will keep buyers away or whether, at the end of the day, beauty will triumph.

WMMT: Gary, I was hesitating between the Hermès and the Harry Winston for my top three. I am truly amazed by the Harry Winston watch, but using butterfly wings is a bit creepy in my book, so that's why it didn't make it into my top three after all.

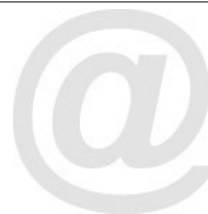


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Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly

JM: The first runner-up for me has to be the Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic. This watch, while very feminine, is a masterpiece of delicate skill as the dial is a perfect design depicting butterfly wings using the impossibly iridescent powder from said wings. It is delicate and beautiful, resulting in a dial that can be endlessly viewed.

Quick Facts Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm

Movement: automatic Caliber HW2008 with silicon balance spring

Case: 36 x 8.4 mm, pink gold, set with 57 brilliant-cut diamonds (2.32 ct)

Dial: butterfly marquetry motif using powder from butterfly wings and

Functions: hours, minutes

Price: 41,000 Swiss francs



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Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe

Hermès Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe

IS: The four other pre-selected watches are all fairly standard models with painted or engraved dials, and without studying them with a loupe it's difficult to judge artistic quality. While the Piaget Altiplano deserves a special mention just for bringing "scrimshaw" to our attention, it's just a great word.

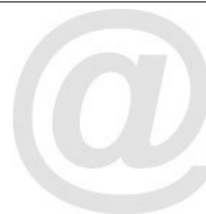
My third pick has to be the Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe because I like the dreamy feel of Aka-e painting. The artwork is a perfect balance for a watch dial by being clear enough to appreciate all of the intricate details, but abstract enough to become just a background motif during day-to-day use so it would not get boring.

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Painting an Hermès Koma Kurabe dial (photo courtesy Eiichi Okuyama)

WMMT: Like everything by Hermès, this watch just radiates class and Parisian chic. The subtle hues of the dial are evocative, and I'm so glad that there is no Chinese mythology in it. Not that I have anything against Chinese traditions and mythology, but for the past years that's ALL we have been seeing, so it's a nice change here!

For more, please see Koma Kurabe: The Slim d'Hermès With Authentic Japanese Porcelain Enamel Dial.

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Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe

#### Quick Facts Hermès Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe

Case: 39.5 x 8.24 mm, white gold

Movement: automatic Caliber H1950, ultra-flat at 2.6 mm in height; micro rotor

Dial: porcelain from Manufacture National de Sèvres with miniature painting by Japanese artisan Buzan Fukushima

Functions: hours, minutes

Limitation: 12 pieces

Price: 60,000 Swiss francs

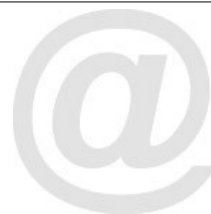


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Girard-Perregaux's The Chambers of Wonders collection

#### Girard-Perregaux The Chambers of Wonders – The New World

GG: The great use of tiny stone mosaics on this piece made it a contender in my book. That said, we've seen many métiers d'art pieces over the years from Vacheron Constantin and others that have featured these sorts of maps in a variety of materials, so at the end of the day I've placed this one in third place just behind the Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke.

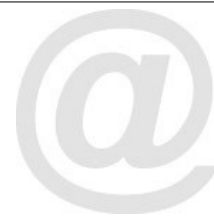


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**GPHG**  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Girard-Perregaux's The Chambers of Wonders: The New World

WMMT: What a delightful watch! The dial is an invitation to travel and to rediscover the patina of an alluring but bygone world. It is also delicate, colorful, and painstakingly made.

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Girard-Perregaux's The Chambers of Wonders: The New World

Quick Facts Girard-Perregaux The Chambers of Wonders – The New World

Case: 40 x 9.94 mm, pink gold

Movement: automatic Caliber GP3300-0060

Dial: stone marquetry using blue and pink aventurine, calcite, and nephrite and miniature painting

Functions: hours, minutes

Limitation: 18 pieces

Price: 48,600 Swiss francs



Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

JM: Given the two runners-up, and the rest of the competitors in this category, the winner comes down to my personal style and one factor: detail. Every piece in the running has enormous detail, but the one with the most detail (and the style I like best) is the Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo.

The depiction on the dial is terrifically complex, made entirely by hand, and involves numerous steps of preparation, engraving, assembly, and finishing. I love the patterns involved, and though I am lacking in the applicable religious faith, the iconography of Ganesh is superb. Nothing but the most high-resolution photo or a very powerful microscope will allow enough appreciation of the detail in this dial. I would love to be given hours with it under high magnification to gaze at the incredible artistic craft on display in this piece.





Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

WMMT: When thinking of artistic crafts, Blancpain rarely comes to mind, but this piece is just wow! The subject and the way it is treated is breathtaking. Just look at the colors; everything is subtle. An audacious timepiece with sotto voce elegance, so it gets my vote here for first prize.

#### Quick Facts Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

Case: 45 x 8.3 mm, red gold

Movement: manual winding Caliber 15B

Dial: engraved and damascened Japanese shakudo

Functions: hours, minutes

Limitation: 1 piece

Price: 150,000 Swiss francs

Predicted Winners

Ian: Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

Joshua: Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo

GaryG: Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly



Date: 11.10.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée

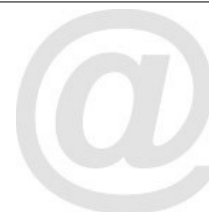


**Lire en ligne**



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

WMMT: Blancpain Villeret Cadran Shakudo



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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

## Industry News

### Editorial Team

OCTOBER 08, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Chronographs

— **Three different views from three different continents on the finalists in the Chronograph category at this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.**



<http://goo.gl/Pc1GN9>

Keith W. Strandberg, WorldTempus contributor

The chronograph is far and away my favorite complication. Just about every watch I own and wear regularly is a chronograph and, unlike most other people, I use my chronograph all the time. I'm either timing my six year old son as he runs around the yard, the pizza in the oven or how long it takes me to ride my motorcycle up the St. Cergue hill.

So, when I was examining the GPHG entries for chronographs, I came at it from a heavy user's perspective.

Of the six watches in this category, I'm going to choose two chronographs on opposite ends of the spectrum. My first finalist is the Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph, because it is so elegantly



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nostalgic, and I love a single pusher chrono. The size, at 41mm, is perfect, and the bone white dial is simple and elegant at the same time. And, it features a tachymeter scale, a favorite of mine.

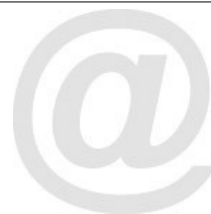


Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph.

© Longines

On the other end is the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher. It's futuristic and in all shades of gray, so it couldn't be more different from the Longines, which is why it caught my eye. At 44 mm, it's bigger but it has to be to showcase the laptimer complication, where you can control two separate chronograph hands. Fantastic and very useful trackside.

Choose one? No thanks, that's up to the jury.


[Lire en ligne](#)


Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher.

© Audemars Piguet

Rafael Fernandez, Editor-in-chief of Time Avenue magazine (Venezuela)

The Chronograph Complication is the most popular and appreciated among collectors and followers of High Horology, its usefulness in everyday life, variety of applications and technology involved in the design and construction of a chronograph movement allows for a very competitive and highly innovative environment. This year's GPHG Chronograph contestants show different approaches to how to build a reliable, functional and beautiful chrono caliber from scratch. The common marker among them is the presence of the classical column wheel as a symbol of tradition and precision, however, we must single out the Montblanc Heritage ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama for the extraordinary technical difficulty of putting together a chronograph with a tourbillon while using artistic resources that go the extra mile to show Villeret's superb watchmaking know-how.





Lire en ligne



Montblanc Heritage ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama.

© Audemars

Timmy Tan, Editor-in-chief of Timewerke magazine (Singapore)

The Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama Limited Edition 60 is a pure statement piece with a dial that introduces itself as a highly technical piece.

With features unique to the brand such as its innovative tourbillon cage, semi-circular chronograph counters and stop-second function that halts the rotation of the tourbillon cage, this watch lives up to its namesake Vasco da Gama for it is ideal for those wishing to explore new frontiers in terms of looks and technical features. Best of all is its price of EUR 45,000 for a highly limited edition timepiece with all the bells and whistles.

Piaget's Altiplano Chronograph is surely about pure understated elegance. On the surface, it looks like a classic chronograph. However, it is a pleasure to know that it is a flyback chronograph with a second time zone display. Moreover, it lays claims to a double record of the world's slimmest chronograph flyback movement and the thinnest flyback chronograph watch.



Lire en ligne

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Piaget Altiplano Chronograph.

© Piaget

The Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph is aesthetically pleasing. Single-button push-piece chronographs date back to the early beginnings of chronograph wristwatches. For such a clean-cut, classic look with a column-wheel and at the highly reasonable price of CHF 3,000, it is little wonder that this watch only requires one single push to hit all the right buttons.

Vote for your favourite watch in the Chronograph category in our readers' poll.



## CEREMONIE

### *15<sup>e</sup> Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève*

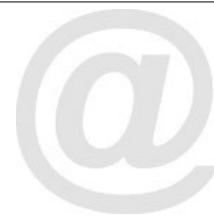
Grand Théâtre de Genève

Lors d'une cérémonie d'exception, un jury composé de 25 personnalités aura pour mission d'attribuer 17 prix, dont le Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or, aux meilleures créations horlogères de l'année. L'événement vient couronner une série d'expositions itinérantes, qui se dérouleront de Hong Kong à Londres, en passant par Séoul et Genève. Nouveauté cette année: le lancement de la Dubai Watch Week, qui réunit cet automne les acteurs incontournables de la branche autour d'événements publics et privés.

In a special ceremony, a panel of 25 celebrities will be awarding 17 prizes, including the Grand Prix de l'Aiguille d'Or, for the best watchmaking creations of the year. The event is the culmination of a series of travelling exhibitions from Hong Kong to London via Seoul and Geneva. New this year is the launch of Dubai Watch Week, which will bring together the key players in the sector in a number of public and private events this autumn.

[www.gphg.org](http://www.gphg.org)





Lire en ligne

## Industry News

### Editorial Team

OCTOBER 07, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table : Calendar

— Despite writing totally independently, two of our in-house team seem to be singing from the same hymn sheet as far as their choices in the Calendar category at the GPHG 2015 are concerned. But our editor-in-chief throws a spanner in the works.



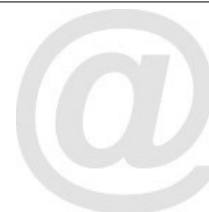
<http://goo.gl/mvvaql>

Michèle Brunner

By definition ("Mechanical watches with at least one calendar or astronomical complication"), the "Calendar" category includes watches with calendar complications of different levels of complexity. As a result, the Ulysse Nardin FreakLab "only" has the date (but has a tourbillon as well), whereas the Slim d'Hermès offers a perpetual calendar with moon phase (and a second time zone). Based purely on complexity, therefore, the Hermès piece would win hands down.

But the Quantième Complet from Blancpain's Villeret collection is my favourite. First of all, it has a moon phase display (which women love, apparently). Graphically, it is simple and has a wonderful balance thanks to





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its size and its centred position. The day and month, displayed in windows, is instantly readable. Then you just have to follow the beautiful serpentine blued-steel hand to easily read the date. I think this immediacy of reading is a great advantage. Another practical advantage of this model is that the self-winding movement, with 72 hours of power reserve, allows each of these indications to be adjusted very simply.



Villeret Quantième Complet.

© Blancpain

Camille Gendre

In purely technical terms, the Slim d'Hermès Perpetual Calendar is the most complicated calendar watch in the category. It is the only one of the six finalists with a perpetual calendar, one of the most complex horological complications.

But from all the criteria for choosing a calendar watch, I think the purest style with instant legibility is the most important. This is why I would go for the Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet. To display the date the brand has chosen to continue the tradition of watchmakers in the 18th century, by using a blued-steel serpentine hand. This watch also has correctors hidden under patented lugs, offering a practical and aesthetic benefit.


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Lac, full calendar.

© Claude Meylan

Paul O'Neil, editor-in-chief, WorldTempus

Like all of our round tables on the GPHG 2015, each contributor submitted their choices independently. I thought it worth mentioning that because as you can see, Camille and Michèle have both chosen the same watch but, more interestingly, for the same reasons. My choice in this category, however, was decided more on price. It is refreshing to see that the jury has been bold enough to pick the Claude Meylan Lac full calendar watch as one of its finalists. The brand is more known for its skeletonized pieces, so the classic styling of this watch comes as a surprise. As does its price, which is less than a quarter of that of the next cheapest watch in this category, which is... the Blancpain Villeret Full Calendar. It costs 14,000 Swiss francs, while the Claude Meylan offers unbeatable value for a mechanical full calendar complication at just 3,250 Swiss francs.

Vote for your favourite watch in the Calendar category in our readers' poll.

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Mechanical Exception Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Mechanical Exception Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

What Makes Me Tick (WMMT), resident opinionator and storyteller

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the GPHG's rules, the Mechanical Exception category is for watches featuring a special mechanism such as an innovative or sophisticated display, an automaton, a belt-driven movement, or any other original and/or exceptional horological concept.



Mechanical-Exception watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Christophe Claret Maestoso, Hautlence Vortex, HYT H3, Jaquet Droz The Charming Bird, Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One, and Dewitt Academia Mathematical

IS: The pre-selected watches in the 2015 Mechanical Exception category are the most difficult I've had to judge so far. And that's for two reasons: the first being that " . . . a special mechanism, such as an innovative or sophisticated display, an automaton, a belt-driven movement or any other original and/or exceptional horological concept" is quite a broad definition. And the second is the fact that all six of the watches pre-selected deserve to win in different ways.

JM: For the Mechanical Exception category we have a cornucopia of fantastical watches, and each one deserves to be recognized for multiple reasons. And yet those are the reasons why some stand above their peers and why this was a very difficult choice to make.

WMMT: Remember my article Is Independent Creative Horology Dead? The vast majority of the watches in this category could have been used to illustrate the lack of creativity I spoke of there!

I seriously don't know how most of the watches got in here as they are more gimmick than anything else and, with the exception of a few, they take design elements from other brands.



H3 by HYT

HYT H3

IS: I'm casting my vote for the HYT H3 as best Mechanical Exception for the simple reason that it is the most "exceptional," as in "exception to the norm." With no hands, no dial, a non-round case, and electric green liquid in a tube running over what looks like a kebab skewer of dice (hour indicators), the H3 is as different



from a normal watch as could be.

To make the hour numerals on the rectangular cuboids (those dice on the kebab skewer) large enough to see, HYT could not fit six numbers across the already wide face. That means that each set of six has to rotate every six hours and that rotation requires considerable precious energy. I like the fact that HYT developed a system that recovers energy from the retrograde system to power the rotation of the six-hour rectangular parallelepiped (and that's not a word you will see often).

While the tube indication for hours appears to only contain yellow/green fluid, what looks empty is actually a completely transparent fluid that is separated by a meniscus.

The upper part of this living sculpture houses the bellows mechanism. The first, on the left, drives the progression of the fluid and therefore the time display. Its counterpart, on the right, compensates for this progression in the capillary. Less than one millimeter in diameter, this glass tube, operating in a vacuum, still contains two fluids: the first, a (water-based) yellow fluid, serves to tell the time; the second (viscous-based) translucent fluid works in opposition. A meniscus (curved surface tension) separates them so they do not mix because the yellow/green fluid is water-based while the clear fluid is oil-based.



HYT H3

JM: The winner is, to me, the biggest development, mechanically, from what we have previously seen in the industry. The Charming Bird is not new this year, and for this reason it came in at number two.

The winner for 2015 has to be HYT with the new H3. This features technology from previous models yes, but an entirely new architecture and a very complicated mechanism that goes far beyond what HYT has done and what many others are doing as well. Building on the science of microfluidics, HYT managed to completely change its own direction and with this model, having created another mechanical object that I deeply covet.

And for that it is a winner.

WMMT: The flying balance bridge of the HYT model is greatly inspired by that of the MB&F Legacy Machines, and the hour counters use the same system as the Hautelance Vortex, which is also a nominee in this category!

For more details, please see Joshua's article An Odyssey To Number 3: HYT H3.

#### Quick Facts HYT H3

Case: 62 x 41 x 16 mm, titanium and platinum

Movement: manually wound Caliber H3

Functions: fluid hours, minutes; power reserve, crown position indicator

Limitation: 25

Price: 280,000 Swiss francs



Jaquet Droz Charming Bird

Jaquet Droz The Charming Bird

IS: While with just hours and minutes indicated by run-of-the-mill hands, albeit beautifully crafted blued-steel hands, the actual timekeeping part of the Jaquet Droz Charming Bird is as unexceptional as they come. But the category rules specifically mention "an automaton," and this singing bird is as exceptional as any watch-

based automaton that I've ever seen and heard.

Actually developing and constructing an automaton of this size and musical quality is an exceptional feat by itself, but where Jaquet Droz has really excelled is how the brand has managed to incorporate the singing bird into an elegant wristwatch.

Tiny pistons pump the air, which gets stored then released at different speeds through different shapes to create the bird's melodious song. But that's not all: three different cams open and close the beak, flap the wings and rotate the bird inside its dome. It's a fantastic bit of technology, and I would neither be surprised or disappointed if the very aptly named Charming Bird takes the prize.



### Jaquet Droz Charming Bird

WMMT: My winner is The Charming Bird, which is true mechanical poetry. Everything in this watch is done with taste and panache, and considering what the watch does this could have been a recipe for disaster. Yet the outcome is a marvel. So well done, Jaquet Droz!

GG: You pretty much had me at "automaton," Jaquet Droz! I suppose that I also have to confess that at the end of the day I'm a bit more drawn to new embodiments of classical watchmaking technique than to entirely new conceptions, so the Charming Bird is my winner in a close contest.

JM: My first runner up is probably the most complicated watch in this group, just barely, and it has been in development for a while. The Jaquet Droz Charming Bird is an incredible display of the skills and ingenuity of Jaquet Droz in developing automata and with material and acoustic science.

The amount of research that went into producing the complicated mechanisms (which create bird-like movement AND special chirping sounds) was likely no small feat. Having something like this on your wrist

would simply be amazing and for that it gets the first runner up position.

For more details, see The Whimsical Song Of Jaquet Droz's Charming Bird.

Quick Facts Jaquet Droz The Charming Bird

Case: 47 x 15.75 mm (23 mm high dome containing the bird), white gold

Movement: automatic Jaquet Droz Caliber 615 with silicon balance spring

Functions: hours, minutes; singing bird

Limitation: 28 pieces

Price: 410,400 Swiss francs



The Hautlence Vortex in titanium

Hautlence Vortex

IS: My third choice was an extremely close call between Emmanuel Bouchet's Complication One and the Hautlence Vortex. While the Vortex features technology first introduced five years ago in the HL2, it's presented in a quite different configuration and a completely new case, so I'm comfortable treating it as an entirely new watch. And I think that the jury will find the mechanical exceptionalism of the Vortex more obvious than Bouchet's Complication One, which requires a more intellectual approach (not that I don't think the jury is capable of a more intellectual approach, it's just that I'm not sure if enough jury members have the technical knowledge required to appreciate Complication One).



While the unusual rotating escapement of the Vortex isn't technically a tourbillon, it certainly rotates the escapement like a tourbillon, though admittedly at a much slower speed: one revolution every six hours.

Minutes are retrograde over a 180-degree arc and are highly legible thanks to the sheer size of the semi-circular minute dial. Chain-driven jumping hours display in a window at the bottom left of the minutes, and a power reserve indicator is neatly set into the top right of the dial. All well and good, but none of the indications are exceptional enough to warrant inclusion in this category. It's that spectacular escapement that attracts all the attention and is the reason the Vortex makes my top three.



Hautlence Vortex on the wrist

GG: The thing that moves the Vortex up the list to number two for me is the very clever use of a repeater-style centrifugal regulator, visible at the center of the front of the watch, to provide a controlled release of the jumping hour and retrograde minutes indications.

I've had its sister piece, the HL2.4, on my wrist, and the orderly movement on each hour of the indications as the regulator spins away is mesmerizing. It's also pretty cool that the escapement is tied to the moving belt for the hours and pivots 60 degrees each hour as the time changes.

WMMT: Sure the Vortex is an interesting watch, but it is a re-cased HL2 originally launched in 2011. So nothing really new here in my opinion.

For more on the Vortex, see [The Hautlence Vortex: Is This The World's Slowest Tourbillon?](#)

Quick Facts Hautlence Vortex

Date: 04.10.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Case: 52 x 50 x 18 mm, titanium, water resistance 30 meters

Movement: HLR 2.0 in-house tourbillon caliber with rotating regulator, automatic winding with micro rotor, 92 jewels, 3 Hz balance frequency

Functions: jumping hours displayed by a chain, retrograde minutes; 40-hour power reserve indicator

Limitation: 88 pieces

Price: 160,000 Swiss francs



Complication 1 by Emmanuel Bouchet

#### Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One

IS: If I was selecting a watch to wear for myself out of these six, it would be the Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One because I quite like the fact that while it is brilliantly conceived and executed, it's quite an intellectually challenging watch to understand. And I enjoyed the challenge.

I'm not choosing here for myself, though, but rather trying to second guess the jury. And I suspect that the sophisticated intricacies of Complication One will be lost on many, so it unfortunately does not make my top three, just a special mention.

JM: For my second runner-up I had to choose a watch that has intrigued me since I first saw it and still intrigues me to this day: the Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One. The point of this watch and its specific complication is not immediately clear, and I inquired with the man himself over its purpose, which made me love it even more. The large escapement on the dial is a "Because We Can" (BWC) complication that



demonstrates exactly what happens in a regular lever escapement five or more times a second, but it does it every fifteen seconds. The work, style, and cleverness of this piece is what makes me love it.

For more, please see [Complication 1 By Emmanuel Bouchet Featuring A Giant Swiss Lever Escapement](#).

#### Quick Facts Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One

Movement: manually wound Caliber EB-1963; 72 hours power reserve; frequency 2.5 Hz + 0.67 Hz; 283 components; secondary escapement dial-side; two independent gear trains

Case: 44 x 11.2 mm, 18-karat white gold

Dial: black onyx

Functions: hours, retrograde tens-of-minutes, minutes, seconds; day/night indicator; power reserve indicator on back

Price: 98,400 Swiss francs



Christophe Claret Maestoso in red gold

#### Christophe Claret Maestoso

GG: While this piece perhaps doesn't have some of the whiz-bang modern appeal of some of the other contenders, I am quite impressed by its inventive use of new techniques to overcome the inherent limitations of the classic detent escapement.

Date: 04.10.2015



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Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

WMMT: I'm not a fan of the design, but a movement with detent escapement and constant force is exceptional.

For more on this piece, see The Collector And The Sea: How The Christophe Claret Maestoso Might Save A Life.

Quick Facts Christophe Claret Maestoso

Case: 44 x 52.11 x 13.59 mm, pink gold

Movement: manually wound Caliber DTC07 with 80 hours of power reserve, cylindrical balance spring and detent escapements

Functions: hours, minutes

Limitation: 20 pieces

Price: 178,000 Swiss francs



DeWitt Academia Mathematical

DeWitt Academia Mathematical

WMMT: I like the DeWitt because it is original and I still haven't figured out exactly how it works.

Quick Facts Academia Mathematical



Date: 04.10.2015



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022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Case: 42.5 x 14.3 mm, pink gold

Movement: automatic in-house movement with 48 hours power reserve

Functions: jumping hours, minutes

Price: 210,000 Swiss francs

Predicted Winners

Ian: HYT H3

Joshua: HYT H3

GaryG: Jaquet Droz The Charming Bird

WMMT: Jaquet Droz The Charming Bird

Date: 02.10.2015



Online-Ausgabe EN

Blancpain  
1348 Le Brassus  
021 796 36 36  
www.blancpain.com

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Sites d'entreprises



Lire en ligne



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

## Blancpain au Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

Partager

Blancpain est fière de participer au 15ème Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève dont la cérémonie de remise des prix se déroulera le 29 octobre 2015 au Grand Théâtre de Genève.



Blancpain au Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

Sur près de 200 pièces en compétition, quatre montres Blancpain ont retenu l'attention du jury de constitué professionnels de l'horlogerie, d'experts, de journalistes et de collectionneurs.

En lice pour représenter la Manufacture, la L-evolution C Tourbillon Carrousel dans la catégorie Tourbillon, la Villeret Quantième Complet dans la catégorie Calendrier, la Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe dans la catégorie Sport et la Villeret Shakudo dans la catégorie Métiers d'Art.

Les montres présélectionnées font l'objet d'une exposition itinérante durant le mois d'octobre laissant ainsi l'opportunité aux amateurs de pouvoir les admirer.

L'exposition débutera à Hong Kong le 2 octobre, puis partira pour Séoul le 6 octobre et Dubaï le 18 octobre avant de revenir à Genève le 26 octobre.

Retrouvez toutes les informations sur le site officiel du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève : [www.gphg.org](http://www.gphg.org)

#gphg2015

Date: 02.10.2015



Online-Ausgabe EN

Blancpain  
1348 Le Brassus  
021 796 36 36  
www.blancpain.com

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Sites d'entreprises



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742





Lire en ligne

## Industry News

Editorial Team

OCTOBER 01, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round table: Striking watches

— Another split decision from our contributors in a category that cannot be judged purely on visual criteria.


<http://goo.gl/OwiBsC>

David Chokron - WorldTempus contributor

The striking watch is a mystery on various levels. The recipe for success is as unknown as the reality of the sound they emit... which hardly anyone can hear. More than anything, these are timepieces that you need to feel, handle and hear to judge their quality, rather than just see them. A whole range of innovative mechanical solutions is currently breathing new life into this category, but some brands still stick to tried-and-tested methods to generate sound from their watches. Girard-Perregaux is one of them and the technical approach used in the Tourbillon Minute Repeater with Gold Bridges is the most common that there is. Apart from the fact that this watch strikes really loudly, with genuinely harmonious notes and, above all, with a richness of tone that is often lacking in such powerful watches. No compromise: this watch produces what it was created to produce, which is an easily audible musicality.





Lire en ligne



Girard-Perregaux Tourbillon Minute Repeater with Gold Bridges.

© Girard-Perregaux

Olivier Müller - WorldTempus contributor

It needs to strike the time and be beautiful: that is what lies at the heart of this category of grand complication. But is it also possible to go beyond the search for acoustic perfection and add something genuinely new? Taking this additional variable into account, one model rises up above the others: A. Lange & Söhne's Zeitwerk Minute Repeater. It demonstrates the creative and technical prowess of the company, with an exceptional calibre consisting of 771 components beating at an uncommon frequency of 18,000 vibrations per hour and offering an intuitive way of reading the time. Whether you like it or not, it is quite simply yet another example of perfection at its highest level from A. Lange & Söhne.



Lire en ligne



A. Lange &amp; Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater.

© A. Lange &amp; Söhne

Paul O'Neil - editor-in-chief, WorldTempus

Having to pick a minute repeater from such a worthy selection is a bit like having to choose between a Ferrari 250 GTO and a Jaguar E-Type. Both are automotive icons, both are absolutely stunning and both come with an unmistakable V12 grunt. Faced with such a difficult choice, it's less a question of the mechanics and acoustics of each and more about the overall look and feel of the piece. Do I want a showy movement, as in the case of Christophe Claret's Allegro, perhaps with a tourbillon, as with Akrivia, Franc Vila and Girard-Perregaux? Sorry, no. Nor do I want the technical look of Hublot's Big Bang Alarm Repeater. This is only my personal opinion, of course, but the A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater wins the category hands-down before you even hear it. It has a unique oversized digital time display that is instantly legible. But the brand leaves things at their simplest level with a relatively understated dial that belies all the complicated mechanics beneath. It's only when you activate the striking mechanism (with a pusher, rather than a slider) that you "hear what you see", as the brand likes to say. In other words, the time is chimed decimally in hours and minutes, which corresponds exactly to what you see on the dial. Personally, I find this decimal repetition much easier to remember than the more complex hour, quarter-hour and minute repetition.

Vote for your favourite watch in the striking category in our readers' poll.

## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Artistic Crafts Watches

2 hours ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site, enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for the Public Prize at the GPGH site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th

Today we look at the watches nominated in the Artistic Crafts category.

Blancpain

Villeret Cadran Shakudo



Japanese in origin, shakudo is an alloy primarily composed of copper and gold that acquires a deep patina over time, encouraged by the application of a solution called rokusho. Historically used to decorate swords and other decorative objects, the artisans who practiced this art form often added engravings and other ornamentation. In the Caran Shakudo, Blancpain brings this art to a watch dial, here featuring the image of Ganesh. The decor is crafted in Damascene, which consists of fashioning troughs on the dial surface into which fine threads of gold are hammered in place and hand engraved. The 45mm red gold watch features a see-through caseback to view the hand-wound caliber 15B decorated movement.

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Girard Perregaux

The Chambers of Wonders – The New World



From the Master of Maps collection, this watch immortalizes Renaissance images in a numbered edition of watches. Part of a collection of three designs representing three eras and three worlds, this watch focuses on the New World depicted with a colorful map. The pink gold 1966 is fitted with an automatic manufacture caliber, the GP03300, whose mainplate and bridges are carefully drawn, chamfered and circular grained and decorated. Just 18 examples of the Chambers of Wonders – The New World are available.

Harry Winston

Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm



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The vibrant colors of the Premier Precious Butterfly timepieces are created using the fragile—and iridescent—powder found on butterfly wings. Harry Winston designers harvested and placed this delicate pigment on each of the dials to create a design that is both realistic and ethereal. Inside the 36mm pink gold watch is a self-winding mechanical movement driving the hours and minutes, with a power reserve of 72 hours. Fifty-seven diamonds decorate the case, which is affixed to a satin strap.

Hermès

Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabé



Graced with a porcelain dial that features the Koma Kurabe horse race that is held once a year in Kyoto, this watch features the imagery of Buzan Fukushima, one of the few artisans who still exercises the Aka-e technique that enjoyed its heyday in 19th century Japan. The master deftly wields his brush to create subtly graded shades of red and ochre, which he coats with a fine layer of gold to complete his work of art. The 39.5mm white gold watch has a self-winding mechanical movement with 42 hours of power reserve.

Piaget

Altiplano Scrimshaw

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Scrimshaw refers to the elaborate engravings in the form of pictures and lettering, usually on bone or tooth, highlighted using a pigment. It dates to the early years of whaling, when crewmembers would engrave their designs on the teeth and bones of the large mammals. Here, Piaget offers the technique on a dial engraved with a world map in neutral tones of ivory and brown. The 38mm pink gold watch has a manual-winding movement featuring hours and minutes.

Romain Gauthier

Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke

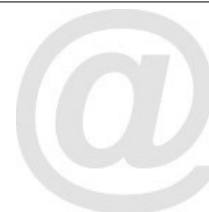


Romain Gauthier pays tribute to Rio de Janeiro with the Logical one Secret Kakau Höfke. Brazilian artist Kakau Höfke's eye-catching portrayal of her native city Rio evokes Corcovado—the iconic mountain on which stands the 'Christ the Redeemer' statue—as well as the pattern that features on the promenade bordering Ipanema beach. Her design has been recreated using an intricate micro-marquetry technique carried out by artisans at the Geneva atelier of Olivier Vaucher, using no fewer than 352 miniature tiles of jade and agate. This unique white gold piece measures 43mm and is powered by a manual-winding movement.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Artistic Crafts Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

View the entire article on iW Magazine





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## Industry News

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round table: Men's watches

**— After a broad consensus in our first few round tables, opinions start to differ as we evaluate the finalists in the men's watch category at this year's Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.**



<http://goo.gl/xCB9AV>

Paul O'Neil, editor-in-chief, WorldTempus

The pre-selected watches in the men's category run the gamut from ultra-classical to ultra-futuristic and, even though there are only six of them, pander to a variety of masculine tastes. When choosing a watch that should be one's default choice for a gent's watch, I have to walk a fine line between choosing the watch I would wear myself and the one that I think stands out the most purely on merit. In this case I've tended more towards the latter and picked Piaget's Altiplano 900P. It's a watch that crams legibility of time, visibility of the movement, technical innovation and record-breaking capabilities into a 38mm circle. At a thickness of just 3.65mm it's the world's thinnest watch, but it still manages to wear its heart on its sleeve.



Lire en ligne

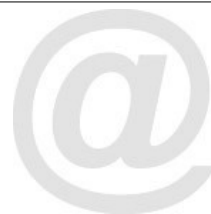


Piaget Altiplano 900P.

© Piaget

Olivier Müller, WorldTempus contributor

The men's watch prize, the focus of all marketing activity! Should it be a recompense for fulfilling the needs of man today? Or tomorrow? Or for appealing to the greatest majority? It's a huge debate, but in the face of such uncertainty we should reward those who take risks and dare to rise above the consensus. For me, one piece rises above the others. Once again, as always, MB&F does nothing like anybody else and releases an anniversary edition of its HMX, the pure essence of the brand but at an affordable price, to say thank you to the friends of a brand that celebrates ten years of total independence. In addition to its innovative mechanics and sublime chassis, this HMX proves that watchmaking can be human and not simply unaffordable, even on its birthday. And that is something new.



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MB&amp;F HMX.

© MB&amp;F

David Chokron, WorldTempus contributor

Bulgari's Octo design has seen several implementations and the Bulgari Octo Finissimo is the richest and most successful. The case of this watch is a success for several reasons. Firstly, it fits perfectly on the wrist even though it is ultra-thin. The watch's ability to adapt to the contours of the wrist has not been sacrificed at the expense of shaving millimetres of its size. Secondly, it is a refined extrapolation of an Octo case that is usually thicker. But, despite reducing its volume by 50%, the watch does not lose any of its personality or its sophistication. Finally, the Octo manages to be totally angular yet soft at the same time. Consisting of numerous edges and points, it only has one circular element: the bezel. But it is not aggressive, just powerful. It is fitted with an ultra-thin movement produced wholly in-house at the Bulgari workshops, who incredible capabilities are often forgotten.



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Bulgari Octo Finissimo Small Seconds.

© Bulgari

Vote for your favourite watch in the Men's category in our readers' poll.



## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Ladies High-Mech Watches

5 hours ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site, enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for the Public Prize at the GPGH site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th

Today we look at the watches nominated in the Ladies High-Mech category.

Bulgari

Il Giardino Notturmo



This watch is a study in dial design, with its bold moon phase indicator traversing the upper part of the dial, grounded by the mother-of-pearl moonflower display below. The 37mm white gold watch is powered by a self-winding mechanical movement with a power reserve of 42 hours, with hours and minutes in addition to the moon phase complication. Diamonds decorate the bezel and also add sparkling details to the flowers, which are crafted from varying shades of mother-of-pearl. The moonflowers are engraved using the champlévé technique, then gem set, polished and rhodium-plated. The marquetry specialist then sets white and Tahitian mother-of-pearl inserts into the engraved petals.

## Chaumet

### The Hortensia Creative Complication



The Hortensia Creative Complication foregoes the use of hands to mark the hours, engaging flowers in their stead. The highly decorated dial celebrates various art forms, including engraving, stone setting, sculpting and enameling, and two hydrangea blooms take center stage. The central diamond-set flower indicates the hours with a pink sapphire petal, while the second blossom, in pink mother-of-pearl, indicates the minutes. This 41mm white gold watch is powered by a self-winding movement with a power reserve of 36 hours. It comes on a white leather strap with a folding buckle.

## Fabergé

### Lady Compliquée Peacock



Taking its inspiration from Peter Carl Fabergé's Peacock Egg of 1908, this watch features hours and retrograde minutes via an Agenhor-designed manual-winding retrograde movement. Hours are read at the winding crown at three o'clock via a mother-of-pearl ring that rotates counterclockwise, while the minutes are indicated by the fanning tail feathers of a peacock that move simultaneously but at different speeds. The 38mm platinum watch is set with 54 brilliant-cut diamonds on the bezel. The 18-karat gold dial is set with 127 brilliant-cut diamonds, 31 Paraiba tourmalines and 57 tsavorites.

Jaquet Droz

Lady 8 Flower



This rendition of the Jaquet-Droz Lady 8 is a nice example of the company's roots in the art of the automaton that began with Pierre Jaquet-Droz. The automaton in this case is the opening and closing of the enameled and engraved lotus under the domed crystal at the upper part of the stylized figure eight. The beautifully decorated dial on the lower part of the watch is home to a butterfly with outstretched wings and central hours and minutes hands. The Jaquet Droz 615 self-winding, single-barrel mechanical movement's timekeeping attributes include hours and minutes. A pusher actuates the automaton, which begins the ballet of the petals opening to reveal a swiveling diamond inside.

Montblanc

Bohème Perpetual Calendar



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The silver guilloché dial is home to a variety of indications: month and leap year cycle at 12 o'clock, date at 3 o'clock, moon phases at 6 o'clock and day of the week at 9 o'clock. The movement will require no manual adjustment until the year 2100, but if correction should be necessary in the event that the timepiece has not been worn for a long time, tiny correctors hidden inside the watch allow for fast and easy adjustment. The 36mm red gold case houses the self-winding caliber MB 29.15, which may be admired through the sapphire crystal caseback. The bezel is set with 60 diamonds and the winding crown is set with the patented Montblanc Diamond.

Piaget

Altiplano 1200S

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Even with the current profusion of skeletonized watches, this Piaget Altiplano 1200S is a real standout: it takes the double prize for thinness for a gem-set skeletonized automatic timepiece at just 3.00mm for the movement and 6.00mm for the case. Apparently it requires about four days to finish one 1200D movement, including the gem setting, and even the tiny screw heads are concealed under black sapphire cabochons so as not to interrupt the jewelry-like display. Over all, 360 brilliant-cut diamonds decorate this timepiece, which is available only in Piaget boutiques.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Ladies High-Mech Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

View the entire article on iW Magazine

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Striking Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the GPHG's rules, the Striking category is for mechanical watches with at least one acoustic indication or complication, notably watches equipped with repeater, striking, musical or any other acoustic function. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.



Striking watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater, Akrivia Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour, Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges, Hublot Big Bang Alarm Repeater, Franc Vila Inaccessible Tourbillon Minute Repeater, and Christophe Claret Allegro

JM: In this category we have a gander at some incredible striking watches, and I come to my first surprise, something I didn't know would ever happen for me: wanting a watch more than an A. Lange & Söhne. Surprising, I know.



### A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

#### Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

IS: Despite its sensational Germanic good looks and impeccable technical pedigree, I nearly bumped the Zeitwerk Minute Repeater off my top three due to the fact that when it was first presented at the SIHH in January this year, it sounded flat. And while we were assured that the chimes would be much louder and clearer in the production models – and I've no reason not to be confident in that – first impressions count. A lot.

However, after realizing that I have only actually heard four of the six watches pre-selected in the Striking category for myself, I will judge them all on the photos and specs available and leave it to the jury to make the aural tests.

The A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater is my first pick principally because it is a decimal repeater. That means it chimes the hours, the tens of minutes, then minutes, rather than a traditional repeater chiming the hours, then quarter hours, then minutes. Even if that sounds a little confusing, for most people trying to work out the time from a traditional repeater is much more so.

GG: The A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater, my runner-up, is a technical tour de force, and the choice of a decimal repeater format, with the time chiming as hours, tens, and ones, is completely consistent with the digital visual time display of the Zeitwerk.



IS: The Zeitwerk Minute Repeater is a winner because it's the only practical (in that you can easily understand the chimed time) minute repeater in this category.

JM: For the winner I chose the best watch (and my favorite if the AkriviA weren't involved): the inimitable A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater. It simply boasts an awesome movement with incredible features that deserve mentioning: decimal repeater, no chiming when the power reserve gets to a certain level, a safety feature that doesn't allow the crown to be pulled while chiming, and a delay function that postpones the changing of the display until the chime has finished, thus always chiming the time shown.



A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

GG: However, Joshua, some of the technical innovations such as the lock-out of crown and time indication motion during chiming and the inability to chime the watch during the final 12 hours of its 36-hour power reserve seem more like compromises or workarounds than true features to me.

IS: The Zeitwerk Minute Repeater looks as good as any watch has a right to. I loved the Zeitwerk without a repeater and the chimes just make this great watch even better.

JM: Then there's the incredible Zeitwerk design, large digital time display, and awesomely shaped gongs that follow the profile of the raised portion of the dial. The only thing it is missing (to me) is the Handwerkskunst decoration on some other Zeitwerk models. Regardless, the A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater stands alone as the most impressive striking watch in this category.

#### Quick Facts A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

Movement: manually wound Caliber L043.5 with decimal minute repeater, 771 movement components

Case: 44.2 x 14.1 mm, platinum

Functions: jump hours, jump minutes, seconds; decimal minute repeater, power reserve display

Price: 440,000 Swiss francs

AkriviA Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour

IS: My second pick for best striking watch is the AkriviA Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour. It looks a bit different, but not so different as to scare conservatives away, and it looks to be immaculately designed and executed.

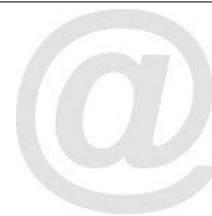
Talk about minimalistic, though: the dial of the Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour is practically empty, with a small (and I'd like it bigger) window for the jump hour in the center, a cutout at 12 o'clock to see the hammer and gong, a beautifully finished tourbillon at 6 o'clock, and a solitary central hand indicating minutes around the dial perimeter.

And I like the fact that the Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour isn't a repeater, but chimes the hours in passing (or not if the user so chooses). That's probably a feature that is more likely to be used on a regular basis – in other words, a chime more often heard – than the chimes of a more complex (and expensive) minute repeater.



AkriviA Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour

GG: I have to confess that while I had a relatively easy time narrowing down the choices to a top three, I had a devil of a time deciding how to sequence them! I finally went with the AkriviA because I found the combination of jumping hours with simultaneous en passant hour chiming very appealing, and I also very much admire watchmaker Rexhep Rexhepi's dedication to movement symmetry and fine finishing.


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The 100-hour power reserve is pretty impressive, and the visible hammer and gong combination at 12 o'clock seems just right, but for me the inclusion of no fewer than 56 hand-finished internal angles within the movement really clinched the deal.

JM: My first runner-up is the watch I want the most out of this group, not because I know it is the most advanced or has the most incredible movement (both go to the winner), but because it is the most pure watch made by a good group of guys looking to make great watches.

The AkriviA Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour is awesomely simple (well, relatively) and has my favorite BWC complication (see Joshua's The Jump Hour: A Love Story for explanation) the jump hour. And the chime in passing is such a lovely and understated chiming function that I feel could be used much more. I have been following this boutique brand for a while now, and I am super excited to see its accomplishments and follow its rise in the independent watchmaking ranks.

#### Quick Facts AkriviA Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour

Movement: manually wound in-house caliber with one-minute tourbillon and 100 hours power reserve on one spring barrel

Case: 42.5 x 12.9 mm, stainless steel

Functions: jump hours, minutes; en passant hour chime and silence mode

Price: 180,000 Swiss francs

Christophe Claret Allegro

IS: My third pick goes to the Christophe Claret Allegro, which beat out the Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges by a very short nose.

I am surprised by just how subdued the Allegro is, especially compared with Christophe Claret's wilder models. But what I really like about the Allegro is the slightly smoky dial that allows us to see into the mechanisms and movement without distracting so much as to make reading the time a struggle.

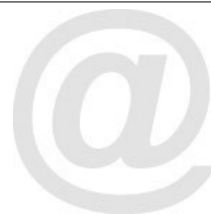
Having heard this watch, I can say the sound is excellent, which isn't surprising as it has cathedral gongs that circle the movement not once but twice for a richer tone. I think that potential clients for this watch will also appreciate the big date and second time zone.

Date: 29.09.2015



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022 367 02 92

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Christophe Claret Allegro

JM: My second runner up is a close call, and I would say is a tie between the Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges and the Christopher Claret Allegro. Both watches are, of course, fantastic. The Claret Allegro presents a minute repeater with cathedral gongs, not to mention a GMT and big date all in a modern format. The Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater has a dial-side mechanism for easy viewing of the magic while it happens, and is gorgeous with its golden bridges. I can't choose, so they both tie for my third!

#### Quick Facts Christophe Claret Allegro

Movement: manually wound Caliber ALG89 with 60 hours power reserve; 520 individual components

Case: 45 x 14.11 mm, white gold

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; large date, second time zone, minute repeater

Limitation: 20 pieces

Price: 268,000 Swiss francs





### Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

### Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

GG: The Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges is my third pick, and in a very tight race, this one could easily have been my number one as well!

The visible dial-side striking mechanism (save the spinning regulator, which is deep within the movement to mute its sound) is really attractive; and the "Gold Bridges" theme is both classic and in this watch extends all the way to the shape of the hammers for the repeater.

For more information on this timepiece, please see Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon With Gold Bridges.

Date: 29.09.2015



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Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

#### Quick Facts Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges

Movement: manually wound Caliber GP09500-0002 with one-minute tourbillon and minute repeater; 58 hours power reserve; 406 individual components

Case: 45 x 15.63 mm, pink gold

Functions: hours, minutes; minute repeater

Limitation: 10 pieces

Price: 375,000 Swiss francs

#### Predicted Winners

Ian: A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

GaryG: Akrivia Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour

Joshua: A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Chronograph Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

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Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the rules, the Chronograph category is for mechanical watches comprising at least one chronograph indication. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.



Chronograph watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG lockwise from top left: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher, Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph, Louis Moinet Memoris, TAG Heuer Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph, Piaget Altiplano Chrono, and Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama

Chronograph watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak

Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher, Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph, Louis Moinet Memoris, TAG Heuer Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph, Piaget Altiplano Chrono, and Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama

JM: In the Chronograph category the watches that stand out are clear simply from looks first, though the remaining three are nothing to scoff at. That being said, the choice of a winner, to me, is based on the pure invention that it takes to be the best among peers.

IS: One thing that seems to be creeping up year for year is the tendency for some brands not to bother naming watches anymore, but simply use the description instead. Take a deep breath and repeat after me: "Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama – Limited Edition 60." What, no dial color or case material? And I don't mean to pick on Montblanc here, many brands seem to be getting ever lazier in overnaming watches (and yes I'm looking at you, "Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher").

Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama

GG: I'm afraid that for me, the Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama falls into the category of what Philippe Dufour would call a "complication cocktail"; I just don't find the combination of tourbillon and chronograph to be compelling.

The Exotourbillon is an interesting Montblanc touch, and the design cues such as aventurine "sky" dial and diamond "north star" that pay homage to Vasco Da Gama are in character, but overall I just don't find this watch compelling enough to place higher than third in my estimation of this category.



Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama – Limited Edition 60



JM: Ian, for my second runner-up I chose the Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama because it had the longest name, therefore it must be important.

All kidding aside, this chronograph is a stunner to behold with a blue aventurine dial, Montblanc star-shaped diamond at 12 o'clock, a pair of side-by-side concentric double semicircles showing the elapsed minutes and seconds of the chronograph, and the inset tourbillon taking up the lower quarter of the dial. The presentation is awesome and only comes in third because of two other incredible pieces.



Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama – Limited Edition 60 with aventurine dial

For more information on this, please read BOOM! Montblanc's Explorer-Inspired Heritage Chronométrie Collection.

#### Quick Facts Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama

Case: 44 x 14.79 mm, white gold

Movement: automatic Caliber MB R230 with twin spring barrels one-minute "exo" tourbillon and 50 hours power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; chronograph

Limitation: 60 pieces

Price: 48,000 Swiss francs

## Louis Moinet Memoris

IS: While I sometimes find Louis Moinet's style to be a little too ornate for my tastes, I think that the brand had done an excellent job with the Memoris in both looks – for a very technical watch it retains all of Louis Moinet's design elements – and technical development. While at first glance, the Memoris looks like a standard chronograph with a skeletonized dial, it is much more than that.

The vast majority of chronographs are modules placed on top of movements. And even the king of kings when it comes to chronographs, A. Lange & Söhne Dataograph, which does have a fully integrated chronograph movement, all of the action is on the back.



## Louis Moinet Memoris

With the Memoris, Louis Moinet has developed a brand new, fully integrated chronograph movement with the chronograph mechanism on top of the main plate so that it can be fully appreciated dial side. And that is an achievement to be applauded and celebrated.

Note: the Louis Moinet came very close to being my first pick, but lost out unluckily (and I admit somewhat unfairly) due to the fact that I have seen an as-yet-unreleased watch that shows what the Memoris really could have been in terms of displaying the complication dial side. And unfortunately, knowing that as good as Memoris is, that it could have been so much better has tainted my view.

GG: I like the idea behind and the execution of the fully integrated, dial-side-visible chronograph, and overall find this watch appealing. But that giant button for the monopusher chronograph functions gives me the willies. It remains my second-place pick.



Louis Moinet Memoris on the wrist

JM: My first runner-up is the Louis Moinet Memoris, which tickles my fancy of exposed mechanics in all their engineering splendor. The entire chronograph mechanism has been isolated to one side of the main plate, and laid out as cleanly as possible so that anyone looking at it should be able to understand the function perfectly. I love when anyone does this, and this is a great example. Combine this with some other interesting points like the screwed jewels on the lugs for what seems like locating the strap bars, wolf's teeth gears, and ceramic ball bearings on the winding rotor, and you get a very noteworthy chronograph second to very few.

For the full story on this watch, please see *Memoris By Louis Moinet: Paying Homage To Historical Chronographic Ingenuity*.

#### Quick Facts Louis Moinet Memoris

Case: 46 mm, pink gold

Movement: automatic Caliber LM54, created in conjunction with Concepto, 28,800 vph, 302 individual components

Functions: hours, minutes; three-counter chronograph

Limitation: 60 pieces in each metal

Price: 49,900 Swiss francs

Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher



IS: When it comes to innovation in regards to chronographs – as with most traditional complications – we tend to focus on design. That's because technically most chronograph mechanisms are basically the same: basic lever chronograph, the slightly more sophisticated (in perception at least) column wheel chronograph, the flyback chronograph, and the split-seconds chronograph.

All very technical, and in my view the chronograph mechanism is the best looking complication of them all. But they have all been done many times before.



### Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

What Audemars Piguet has done with the Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher (the latter's name isn't just there for marketing purposes, Schumacher was seriously involved with the concept before his accident) is to develop new functionality for the chronograph. AP has basically taken the split-seconds mechanism, turbocharged it, squirted a healthy dose of nitrous-oxide up its nose, and then sent it out on the race track with a brick on the accelerator.

The Laptimer has two central chrono hands (like split seconds) that are controlled independently via three pushers: one to start and stop the chronograph, a second to reset the chronograph (so far so normal), and a pusher to make the magic happen at 9 o'clock.

The third pusher allows the user to simultaneously stop either of the two chronograph hands while returning the other to zero . . . and instantly restarting it (like a flyback). So you can store and note a time of one lap while the next is underway – and keep doing that ad infinitum. You would have needed (at least) two timers to do this before the Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher.

And you can use the watch as a normal chronograph, a normal flyback chronograph, or a normal split-seconds chronograph.



GG: I'm no fan of the "Concept" case of this watch, but I do revere Michael Schumacher and his legendary accomplishments and admire the cleverness of Audemars Piguet's modifications to the split-seconds formula. And that's enough for me to pick the AP Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher as this year's winner.

I can easily imagine that the ability to record alternating consecutive lap times would come in handy, and other advancements such as the conical gear teeth, new skip-free chrono wheel coupling mechanism, and solid lubricants reflect significant dedication to creating something truly new.



View through the display back to the beautiful chronograph mechanism of the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

JM: For the winner I chose what I think will end up being an obvious choice for the judges in this category: the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher. This watch is another stop along the Royal Oak Concept line that has produced some incredible pieces that challenge traditions, and this one does the same.

Creating a triple column wheel chronograph that can automatically stop one hand while another hand resets to start another timing period, the Lap Timer is an awesome modification on the now somewhat standard flyback chronograph. It can be used as such, but the real purpose is repeated period timing (like laps in a race, duh).



Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

Audemars Piguet even pushed boundaries further to incorporate solid lubricants on certain parts, which should last much, much longer and provide more consistent properties over the life of the components. This is one awesome chronograph, and of course, perfect for any kind of race fans.

#### Quick Facts Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

Case: 44 x 19.3 mm, forged carbon and titanium

Movement: manually wound Caliber 2923 with double central chronograph second hands and three column wheels

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; flyback chronograph with lap timer function like a split-seconds

Limitation: 221 pieces

Price: 226,800 Swiss francs

#### Piaget Altiplano Chrono

IS: I would first like to state that while this category allows other complications in addition to the chronograph, I'm going to judge on the design and execution of the chronograph mechanism and display in the context of the overall watch, rather than just on the watch as a whole.

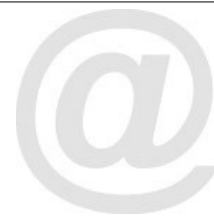
That's by way of explanation of why I'm picking the Piaget Altiplano Chrono as my third choice over the Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama. I think that the

Date: 26.09.2015



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Altiplano is the better chronograph, but not necessarily the better watch.



Piaget's Altiplano Chronograph is the world's thinnest chronograph

What I don't like about the Altiplano Chrono are the subdials crammed around the center of the dial, rather than the designer having used the full amount of dial space available. And I'd guess that's because the movement was designed for a much smaller case than 41 mm. At this level of competition, integrity of case and movement is important.

Important but not the only thing, and what I do like about the Piaget Altiplano Chrono is the way that the dial has been designed to minimize the visual look of those undersized subdials by using extra-long hour markers. That and the very handy second time zone function.

While I'm sure that many will cite the thinness of the movement at just 4.65 mm as proof of technical excellence – and I did just that myself with the Piaget Altiplano in the Men's category – I can't shake the notion that a chronograph is a solid tool that should be designed for long-term reliability over minimum size. The Piaget Altiplano Chrono would be my pick for most comfortable wearing chronograph for those that do not really need a chronograph, i.e., the vast majority.

Quick Facts Piaget Altiplano Chrono

Case: 41 x 8.24 mm, red gold

Movement: manually wound Caliber 883P

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; flyback chronograph with 50 hours power reserve

Date: 26.09.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

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Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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Limitation: 221 pieces

Price: 26,800 Swiss francs

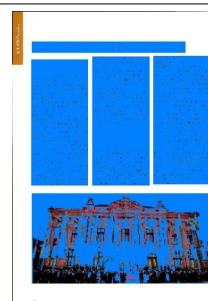
Predicted winners:

Ian: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

GaryG: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher

Joshua: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher





# Grand prix d'horlogerie de Genève

## Le 12<sup>ème</sup> Art à l'honneur à Genève

La quinzième édition du Grand prix d'horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) se tiendra le 29 octobre prochain au Grand Théâtre de Genève. Présentée en duo par Frédéric Beigbeder et Gaspard Proust, la cérémonie se déroulera en présence d'Alain Berset, conseiller fédéral, et rassemblera dans la Cité de Calvin les représentants de la famille horlogère internationale. Elle sera retransmise en direct sur [gphg.org](http://gphg.org), ainsi que sur les sites partenaires: [euronews.com](http://euronews.com), [hodinkee.com](http://hodinkee.com), [worldtempus.com](http://worldtempus.com) ou encore sur la chaîne de télévision Léman Bleu.

Les 72 garde-temps présélectionnés par le jury 2015 sont présentés sur le site officiel du GPHG. Les amateurs d'horlogerie sont invités à voter pour leur montre favorite. Ils participent ainsi à l'élection du Prix du public et prennent part automatiquement à un tirage au sort avec la possibilité de gagner un garde-temps.

Avant la remise des prix, les pièces seront présentées à Hong Kong, Séoul, Dubaï et Genève. C'est le Liang Yi Museum de Hong Kong qui accueillera les 2 et 3 octobre prochain la première étape de l'exposition itinérante 2015. Pour la première fois cette année, les 72 montres présélectionnées prendront ensuite leurs quartiers à Séoul, du 6 au 8 octobre et s'installeront dans la Hyundai Card Music Library + Understage. A Dubaï, l'exposition du GPHG sera au centre de la première Dubai Watch Week, qui prendra place du 18 au 22 octobre dans le

Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). De retour à Genève, les garde-temps seront présentés du 27 octobre au 4 novembre à la Cité du Temps. Dernière halte de ce roadshow, les dix-sept montres lauréates du GPHG seront, quant à elles, exposées à Londres du 12 au 14 novembre 2015 dans le cadre du SalonQP.o

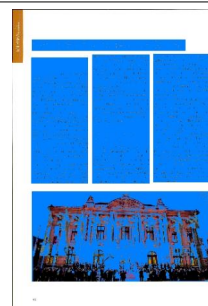
## *The 12<sup>th</sup> Art under the spotlight in Geneva*

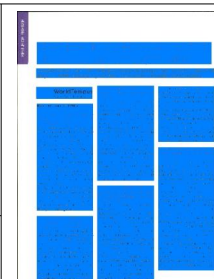
The fifteenth edition of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) will take place on 29 October at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. Hosted by Frédéric Beigbeder and Gaspard Proust, the ceremony will unfold in the presence of Alain Berset, Federal Councilor, and will bring together in the City of Calvin representatives of the international watchmaking fraternity. It will be broadcast live on [gphg.org](http://gphg.org) and on partner websites: [euronews.com](http://euronews.com), [hodinkee.com](http://hodinkee.com), [worldtempus.com](http://worldtempus.com), as well as on the Léman Bleu television channel.

The 72 timepieces shortlisted by the 2015 jury are featured on the official GPHG website. Watch enthusiasts are invited to vote for their favourite model. Their votes will count towards the Public Prize and they will automatically be entered for a prize draw and the chance to win a timepiece.

Before the presentation of awards, the timepieces will be exhibited in Hong Kong, Seoul, Dubai and Geneva. The Liang Yi Museum in Hong Kong will be their home on 2 and 3 October during the first stage of the

2015 travelling exhibition. This year, for the first time, the 72 shortlisted watches will then visit Seoul, from 6 to 8 October, where they will take up quarters in the Hyundai Card Music Library + Understage. In Dubai, the GPHG exhibition will take centre stage at the first Dubai Watch Week, to be held from 18 to 22 October at the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). Back in Geneva, the timepieces will be presented from 27 October to 4 November at the Cité du Temps. For the final act of the roadshow, the seventeen prize-winning timepieces of the GPHG will be exhibited in London from 12 to 14 November 2015 at SalonQP.o





# Grand prix d'horlogerie de Genève 2015: interview de Jean-Christophe Babin

**Jean-Christophe Babin, CEO de Bulgari, nous parle de la participation et de la victoire de Bulgari au GPHG. Il évoque également le lancement de la nouvelle collection Divina.**



**Brice Lechevalier, 11.9.2015**

**Quatre montres Bulgari ont été sélectionnées par le jury du GPHG. Quelle est votre plus grande satisfaction?**

C'est l'équilibre parfait pour Bulgari, deux montres masculines et deux montres joaillères! Mais Finissimo se distingue dans la catégorie Homme, qui comportait le plus de candidates, c'est une très grande satisfaction. Finissimo incarne parfaitement les deux dimensions de Bulgari Horlogerie, italienne et horlogère. D'une part, elle reprend les codes de l'architecture romaine tout en présentant des lignes très techniques qu'aurait pu dessiner Léonard de Vinci, d'autre part, son mouvement exceptionnel était inimaginable il y a 40 ans quand Bulgari s'est lancée dans l'horlogerie masculine. Avec une histoire horlogère si récente, réaliser en interne un mouvement qui fait l'épaisseur d'une pièce de cinq francs, avec ou sans tourbillon, est une grande réussite en soit qui témoigne de notre maîtrise de l'horlogerie haut de gamme.

**Cette constatation s'applique donc aussi à Il Giardino Notturmo sélectionnée dans la catégorie Haute mécanique pour dame?**

En effet, et sur ce créneau Bulgari fait partie des marques innovantes et précurseurs. Beaucoup de montres joaillères ont été créées dans le passé, et beaucoup de complications masculines, mais très peu de marques ont apporté de la complication masculine dans l'univers féminin. Il Giardino Notturmo est le quatrième développement

dans ce boîtier dont le concept associe joaillerie, métiers d'art et grande complication. C'est là le luxe de cette montre, même si au premier regard ses qualités esthétiques s'imposent immédiatement.

**Que vous a apporté l'an passé le prix obtenu dans la catégorie Joaillerie du GPHG?**

Si l'impact au niveau du consommateur final est toujours très difficile à évaluer car il y a beaucoup de facteurs impliqués, les effets positifs sur les prescripteurs s'avèrent indiscutables. Ainsi cette récompense a apporté beaucoup de motivation et de fierté à toutes nos équipes, dont nos vendeurs en boutique. Pour les vendeurs multimarques il s'agit d'un argument supplémentaire pour mettre en avant Bulgari. Or dans un magasin où se côtoient quinze à vingt marques, disposer d'arguments valorisants devient un avantage concurrentiel. Par exemple, le fait d'être une manufacture qui sait faire des montres joaillères, ou en l'occurrence voit ses montres joaillères reconnues par le jury le plus important dans l'horlogerie. Un peu comme un film récompensé au Festival de Cannes.

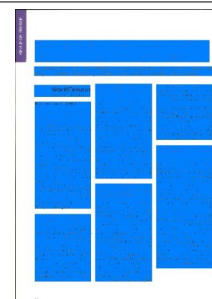
**La 15<sup>ème</sup> édition du GPHG se déroulera le 29 octobre, que reprenez-vous du travail effectué par Carine Maillard et Carlo Lamprecht qui le dirigent?**

Le Grand prix est devenu une institution qui dépasse le microcosme horloger, c'est clairement LE rendez-vous annuel le plus attendu, et plus uniquement par la communauté horlogère, mais également par les aficionados de montres. D'après moi, deux raisons expliquent ce succès: la répétition,

car il faut du temps pour donner de la visibilité et de la réputation à l'événement, et le sérieux avec lequel le jury a évolué. Son élargissement et sa neutralité confèrent au Grand prix une légitimité et une crédibilité de plus en plus importante. Carine Maillard et Carlo Lamprecht ont eu raison de se battre contre vents et marées pour défendre le Grand prix, et d'avoir remanié son jury pour le rendre complètement indépendant. Il est aujourd'hui incontournable pour l'ensemble des marques horlogères et j'espère que toutes y participeront, étant convaincu qu'il se gagne par le mérite de la créativité et de la bienfacture. Et si ce n'est pas cette année ce sera la suivante ou dans deux ou trois ans, ce n'est pas grave. Chaque montre lauréate fait de la publicité à notre industrie, et finalement le premier avantage du GPHG c'est de célébrer et de donner une grande visibilité mondiale à l'horlogerie une fois par an. Ce grand coup de projecteur est extraordinaire pour toute l'industrie, et c'est pour cette raison que nous y participons chaque année.

**Parallèlement vous lancez votre nouvelle collection Divina, à quoi doivent s'attendre les clientes?**

Tout d'abord à y retrouver la forme Diva, notamment l'attache du bracelet, car Bulgari est attachée à ses codes joailliers. Mais surtout à découvrir une infinité de déclinaisons de cadrans en acétate réalisés par notre société de cadrans à La Chaux-de-Fonds. L'acétate est une matière vivante qui rend chaque cadran unique, c'est un peu comme si l'on coupait le tronc d'un arbre: chaque tranche est différente



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 Parution: mensuelle

N° de thème: 781.033  
 N° d'abonnement: 1096742  
 Page: 62  
 Surface: 36'093 mm<sup>2</sup>

car on ne trouve pas la même texture au même endroit. Sa richesse en termes de profondeur de texture permet de varier de la nacre. Ensuite, cette nouvelle famille offre aux femmes une montre du soir que l'on peut classer dans la catégorie des montres joaillières accessibles, à partir de 15'000 francs. Elle se situe entre les

montres à porter au quotidien, que sont les Serpenti et Lucea qui sont devenus nos bestsellers, et les Diva, Astrale et Musa, positionnées sur le très haut de gamme à partir de 50'000 francs. Les Divina seront disponibles dans nos boutiques en octobre 2015, puis dans notre réseau de détaillants l'an prochain. ◯





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## Industry News

### Editorial Team

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Tourbillon

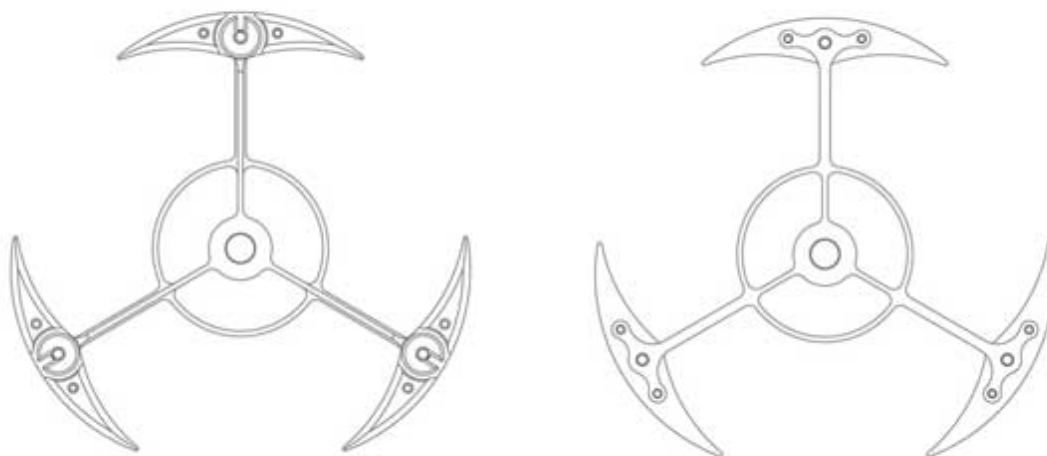
**— Our tripartite analysis of the finalists in the tourbillon category at this year's GPHG ends in a split decision.**



<http://goo.gl/0OcHNq>

David Chokron, WorldTempus contributor

Precision of the movement's going rate is the raison d'être of the tourbillon. But it needs to be given the resources to achieve it. Aside from its accomplished level of regulation, Bovet's Amadeo Fleurier Braveheart® tourbillon has a special kind of tourbillon. In order to make it as light as possible, it has a unique, non-annular balance, made entirely of aluminium. It is not a complete wheel but an ultra-light tripod that holds the hairspring, which is cylindrical, has two terminal curves and is produced entirely in-house by Bovet. The tourbillon is held inside a superb bell-shaped cage with three curved supporting bridges in steel that accommodate the height of the spring.


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Bovet's patented hybrid structure felly balance wheel.

© Bovet

The Braveheart has a power reserve of 22 days, which has a direct influence on its precision. This huge autonomy comes not from an increase in the power of the movement but from its sobriety. Everything is lighter, more energy-efficient and therefore more effective. As a result, the Braveheart has a maximum variation in going rate in different positions of four seconds per day, which is exceptional. Experts will be even more impressed by the fact that the balance loses only 10 degrees of amplitude between the horizontal and vertical positions, which is testament to an unparalleled level of balance and movement design.



Lire en ligne



The two faces of the Amadeo® Fleurier Braveheart®.

© Bovet

Paul O'Neil, WorldTempus editor-in-chief

Although the competition is tough, notably from the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision, Bovet's Amadeo Fleurier Braveheart® tourbillon has been one of the stand-out watches of 2015 for me. On the one hand there is the familiar airiness and beautiful decoration you see in every Bovet timepiece but on another, more hidden, level is the incredible amount of research and innovation that has gone into this piece (see above), notably to ensure a power reserve of 528 hours (22 days). The three-in-one concept of the reversible case and its double-sided time displays are the icing and the cherry on the cake respectively.

Olivier Müller, WorldTempus contributor

It's rare for a timepiece to stand out effortlessly in its class, but that's precisely the case when it comes to the Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon, compared to other watches of the same category. Ulysse Nardin's take on this tourbillon is an essentialist one, seeing it as a regulating organ – to which the firm has accordingly devoted all its relevant expertise. The piece is the fruit of eight years' worth of R&D, at a level unrivalled by anyone else: using the flexible guiding system to absolute perfection, scaling new heights in energy efficiency, and dispensing with the usual problems of lubrication and performance in one fell swoop.



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Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon.

© Ulysse Nardin

Vote for your favourite watch in the Tourbillon category in our readers' poll.



## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Ladies' High-Mech Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Nancy Olson (NO), resident pen expert and watch writer

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

According to the rules, the Ladies' High-Mech category accepts women's watches that are remarkable in terms of their mechanical creativity and complexity. These watches may feature all kinds of classic and/or innovative complications and indications and do not fit the definition of the Ladies' category.



High Mech Ladies watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock, Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower, Montblanc Bohème Perpetual Calendar Jewellery, Piaget Altiplano 1200S, Chaumet Hortensia Creative Complication, and Bulgari II Giardino Notturmo

JM: For the Ladies' High-Mech category in the 2015 GPHG there are great examples of watchmaking that are overshadowed by fantastic examples of horology. It's really hard to not feel as if they were outgunned from the start.



Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

IS: The Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock was one of my top three favorite watches (both men's and women's) of Baselworld 2015, and my appreciation and respect for this timepiece has not diminished over the six months since the fair.

Quickly looking over the indications in the specifications reveals a paltry hours and retrograde minutes, making anyone wonder why it was even entered in this category at all, let alone pre-selected in the top six.

Retrograde minutes and that's all? The answer is both yes and no. Yes, the only official complication is retrograde minutes; and no, that's not all. It's the way those retrograde minutes work – in a similar way to a Chinese fan being opened – that makes this watch so magical.

Jean-Marc Wiederrecht and his team at Agenhor – which includes his two sons and wife – ranks among the most creative and inventive watchmakers today. The mechanism he developed for the Fabergé Lady Compliquée is Wiederrecht at his best: a concept so simple yet so elegant that it seems obvious . . . in retrospect. So obvious that you wonder why nobody thought of it before. I love it!



Close-up look at the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock's tail

NO: I fell in love with Wiederrecht at the same time I fell in love with his company's recent movement creation for the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock. It was Wiederrecht who explained the workings of this watch to me while at Baselworld earlier this year using a large-scale model of the Agenhor-designed movement.

His warmth and obvious passion for his work certainly ramped up my interest in the watch, but had I not had the pleasure of meeting him there, this would have been my pick for winner anyway. Its manually wound retrograde movement is such a clever mechanism, with each of the four peacock's tail feathers (indicating the minutes) moving simultaneously but at different speeds. Hours are read at the crown via a rotating outer ring on the dial.

All in all, I think this is a fresh and ingenious watch – not even mentioning its incredible décor and platinum case. I'm hoping the judges will agree.

JM: For the winner in this category, I have to pick what I think will be a crowd favorite that was developed with the help of a friend of everyone here at Quill & Pad.

My choice for winner is the stupendous and (of course) poetic Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock. The peacock's tail feathers spread evenly (all at different rates) to indicate the time in minutes before snapping back to closed at the beginning of the hour. The exterior rim of the dial features a slowly counterclockwise rotating ring for the hour indication. Simple, beautiful, and very unique.

I love a lot of the watches in this category, and the others I chose as runners-up are incredible. But if I have to choose one as my favorite, it is without a doubt the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock.





A look under the dial of the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

GG: This one really meets the criteria for "high mech" for me with the retrograde minutes indication made up of the peacock's tail feathers and the revolving hour ring on the perimeter.

To make the minute indication work, the feathers need to move simultaneously but at different speeds; not an easy feat! This is another winner (for me at least) from wizard movement developer Agenhor. My only wish might be for the case to have a closed back, as seeing the "mech" of the movement itself is for me just a tiny bit out of character with the more poetic design of the rest of the watch.

For the full story on the Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock's creation, please see Fabergé Inaugurates Rebirth With Exceptional Lady Compliquée.

#### Quick Facts Lady Compliquée Peacock

Case: 38 x 12.8 mm, platinum, bezel set with 54 brilliant-cut diamonds (1.83 ct)

Movement: proprietary manually wound Caliber 6901, 32.7 x 3.58 mm, 38 jewels, 242 components, 50-hour power reserve, 21,600 vph

Dial: 18-karat gold dial, 127 brilliant-cut diamonds (0.38 ct), 31 Paraiba tourmalines (0.23 ct), and 57 tsavorites (0.27 ct) snow-set; white gold peacock; time displays on mother-of-pearl; peacock tail crafted in LIGA nickel-phosphorous with white lacquer

Functions: hours (revolving dial), minutes (retrograde tail)

Price: 98,000 Swiss francs





Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower with lotus flower closed (left) and open

### Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower

IS: The Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower is a very close second pick for me in this category as it is so beautiful to look at the flower opening and closing. That and the fact that this watch doesn't just have a sensational automaton complication, it also has an impeccably executed and well-finished automaton complication set into an impeccably executed and well-finished wristwatch.

That enamel butterfly over the guilloché dial and the meticulously set diamonds all add up to a watch that would not look out of place on a princess. And that should be the definition of this category: complications worthy of a princess!

While the Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower missed being my first pick by a whisker, I would not at all be either disappointed or surprised if it ended up taking the trophy.

JM: For the first runner-up I have chosen the exquisite Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower for its incredible automaton combined with a mostly separate movement into an unusual but unique case. The flower atop the watch opens with a center "pistil" of diamond that rotates before the flower returns closed until the next press on the pusher at 2 o'clock. Like all Jaquet Droz pieces, the expertise with automata is awesome and this piece deserves to be honored.

NO: I'm kind of an easy mark for automata – no, not THAT kind – and this rendition of the Jaquet Droz Lady 8 is a nice example of the company's roots in this skill that began with Pierre Jaquet-Droz.

GG: Me, too, Nancy. They had me at "automaton"!



### Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower

NO: The automaton in this case is the opening and closing of the enameled and engraved lotus under a roomy domed crystal at the upper part of the stylized figure eight. The beautifully decorated dial on the lower part of the watch is home to a butterfly with outstretched wings and the central hours and minutes hands.

The timekeeping elements of Jaquet Droz Caliber 615, a self-winding, single-barrel mechanical movement, include hours and minutes. But the automaton, actuated by a pusher, deserves some attention all its own. The graceful ballet of the petals as they open is really captivating, showing the swiveling diamond inside.

This watch gets my vote for second runner-up not only for its mechanics, but also for helping to keep the art of the automaton alive.

GG: This is a gorgeous piece, and I'm sure that the lucky owners of this watch will enjoy both the lovely butterfly motif and the on-demand opening of the lotus to reveal the diamond.

For more information on this timepiece, please see Jaquet Droz In Bloom: The Astonishing Lady 8 Flower Automat.

### Quick Facts Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower

Case: 35 x 12.76 mm (17.60 mm with dome), pink gold, set with diamonds (IF to VVSI, D to G)

Dial: 18-karat red gold with guilloché, enameled grand feu butterfly

Movement: automatic Jaquet Droz Caliber 615 with silicon balance spring, platinum micro rotor; power for the automatic is spring-driven using power from the pushed button

Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée

**Lire en ligne**

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Functions: hours, minutes; lotus flower automaton that opens and closes on demand

Limitation: 28 pieces

Price: 162,000 Swiss francs

Piaget Altiplano 1200S

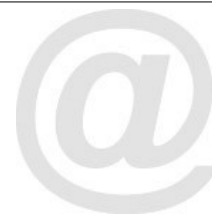
IS: The Piaget Altiplano 1200S has just three indications: hours, minutes and power reserve, and only the latter is a complication. So what's it doing here as my third pick, you might reasonably ask? Because I consider "ultra thin" as a complication in itself, and with a world record-breaking thinness of just 3 mm for the movement and 6 mm for the case the Altiplano 1200S well and truly meets the criteria of " . . . remarkable in terms of mechanical creativity and complexity."

But that's not enough to be in the top three in this category because " . . . remarkable in terms of mechanical creativity and complexity" could describe a men's watch. Where the Piaget Altiplano 1200S shines as a ladies' timepiece is in its incredible artistic skeletonization – and remember this watch already has been pared down to the very bare minimum – and yet enough metal remains in that ethereal filigree of bridges to securely embrace an impressive 360 brilliant-cut diamonds.



Piaget Altiplano 1200S

NO: I love this watch. Even with the current profusion of skeletonized watches, this Piaget Altiplano 1200S is a real standout for so many reasons. Not only is it a beautiful ladies' jewelry piece with its diamond-covered movement and case, it also takes the double prize for thinness for a gem-set skeletonized automatic timepiece at just 3 mm for the movement and 6 mm for the case.


[Lire en ligne](#)

In my opinion, Piaget has gone above and beyond with this watch. There are not very many high-end ladies skeletonized watches out there to begin with, so that alone deserves some kudos. But beyond that, the exquisite attention to detail is amazing.

Apparently it takes about four days to finish one 1200D movement, including the gem setting, and even the tiny screw heads are concealed under black sapphire cabochons so as not to interrupt the jewelry-like display – nice touch. The geometry of creating a skeletonized movement is not easy, and the stones only make it that much more ambitious. Add to that its svelteness and I think you have one very fine example of Piaget's talent in both jewelry and watchmaking. This watch has my vote for first runner-up.

GG: At the end of the day, I just couldn't bear to leave the Piaget off the list; its combination of thinness and mind-blowing gem-set skeletonization really impressed me. At the same time, it's great to see Chaumet in the mix, and the expression of time on the Hortensia is both creative and attractive, so my number three is a tie between the Chaumet Hortensia Creative Complication and the Piaget Altiplano 1200S.

#### Quick Facts Piaget Altiplano 1200S

Case: white gold, 38 x 6 mm

Movement: automatic Caliber 1200D, only 3 mm in height with 44 hours power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes

Availability: only in Piaget boutiques

Price: 165,000 Swiss francs

Predicted winners:

Ian: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

GaryG: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

Joshua: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock

Nancy: Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock



## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Ladies Watches

21 minutes ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site (gphg.org), enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for the Public Prize at the GPHG site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th

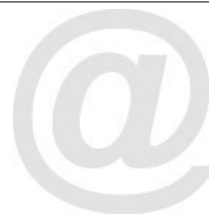
Today we look at the watches nominated in the Ladies category.

Audemars Piguet Millenary Woman



While the Millenary was first created a couple of decades ago, this white gold addition to the line has a new hand-wound manufacture movement, the Millenary 5201, much of which is gorgeously visible on the dial side the watch. Its functions are hours, minutes and small seconds. The offset diamond-paved hours and minutes dial features Roman numerals typical of the Millenary, and the diamond-rimmed mother-of-pearl small seconds subdial is at 8 o'clock. The oval-shaped case and lugs are also set with diamonds.

DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony



Watchonista  
1004 Lausanne  
021 624 39 00  
www.watchonista.com

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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



The DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony's minimalist design is embellished with diamonds totaling about 6 carats, augmented by the gem-studded peony at 10 o'clock. Grand feu, plique à jour and paillon enameling techniques are used to create this unique piece, and the black dial, interrupted only by the flower and its sparkling yellow sapphire center, as well as the graceful hours and minutes hands, combine to create an elegant look. Inside is an automatic movement.

Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with Diamonds

Watchonista  
 1004 Lausanne  
 021 624 39 00  
 www.watchonista.com

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 N° de thème: 781.033  
 N° d'abonnement: 1096742


Saddlery is never far from the heart of Hermès, and the Arceau is no exception, taking its name from a strategic part of a stirrup. The Arceau Petite Lune with Diamonds is a 38mm steel and gem-set member of the collection, and it is equipped with a self-winding Hermès H1837 movement and a moon-phase module created by Dubois-Dépraz. The mother-of-pearl dial features the date at 6 o'clock and a moon-phase aperture between 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock. And in another nod to the brand's equestrian roots, the alligator leather strap is crafted at the in-house workshops using saddle-stitching technique.

Hublot Big Bang Broderie

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1004 Lausanne  
021 624 39 00  
www.watchonista.com

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The Big Bang Broderie begins its journey to fruition with a charcoal sketch to identify the placement of the embroidery stitches. This sketch is then used to create a blueprint for the fabric design that will eventually take shape on the dial—a skull embroidered on tulle. Switzerland-based Bischoff Textil produced the embroidery, while Busch Composites, also headquartered in Switzerland, devised a process to surround the delicate embroidery in resin and then layer it with carbon fiber to amplify its texture and strength. Inside is the HUB1110 automatic movement with a 42-hour power reserve, featuring hours, minutes and seconds. This is a limited edition of 200 pieces.

Piaget Limelight Gala

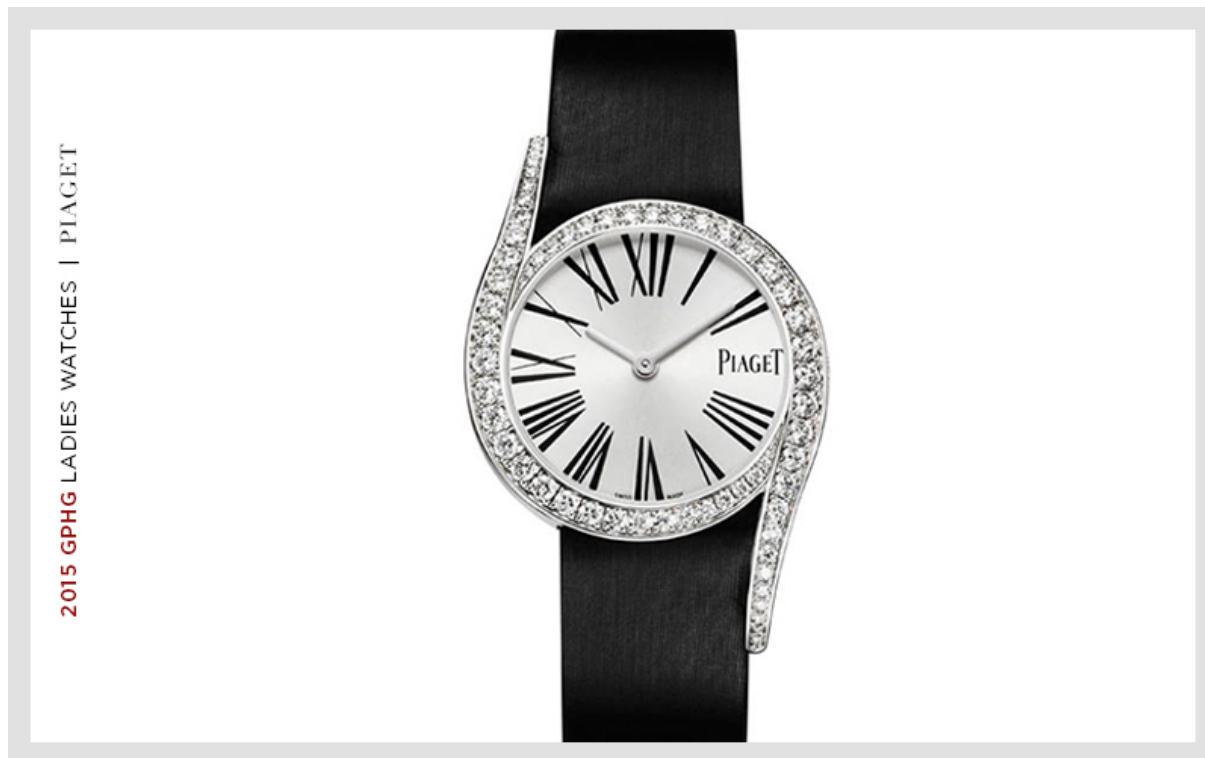


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Inspired by a vintage piece from the early 1970s, the Piaget Limelight Gala has a round 32mm pink gold case with two opposing extended lugs that hug the wrist. The bezel and lugs are studded with progressively sized brilliant-cut diamonds, adding to the symmetry of the overall look. The simple dial has Roman numerals with the "Piaget" logo intercepting the numeral at three. Inside is the manual-winding 430P movement visible through the sapphire caseback. The watch comes on a black satin strap.

Ulysse Nardin Jade



Ulysse Nardin's Jade collection, first introduced in 2013, is significant for many reasons, but perhaps most notably because it is the first ladies collection in which the company has offered an in-house movement: the UN-310 with hours, minutes, small seconds, date and power reserve. This latest rose gold rendition has a pusher at the four o'clock position on the watchcase designed to change the function of the crown: position one winds the watch, while position two sets the date forward and backward. Position three sets the time. Each function is then actuated by turning the crown forward or backward without any need to pull it out. The enchanting mother-of-pearl dial features Arabic numerals and diamonds.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Ladies Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

[View the entire article on iW Magazine](#)



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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

## Industry News

Paul O'Neil

SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

a

a



A.Lange & Söhne Interview with Wilhelm Schmid, CEO

— Visitors to the event in Zurich to mark the celebration of 200 years since the birth of company founder Ferdinand-Adolph Lange had the unexpected surprise of meeting A. Lange & Söhne's CEO. WorldTempus used the opportunity for an interview.



<http://goo.gl/NC6luZ>

The highlights of A. Lange & Söhne's history are quite clear, but what are your personal highlights from your four years at the helm of the brand?



Lire en ligne

I have a highlight every year and that is when I see the new watches for the first time. I am involved from the early hours and I see things growing but I only have them in my hands and on my wrist in around November. This is the most special moment for me every year and it is what gives me the confidence to go through the rough times.

With over 50 new calibres in just over 20 year years since the brand was re-established you are averaging over 2 new calibres per year. Do you plan to maintain this rate of innovation in the future?

Definitely. We actually increased speed compared with this average over the past few years. Knowing what we have in the pipeline I can assure you that we don't want to slow down.

The new factory building that was opened by Angela Merkel last month – it's undoubtedly a milestone for the brand but what does it mean more specifically for the development of the company and its production capacity?

We still need to pack and move some stuff and having two separate buildings at the moment obviously means a certain break in communications while things are ferried around. But controlling the environment where we assemble the watches is extremely important and I think the new building will help us maintain the quality but maybe with less effort than before. We just experienced the hottest summer and the new building was perfect to work in. We had to do this to have the resources in order to train people for more flexibility. At the top we have very few people that can assemble the top watches, while at the bottom of the pyramid we have more people that can assemble the simpler movements. But we have to show these people a career path and for that we need a perfect environment.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited the watchmakers' ateliers after inaugurating the new factory building on 26th August.





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1207 Genève  
022/ 718 33 39  
www.worldtempus.com

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N° de thème: 781.033  
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Do you expect any sales boost from the publicity of the new factory opening with the German chancellor?

No, we are already at the top and very well known in Germany. The chancellor's visit was about Glashütte and not just A. Lange & Söhne, so it was an important recognition for the industry as a whole.

Earlier this year, you referred to "changing everything but changing nothing" with the new Lange 1. Can you tell us more about the delicate balancing act between the need to develop your products and movements without changing the iconic design of the watches?

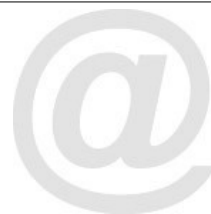
Most of all, I am not alone. We work as a team and one person may destroy and another preserve, while a third moderates. Sometimes these roles may be reversed. I equate it to washing for gold. We can all see that there is a glimmer of gold in there but there is also a lot of other stuff that we need to get rid of. Since nobody can dominate this little group we have to have arguments to back up our claims and we do not take decisions based on hierarchy or job titles. He or she who has the best arguments wins. For the past four or five years this has proven to be very successful. It shows that we are moving forwards but not getting ahead of ourselves. We do take risks, and the decimal minute repeater is one example that nobody would have expected from a brand like us.

There is an attention to detail in your movements that pushes things almost to the extreme, such as the seconds hand coming to rest at 12 at the end of the power reserve for easier time setting. Where does such a painstaking level of detail come from: the customer, the watchmaker or both?

That's us, that's German. The Germans like to think things through to the end and that is the perfect example. It's the same story with the new Lange 1. We decided that we had to have our own hairspring, then as a consequence we said we should have our own escapement, then we thought we should improve the jumping date at 12 o'clock and in the end we had a totally new movement. That's German engineering: you have a clear task and you work it through to completion.

The Zeitwerk Minute Repeater is one of the finalists in the Striking watch category at this year's GPHG. What sets it apart from its competitors?

If you come up with something completely new for a complication that has been around for 200 years then you automatically set yourself apart from your competitors. It's a minute repeater that nobody has ever seen before. There aren't that many minute repeaters around anyway, even though the technology has been around for 200 years.


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**GPHG**  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

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Zeitwerk Minute Repeater.

© A.Lange & Söhne

How important is it to participate in and win the Grand Prix?

It's a very difficult question. I enjoy winning the prizes but I don't think about it too much because it's not in my hands. Sometimes you are lucky and sometimes you are not and if I celebrated every time we won I would have to regret it every time we didn't win. I honestly cannot say whether there is a proper return on investment but what I can say is that when a German brand wins in Geneva it has to be exceptionally good!

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Calendar Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

A Calendar watch as described for entry in this category is a mechanical timepiece that contains at least one calendar and/or astronomical complication such as an annual calendar, a perpetual calendar, an equation of time, a moon phase display, or the like. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.



Calendar watches pre-selected for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève clockwise from top left: Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP, Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet, Claude Meylan Full Calendar, Ulysse Nardin FreakLab, Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar, and Hublot Classic Fusion Aeromoon

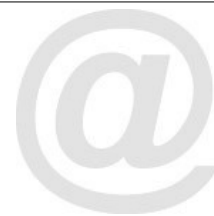
Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet

Date: 18.09.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

GG: I hope you'll forgive me, but with only seven total entrants this year to yield six finalists this category seems to lack the strength of some of the other classifications.



### Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet

That being said, my reasoning for picking the Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet as the winner of this category is clear: it has clever under-lug correctors for the indications that can be adjusted with a finger rather than a tool; the calendar indications can be reset at any time during the 24-hour cycle without endangering the movement; and in steel the price seems right at 14,000 Swiss francs.

Complete calendar complications are a Blancpain Villeret line tradition, and this one continues that well.

### Quick Facts Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet

Case: stainless steel, 40 x 10.94 mm

Movement: automatic Caliber 6654 with 72-hour power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes, second; complete calendar with day, date, month, moon phase

Price: 14,000 Swiss francs

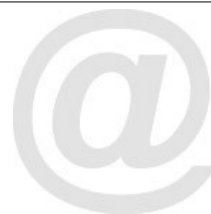


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Ulysse Nardin FreakLab

Ulysse Nardin FreakLab

JM: The calendar category presents some issues for selecting the one most likely to win: a calendar usually indicates the date, day, and month. So choosing here has become a pull between fit and desire.

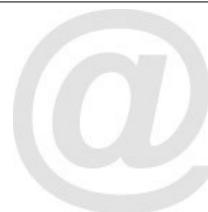
My second runner-up is the Ulysse Nardin FreakLab and the one I love the most for its sheer awesomeness, but it comes in third because it only displays the date as a calendar function. Considering everything else it has going for it, I don't think it should feel too bad. But lacking a full, annual, or perpetual calendar, it pales in comparison to other worthy calendar timepieces.

Date: 18.09.2015



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Ulysse Nardin FreakLab

GG: It's a great watch and incorporates some fascinating technical advances like the repositioning of the balance to the center of the watch and the introduction of a new silicon shock absorber.

But is it a great calendar watch? Compared to past winners like the A. Lange & Söhne Terraluna, this one seems more like a great watch with an added date wheel to me, even if that date wheel was difficult to add to this movement . . .

#### Quick Facts Ulysse Nardin FreakLab

Case: white gold, 45 x 14.2 mm

Movement: automatic Freak Caliber with 168 hours power reserve and one-minute tourbillon with Dual Ulysse escapement as well as UlyChoc shock absorbing system

Functions: hours, minutes; date

Limitation: 99 pieces

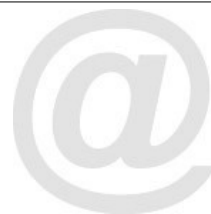
Price: 95,000 Swiss francs

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Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar

Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar

JM: The Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar is the obvious number two in this group for me. There are other watches that stand out, but this clean and simple timepiece features the only annual calendar among the finalists (though it does lack a weekday display), which only needs adjustment once a year.

More importantly, it shows a commitment by what many may call a fashion brand to become serious about horological offerings.

IS: I also like the Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar for the clean legibility of its indications. Using slim hands to display the date around the periphery of dial leaves the center clear for the month subdial, and those bold numerals have plenty of space so they do not feel overpowering.

Quick Facts Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar

Case: pink gold, 40 x 13 mm

Movement: automatic, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; annual calendar with date, month

Limitation: 60 pieces

Price: 20,400 Swiss francs



## Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP

## Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP

JM: My pick as the winner goes to none other than the Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP, a decidedly modern and beautiful (would you just look at that typeface, seriously, it's awesome) watch that features a perpetual calendar, moon phase, and second time zone.

This watch packs a modern punch. It even has a micro rotor for automatic winding and a clever leap year display that follows the month indication on its journey throughout the year.

Horologically speaking, the Slim d'Hermès QP is a stout contender, but design-wise it is a knockout. It is gorgeous and modern in a way that isn't tied to any one school of thought (I mean, okay, Bauhaus, we get it, you're minimalist). It definitely deserves to take the top spot, and proves again that Hermès is taking this whole watchmaking thing seriously.

GG: As my third place pick, it is an attractive piece that lives up to its "Slim" name and has nice touches including a second time zone and an aventurine and mother-of-pearl moon phase wheel.



Date: 18.09.2015



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Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Slim d'Hermès perpetual calendar in red gold

IS: My pick for top calendar watch has to go to the Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP. Not only is it the only perpetual calendar among the pre-selected watches, but it is one of the most legible perpetual calendars on the market. And legibility is often a big issue with perpetual calendars as there are so many indications to fit in the limited real estate available on a watch dial.

The elegant Slim d'Hermès font on the cream-colored dial is a pleasure to look at and makes for a perfect background for the blue moon phase indication. That second time zone is likely to be a very useful bonus for frequent travelers.

For more on this timepiece, please read [Introducing Slim d'Hermès: The Elegant New Backbone Of The Hermès Collection](#)

#### Quick Facts Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP

Case: 39.5 x 9.06 mm, red gold

Movement: automatic Caliber H1950 with Agenhor perpetual calendar module, ultra-flat at 4 mm total height including module; micro rotor; 21,600 vph; very fine finishing

Functions: hours, minutes; perpetual calendar with date and month, GMT/second time zone, day/night indication, moon phases, leap year indication

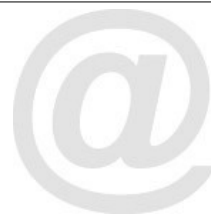
Price: 32,600 Swiss francs

Date: 18.09.2015



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Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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### Claude Meylan Full Calendar

### Claude Meylan Full Calendar

It was a close call for me between the Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet and the Claude Meylan Full Calendar. The Blancpain scored highly for having the more original calendar complication, but I preferred the Claude Meylan Full Calendar for the legibility of its indications.

My choice here may have been different had I had a chance to look at the Blancpain "in the metal." While that gray dial may look more sophisticated to some tastes, I will go for legibility in a calendar watch every time.

### Quick Facts Claude Meylan Full Calendar

Case: stainless steel, 39 x 11 mm

Movement: automatic, caliber not specified

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; complete calendar with day, date, month, moon phases

Price: 3,250 Swiss francs

Predicted winners:

Ian: Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP

GaryG: Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet

Date: 18.09.2015



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1196 Gland  
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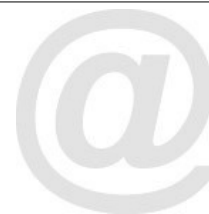
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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Joshua: Hermès Slim d'Hermès

For more information, please visit [www.gphg.org/watches/en/grand-prix-dhorlogerie-de-geneve/2015](http://www.gphg.org/watches/en/grand-prix-dhorlogerie-de-geneve/2015).



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## Industry News

### Editorial Team

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Petite Aiguille

— The WorldTempus editorial team played a round of "my favourite watch". There were a couple of surprises...



<http://goo.gl/B3oZps>

Paul O'Neil, Editor-in-chief

For me, the Petite Aiguille category should be the most down-to-earth one and the one in which I expect to find watches that are the most accessible to the watch-buying public, even if those closer to the upper price limit of 8,000 francs may be beyond the reach of many people (let's not forget that at this price point we are in entry-level Rolex territory and the competition is therefore severe). What surprises me, therefore, is that all but one of the finalists in this category are simple three-hand watches. Elegant, yes; understated and classical, by all means... but Frédérique Constant offers all this and more in its horological smartwatch, which failed to make the cut.

The choice is therefore less about my favourite affordable watch and more about my favourite simple three-





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hand watch. With this in mind, it has to be the Bulgari Diagono Magnesium.



Diagono Magnesium.

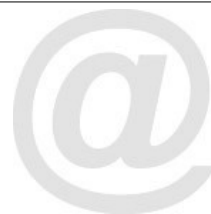
© Bulgari

The watch combines the classic three-hand look of a watch with innovative materials, an equally innovative construction and – the most innovative feature of all – the unique Bulgari Vault feature that allows the watch to be used as a key to access (via an app on your smartphone, of course) all your sensitive information from a secure vault hidden somewhere in the Swiss Alps. The fact that this James Bond-style gadget costs a quite acceptable 5,000 Swiss francs (or 4,000 francs without the security feature), makes it the clear winner for me. But Montblanc's original Orbis Terrarum, which offers a world time complication at 5,400 Swiss francs, is a worthy runner-up.

Michèle Brunner

The six finalists in this category do not reflect the diversity seen in the 18 watches entered. For example, half of the pre-selected watches are notable for the slenderness –Habring2's Felix, the Hermès Slim and the Zenith Elite 6150 – and share similar designs, whereas an innovation such as the Horological Smartwatch from Frédérique Constant deserved to reach the second stage, since it offers an interesting alternative (which is now represented by the Bulgari Diagono Magnesium).

With a category based on the price of the watches, it's easy to give in to the temptation to choose the model that offers the best value for money. In which case, the case material, functions, complications and brand prestige would have to be considered. But the prices double from the cheapest (the Tudor North Flag at 3,500 Swiss francs) to the most expensive (the Zenith Elite 6150, 7,500 Swiss francs), so an objective comparison is difficult.



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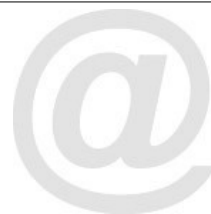
Heritage Spirit Orbis Terrarum.

© Montblanc

In all subjectivity, my absolute favourite is the Montblanc Heritage Spirit Orbis Terrarum. Its world time complication, governed by an in-house self-winding movement, combines the function of a day/night disc and the ability to see the time in 24 different time zones with the elegance of the map of the northern hemisphere in the centre of the dial. There is also a playful element with the fact that the continents change colour according to whether it is night or day. It's a magnificent timepiece with a practical complication for the reasonable price of 5,400 Swiss francs.

Camille Gendre

If somebody gave me 8,000 Swiss francs to spend on a watch my choice would definitely be a classic model with timeless styling that I could wear for any occasion. With this in mind, two of the six finalists in the Petite Aiguille category grabbed my attention.



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GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVEN° de thème: 781.033  
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Zenith Elite 6150 and the Slim d'Hermès.

© Zenith / Hermès

With its great elegance, the Slim d'Hermès gets down to the basics: sober lines, a refined case, a large dial opening, an in-house extra-thin movement. It's a timepiece of extreme simplicity born of an encounter between Hermès and graphic designer Philippe Apeloig, who devised the original typeface for the hour numerals. The light strokes of the figures complete the highly sober dial.

My other favourite is the Zenith Elite 6150. I like the understated design and the elegance of its pebble-shaped case. This timepiece takes its name from the new calibre that the brand launched at Baselworld 2015 which offers a generous power reserve of 100 hours.

Vote for your favourite watch in the Petite Aiguille category in our readers' poll.

## Dubai Watch Week - the Middle East's first global event dedicated to the watch industry

Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons, in association with Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), announces the first annual Dubai Watch Week



09.16.2015

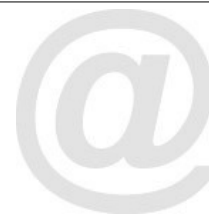
The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) in partnership with Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons and Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG), today announced the inauguration of Dubai Watch Week (DWW), the first and largest dedicated horology event, a journey of discovery into the world of fine watchmaking, will take place in Dubai from the 18th to the 22nd October 2015. The event is supported by Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice Chairman of the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority.

Dubai Watch Week (DWW) will celebrate the history, dedication, innovation, achievements and master craftsmanship in the world of horology. Presented through a cultural and educational platform including the GPHG Exhibition, workshops and forums in addition to private and public events, the five-day event aims to engage both established and emerging watch collectors regionally and internationally in the Gulf's largest dedicated watch event.

"The appetite for greater insight into the world of watchmaking continues to grow exponentially in the Middle East, which has become a key export market during the last several decades," said Mr. Abdulhamied Seddiqi, Vice Chairman of Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons. "Dubai Watch Week (DWW) is being established as a leading platform for education, debate and discovery into the world's most innovative and covetable timepieces."

"The GPHG is very pleased to be associated with the creation of the Dubai Watch Week" said Mister Carlo Lamprecht, president of the GPHG Foundation, "It is a great tribute that Dubai and the entire Middle East pay to the watchmaking art, a flagship of the Swiss industry perpetuating the values of excellence, innovation and




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 Genre de média: Internet  
 Type de média: Organisations, loisir  
 UUpM: 95'302  
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 N° de thème: 781.033  
 N° d'abonnement: 1096742

exceptional know-how, and to which we gave the title of 12th Art.”

Dubai Watch Week (DWW) will feature watch-making master classes conducted by some of the industry's most respected watchmakers, an education and training initiative, a series of discussions by watchmaking experts, and a dynamic exhibition of must-see timepieces. To foster careers in watchmaking among new university graduates, DWW will also include an internship and mentorship programme.

#### About Dubai Watch Week

Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons – the region's largest luxury watch retailer—in association with Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) has established an annual, non-commercial, global event dedicated to the watch industry. With its inaugural edition in October 2015, Dubai Watch Week is a journey of discovery into the world of fine Swiss watch making. The five-day event will attract key international industry decision-makers to celebrate the achievements of the watch industry. Dubai Watch Week engages the watch community through cultural and educational platforms that include the GPHG Exhibition, forums, workshops, private and public events. The event offers unique opportunities in rare cultural horology programs as well as access to some of the world's most recognized watch personalities.

#### Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons

Established in 1950, Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons is a family owned and run business synonymous with exquisitely designed watches. From its humble beginnings as a single store in Souk Bur Dubai, Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons has thrived to become the largest retailer of Swiss Brand watches in the Middle East, boasting a portfolio of over 54 prestigious brands across 57 locations in the UAE. The passion for luxury Swiss watches is deeply embedded in Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons family. The Board of Directors and Executive Committee is comprised of the second, third and fourth generation of the Seddiqi family.

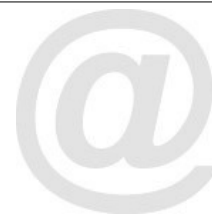
Published in : Dubai Watch Week, Press releases

Date: 16.09.2015

**HH**  
FONDATION DE LA  
HAUTE HORLOGERIE

Haute Horlogerie  
1205 Genève  
022 705 83 00  
[www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/](http://www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/)

Genre de média: Internet  
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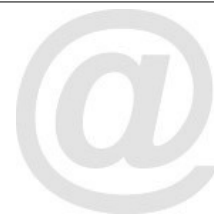
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GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

Haute Horlogerie  
1205 Genève  
022 705 83 00  
[www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/](http://www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/)

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Haute Horlogerie  
1205 Genève  
022 705 83 00  
[www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/](http://www.hautehorlogerie.org/fr/)

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Point de vue // Pubs en tête

## Coup d'envoi du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

lundi, 14 septembre 2015

Christophe Roulet

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) fête sa 15e édition cette année

L'édition 2015 du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève est sur les rails. Les 72 modèles présélectionnés vont partir pour leur tour du monde avant la cérémonie officielle prévue le 29 octobre. D'ici-là, les membres du jury auront du pain sur la planche. Parmi eux, le batteur du groupe Kiss !

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) fête sa 15e édition cette année. Une quinzaine d'années durant lesquelles cette distinction a pris du galon pour se profiler aujourd'hui comme la référence incontournable de la branche. Il existe certes pléthore de prix horlogers de par le monde, certains plus crédibles que d'autres, la plupart destinés à jeter un coup de projecteur sur le média qui en est l'auteur. Mais dans cette jungle, le GPHG se dresse aujourd'hui nettement au-dessus de la mêlée. Le battage médiatique qui l'entoure est d'ailleurs un signe qui ne trompe pas. Il y a peu, les Maisons horlogères se contentaient de communiquer sur les distinctions obtenues à l'issue du Grand Prix. Aujourd'hui, il n'est plus rare d'apprendre que tel ou tel modèle a déjà passé la présélection du jury, intégré parmi les six pièces retenues dans chacune des 12 catégories du concours, celles-là mêmes qui font l'objet d'une exposition itinérante passant à Hong Kong (2-3 octobre), Séoul (6-8 octobre), Genève (26-27 octobre), Londres (12-14 novembre) et, désormais, Dubai (18-21 octobre) lors de la Dubai Watch Week, première édition d'un salon horloger organisé par le détaillant Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons. Retransmise par WebTV, la manifestation du Grand Prix elle-même est d'ailleurs devenue le who's who de la profession, le Grand Théâtre de Genève peinant à contenir les milliers de personnes qui se pressent à l'événement.

Les boutons de l'adolescence

Mais si le GPHG se profile aujourd'hui comme une cérémonie d'exception, sa prime jeunesse n'a pas été exempte de critiques. Mis sur pied par un organe de presse genevois, il a été considéré par ses détracteurs



comme son baromètre publicitaire, les marques les plus généreuses étant les mieux placées dans la course aux récompenses. Certaines Maisons ont ainsi boudé le Grand Prix pendant de nombreuses années. Quelques-unes continuent d'ailleurs de le faire. Car telle est la particularité essentielle du GPHG : contrairement aux autres prix pour lesquels les membres du jury sont généralement seuls à même de déterminer le périmètre des montres en compétition, le GPHG est « ouvert à toutes les marques horlogères, sans distinction de nationalité », comme le stipule le règlement. Pour y participer, il suffit aux marques d'envoyer leur dossier de candidature, qui peut inclure jusqu'à six montres à ranger dans les différentes catégories. Cette année, elles avaient jusqu'au 22 juin pour le faire. Pas moins de 84 Maisons ont tenté l'aventure avec 193 modèles dont le jury a retenu les 72 finalistes en lice pour les 19 prix décernés.

C'est précisément le deuxième point sur lequel certains esprits chagrins se sont également épanchés : une palette des distinctions, suffisamment large pour arroser tout le monde. De fait le GPHG passe en revue la quasi-totalité des genres dans les catégories homme, femme, complications mécaniques et métiers d'art. S'y ajoutent les prix à l'innovation, au parcours professionnel d'exception, à la révélation de l'année (marque ou horloger), à l'esprit vintage et au meilleur élève du canton, sans oublier le prix du public et, récompense suprême, L'Aiguille d'Or, qui couronne « la meilleure montre toutes catégories confondues ». En d'autres termes, les 42 marques encore en lice aujourd'hui pour ce GPHG 2015 ont pratiquement une chance sur deux de ne pas repartir les mains vides. Comme ratio, c'est plutôt avantageux. Comme le soulignent les responsables du GPHG, ne peut toutefois prétendre à l'appellation « Oscars de l'horlogerie » qui veut. Une comparaison qui, assurément, fait sens.

Une mue indiscutable

Depuis cinq ans, la GPHG a en effet entamé une mue qui a largement gommé ses défauts de jeunesse. Le Grand Prix est ainsi placé depuis 2011 sous l'égide d'une fondation reconnue d'utilité publique qui compte, aux côtés du groupe de presse à l'origine du Grand Prix, la République et Canton de Genève, la Ville de Genève, le Musée international de l'Horlogerie de La Chaux-de-Fonds (MIH) et le Laboratoire d'horlogerie et de microtechnique de Genève (Timelab). Objectif déclaré : « contribuer, grâce à son label, à la promotion de l'horlogerie suisse et de ses valeurs de par le monde ». Avec la Salon international de la Haute Horlogerie, qui tiendra sa 26e édition en janvier 2016, la GPHG contribue ainsi à positionner Genève comme un centre incontournable de la mesure du temps, non seulement en tant que pôle d'excellence et de production horlogère mais également comme cité d'accueil de manifestations à même d'en propager l'esprit.

Le jury est à la hauteur de ces ambitions pour inclure au sein de ses 26 membres présidés par l'incontournable Aurel Bacs, expert en montres de collection, des personnalités aguerries issues des milieux professionnels horlogers et des médias spécialisés. Pour renforcer son impartialité, le jury est renouvelé à raison d'un tiers chaque année. Un jury qui dispose désormais physiquement des pièces en compétition pour faire ses choix, contrairement aux pratiques antérieures basées sur dossier. Parmi les nouveaux entrants pour cette édition 2015 : Marc A. Hayek, qui conduit les destinées de Blancpain, Breguet et Jaquet Droz au sein de Swatch Group, James Gurney, fondateur du magazine QP et du salon éponyme de Londres, Pierre Maillard, journaliste respecté du magazine Europastar, ou encore, pour une touche un peu plus iconoclaste, Eric Singer, batteur du groupe de hard rock Kiss, et Dieter Meier, membre fondateur du groupe de musique électronique Yello, qui, en son temps, a participé à la relance d'Ulysse Nardin. Quant au commissaire du jury, il s'agit de Ludwig Oechslin, ancien conservateur du MIH et concepteur de montres astronomiques d'exception. À n'en pas douter, la route du GPHG est en train de se paver d'étoiles.

> Édition 2015 du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève : les 72 modèles présélectionnés

## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Jewelry Watches

2 hours ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site (gphg.org), enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for the Public Prize at the GPHG site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th annual ceremony at the Grand Théâtre de Genève on October 29. Today we look at the watches nominated in the Jewellery category.

GPHG 2015 Watches Nominees



Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk

Earlier this year, Audemars Piguet introduced Diamond Punk—a haute joillerie white gold cuff whose dial resides beneath a sliding cover awaiting an inconspicuous glance. This quartz timepiece is all about attitude and architecture: the former is unconventional, while the latter conjures everything from punk-style studs to the Alpine peaks of the Le Brassus region where the watch was born at the Audemars Piguet manufactory. The Diamond Punk features 56 pyramid facets, 7,848 snow-set diamonds on the case and the bracelet and an additional 300 diamonds on the dial. All in all, it takes about 1,440 hours of work to create one watch at the hands of the Audemars Piguet skilled designers and craftsmen.

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1004 Lausanne  
021 624 39 00  
www.watchonista.com

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### Bulgari MVSA

With its strong Mediterranean roots, Bulgari has created the stunning MVSA collection, inspired by the ancient architecture of Greece and Rome. This one-of-a-kind watch features stunning combinations of colored stones in a variety of sizes and cuts in designs said to recall the tiles from ancient palaces. This 15.80mm by 15.80mm white gold quartz timepiece also features a white gold bracelet set with diamonds and precious gems. Its diamond-studded dial is minimalist in design, simply featuring the Bulgari logo and the central hours and minutes hands.



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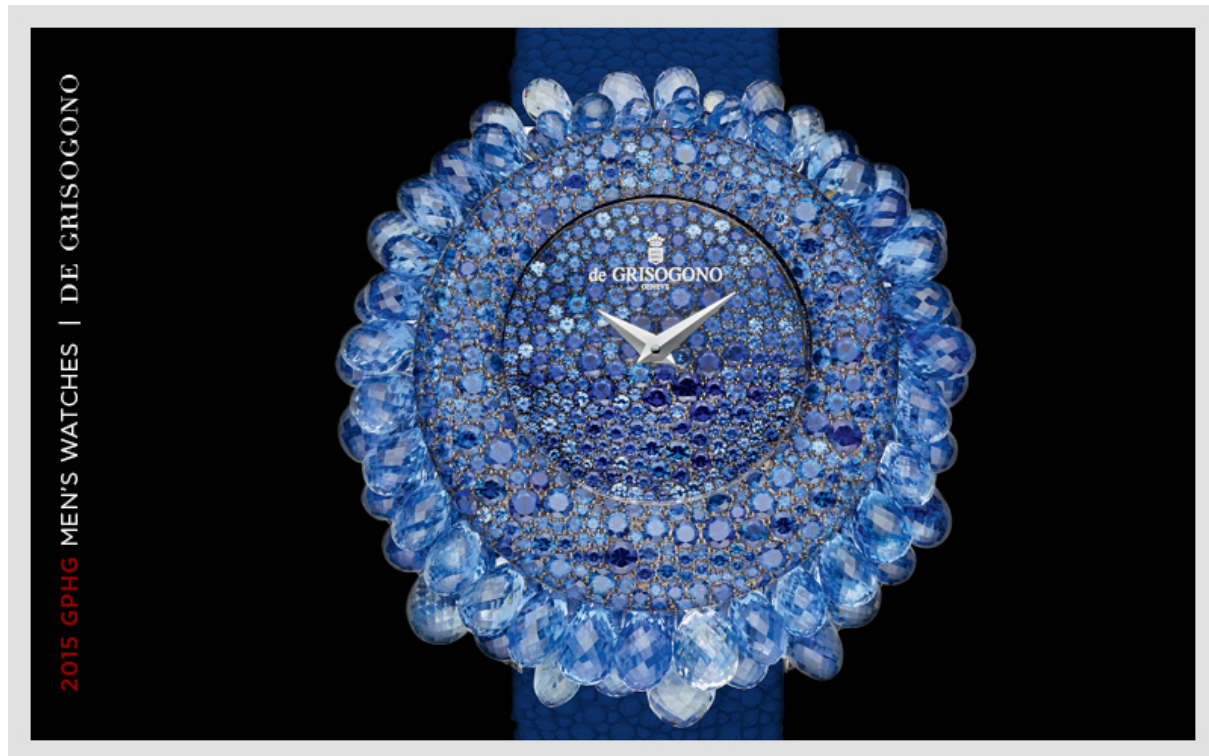
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Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Imperiale

Fourteen-hundred stones decorate the 24mm Joséphine Aigrette Imperiale watch from Chaumet's Joséphine collection. This white gold quartz timepiece is an homage to Empress Josephine of Martinique, who was said to have inspired a touch of femininity to the geometric lines of Neo-classic architecture with arabesques, scrolls, foliage and floral motifs. The watch comprises more than 17 carats of white diamonds, and the gold articulated bracelet gives an impression of lightness, thanks to the spaciousness of the links. With the greatest attention to detail, each link is notched to obtain a perfect fit. The pear shaped dial, a signature of the collection, features hours and minutes, and the case comprises neither lugs nor crown.



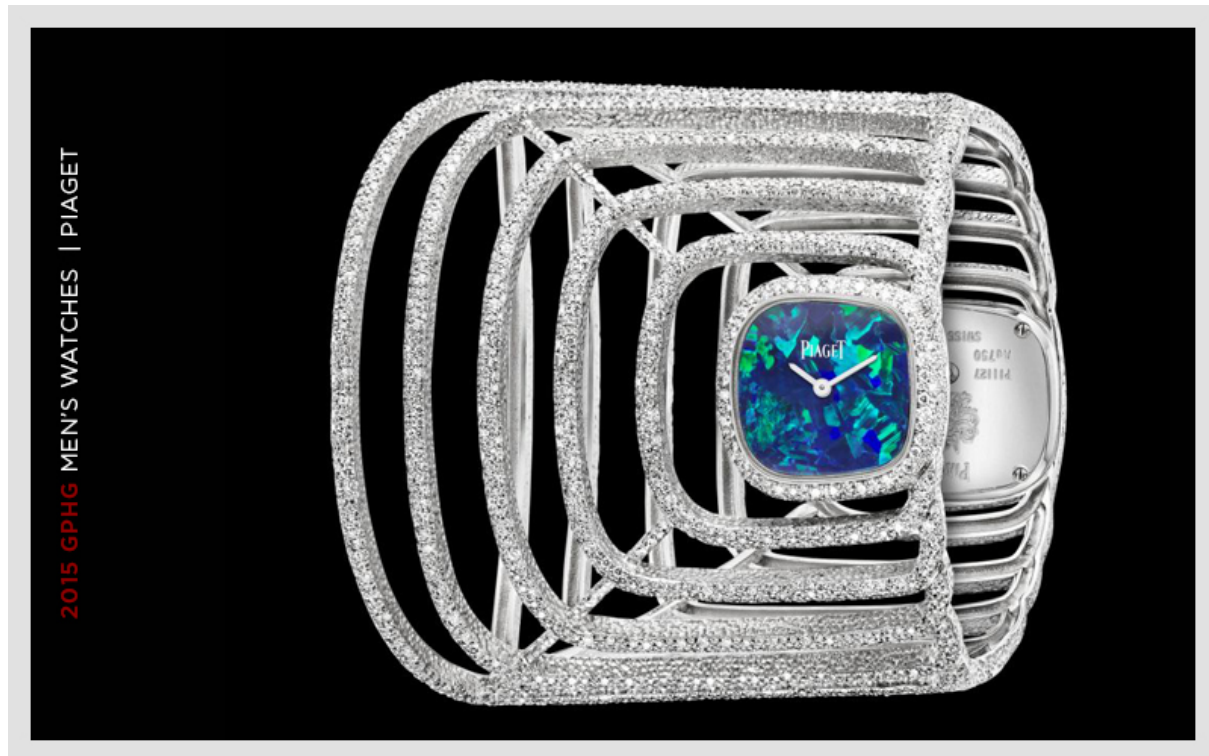
De Grisogono Grappoli

With more than a thousand gemstones, the De Grisogono Grappoli high jewelry timepiece is set with diamonds and blue sapphires in various cuts portrayed in a random and dazzling style. The delicate snow setting on the dial and bezel is framed by a double row of moving briolette-cut gemstones, each of which is carefully set to allow the “grapes” to move smoothly and delicately when worn on one’s wrist. Each quartz watch requires about 120 hours of work to create, beginning with the careful selection of each stone. The 70 moving briolettes are delicately “sewn” on the case to give maximum movement and reflection of light.



Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

The south of France is the focus of Fabergé's Summer in Provence High Jewellery Watch, capturing the hues and motifs that are characteristic of this region. Enamel, mother-of-pearl, turquoise and white diamonds combine to create the tableau, while emeralds, tourmalines, and pink and blue sapphires grant additional color. Inside is a Vaucher Manufacture self-winding movement with hours and minutes, visible through the transparent back of the 37mm white gold case. This is a limited edition of just five pieces, each on a diamond-set white gold bracelet on which the floral décor is extended.



Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch

This re-creation of a vintage piece from 1970 is a one-of-a-kind white gold quartz watch measuring 23mm by 24mm. The reversible Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch has a natural opal dial with a snow-set diamond bracelet on one side. The opposite side of the cuff has a natural onyx dial and a vintage-style hammered gold bracelet. Each dial has the Piaget logo directly above center, where the central hour and minute hands are stationed.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Jewelry Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

View the entire article on iW Magazine



## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Tourbillon Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

The GPHG defines the Tourbillon category as comprising watches containing at least one tourbillon. Additional indications and complications are admissible.



Tourbillon watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons, Blancpain L-evolution C Tourbillon Carrousel, Bovet 1822 Braveheart, MB&F Horological Machine N° 6, Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon, and Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

JM: The 2015 GPHG tourbillon category is a very tough one to call. Like a previous category, I am pulled between pure love and serious horological progress. Here is a list of my three top picks.

GG: What a tough category! If you'd told me a year ago that I'd be putting a new Greubel Forsey watch third in the tourbillon class I'd have been incredulous; but such was the strength of this year's field.

IS: This is perhaps the strongest lineup of potential winners I've seen in the categories to date. I would be very happy to wear any of the pre-selected watches, and they are all absolutely excellent in different ways. With much regret I can select my top four, but reducing that to three is like pulling teeth.



MB&F Horological Machine No. 6 Space Pirate

MB&F Horological Machine No. 6 Space Pirate

IS: Horological Machine No. 6 is my tied-for-first-place choice because it's the kind of watch only MB&F can pull off successfully, meaning as technically as serious as anything out there but with a sense of fun generally lacking in the oft sober world of watches.

GG: I was sorely tempted to give the nod to the Prezioso for its sheer audacity, technical pyrotechnics, and the creator's statement in the GPHG notes that he has "no business plan or even marketing strategy." At the end of the day, though, I was won over by the coherence of the Space Pirate and the fact that I've had one on my wrist and could barely stand to take it off. Well done, Max and Friends!

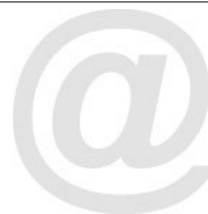
JM: My first runner-up is chosen out of love and the pure design beauty that MB&F always incites in me. The HM6 is a fantastical spaceship, a wrist creation that not only looks insanely awesome, but is remarkably comfortable. Not to mention it is so entirely fun to look at, and the movement inside is a work of art in itself. It was hard not to choose this as the winner; because it is the one I want on my wrist the most out of any of the selected watches.

Date: 15.09.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
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MB&F Horological Machine No. 6 (HM6) on the wrist

IS: The first time I saw and held the MB&F HM6 it was love at first sight. The unusual organic nature of the case is surprisingly comfortable to wear, and there is visual interest in every corner. However, it's the top where the magic happens and where MB&F's playful nature really expresses itself: a flying tourbillon with a retractable titanium shield that looks as though it winks as the shield opens and closes at the push of a button.

For more information, please read [The 2015 Red Dot Has A New Watch Category. And The Winners Are . . .](#)

#### Quick Facts MB&F Horological Machine No. 6 Space Pirate

Case: 49.5 x 52.3 x 20.4 mm, titanium

Movement: automatic MB&F caliber with one-minute tourbillon beating at 18,000 vph

Functions: hours, minutes

Limitation: 50 pieces

Price: 213,900 Swiss francs





Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons

Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons

IS: Antoine Prezioso's Tourbillon of Tourbillon gets an honorable mention from me because of the sheer technical brilliance of developing a differential that can handle three inputs (tourbillons).

Mentally, I can get my head around how an even number of tourbillons might work with a differential, but three just blows my mind. The only reason that the Tourbillon of Tourbillons didn't make my top three is that at 45 mm it's just too big for my little wrists, and some of the jury may feel the same.

GG: My second-place runner-up is the Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons.

JM: The second runner-up has ended with a tie for me as I can't decide between the Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons or the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision. Both demonstrate remarkable skill in creating a tourbillon (or set of tourbillons) that go above and beyond the average example.

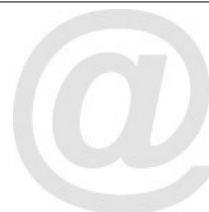


Date: 15.09.2015



Quill & Pad  
1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



Lire en ligne



N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons on the wrist

JM: The Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision takes the brand's winning inclined tourbillon and makes its most classically designed watch yet. Antoine Prezioso creates a whirlwind within whirlwinds centered around an awesome differential, making this example a stout contender.

For more on this timepiece, please read Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon Of Tourbillons: Fractals Meet 'Inception.'

#### Quick Facts Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons

Case: 45 x 14 mm, steel, white gold, and titanium

Movement: manually wound Caliber AFP-TTR-3X with three one-minute tourbillons comprising a fourth ten-minute tourbillon carriage

Functions: hours, minutes

Price: 480,000 Swiss francs



Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

IS: With such sublimely designed, hand-finished movements, many may prefer Greubel Forsey's more open-architecture models (and the Double Tourbillon Technique is one of my favorite watches of all time).

However, I'm attracted to the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision because it is just so unassuming at first glance, with just that opening in the dial revealing that there is more to this watch than an absolutely perfectly executed dial. While it's the polished tourbillon bridge that is likely – with good reason – to catch the eye, the shape of the blued steel hands and fired-enamel indexes provide a harmony not often seen.



Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision on the wrist

IS: And turning the Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision over reveals another surprise in the dome over the tourbillon enabling a much slimmer watch than the inclined tourbillon would normally allow. And that lower tourbillon bridge is a work of art in itself!

GG: My third-place runner-up is the Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.

For more, please read Give Me Five! Tourbillons From SIHH 2015 and SIHH 2015 Photo Essay: Greubel Forsey.

#### Quick Facts Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

Case: 43.5 x 13.65 mm, white gold

Dial: solid gold, silvered, with enamel hour markers

Movement: hand-wound Caliber GF01r with 24-second tourbillon inclined at a 25-degree angle, 72 hours power reserve (twin spring barrels), free-sprung variable-inertia balance, 21,600 vph

Functions: hours, minutes, small seconds; power reserve indicator

Limitation: 22 pieces

Price: 290,000 Swiss francs



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Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

JM: My pick for winner of the category has to go to a watch that is seemingly innocuous and could be called a sleeper.

Along with the Greubel Forsey, the Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon is a clean and simple-looking watch. But the function of the flying anchor escapement invention presents a shift in thinking about escapements – and manufacturing in general.

The undisputed king of silicon watchmaking, Ulysse Nardin made a tourbillon with a flying escapement (meaning it is not attached to a pivot like most escapements) etched from pure silicon, creating a lubricant-free escapement that also reduces complexity and increases precision. It humbly stands as the most impressive example of a tourbillon among these, and looking at the other examples, that is saying something.

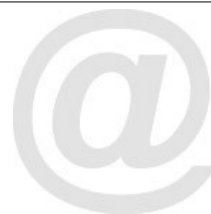


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The Ulysse Nardin Anchor Tourbillon on the wrist

IS: My third pick is the Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon. While there are surely many reasons for including the Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon in the top three, mine is singular: that fantastic escapement. Silicon, blade spring, constant force and lubrication free. Done deal.

For much more information, please read The Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon By Ulysse Nardin.

Quick Facts Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

Case: 44 x 11.85 mm, white gold

Movement: Caliber UN-178 with one-minute tourbillon and silicon anchor escapement; twin spring barrels guarantee at least 7 days' power reserve

Functions: hours, minutes; power reserve indication

Limitation: 18 pieces each in rose gold and white gold

Price: 88,000 Swiss francs (white gold)

Predicted winners:

Ian: tie between Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision and MB&F Horological Machine No. 6

Joshua: Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon

Date: 15.09.2015



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Gary: MB&F Horological Machine No. 6 Space Pirate



1 / 13



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1 / 13



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Point de vue // Pubs en tête

## Coup d'envoi du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

lundi, 14 septembre 2015

Christophe Roulet

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) fête sa 15e édition cette année

L'édition 2015 du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève est sur les rails. Les 72 modèles présélectionnés vont partir pour leur tour du monde avant la cérémonie officielle prévue le 29 octobre. D'ici-là, les membres du jury auront du pain sur la planche. Parmi eux, le batteur du groupe Kiss !

Le Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) fête sa 15e édition cette année. Une quinzaine d'années durant lesquelles cette distinction a pris du galon pour se profiler aujourd'hui comme la référence incontournable de la branche. Il existe certes pléthore de prix horlogers de par le monde, certains plus crédibles que d'autres, la plupart destinés à jeter un coup de projecteur sur le média qui en est l'auteur. Mais dans cette jungle, le GPHG se dresse aujourd'hui nettement au-dessus de la mêlée. Le battage médiatique qui l'entoure est d'ailleurs un signe qui ne trompe pas. Il y a peu, les Maisons horlogères se contentaient de communiquer sur les distinctions obtenues à l'issue du Grand Prix. Aujourd'hui, il n'est plus rare d'apprendre que tel ou tel modèle a déjà passé la présélection du jury, intégré parmi les six pièces retenues dans chacune des 12 catégories du concours, celles-là mêmes qui font l'objet d'une exposition itinérante passant à Hong Kong (2-3 octobre), Séoul (6-8 octobre), Genève (26-27 octobre), Londres (12-14 novembre) et, désormais, Dubai (18-21 octobre) lors de la Dubai Watch Week, première édition d'un salon horloger organisé par le détaillant Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons. Retransmise par WebTV, la manifestation du Grand Prix elle-même est d'ailleurs devenue le who's who de la profession, le Grand Théâtre de Genève peinant à contenir les milliers de personnes qui se pressent à l'événement.

Les boutons de l'adolescence


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Mais si le GPHG se profile aujourd'hui comme une cérémonie d'exception, sa prime jeunesse n'a pas été exempte de critiques. Mis sur pied par un organe de presse genevois, il a été considéré par ses détracteurs comme son baromètre publicitaire, les marques les plus généreuses étant les mieux placées dans la course aux récompenses. Certaines Maisons ont ainsi boudé le Grand Prix pendant de nombreuses années. Quelques-unes continuent d'ailleurs de le faire. Car telle est la particularité essentielle du GPHG : contrairement aux autres prix pour lesquels les membres du jury sont généralement seuls à même de déterminer le périmètre des montres en compétition, le GPHG est « ouvert à toutes les marques horlogères, sans distinction de nationalité », comme le stipule le règlement. Pour y participer, il suffit aux marques d'envoyer leur dossier de candidature, qui peut inclure jusqu'à six montres à ranger dans les différentes catégories. Cette année, elles avaient jusqu'au 22 juin pour le faire. Pas moins de 84 Maisons ont tenté l'aventure avec 193 modèles dont le jury a retenu les 72 finalistes en lice pour les 19 prix décernés.

C'est précisément le deuxième point sur lequel certains esprits chagrins se sont également épanchés : une palette des distinctions, suffisamment large pour arroser tout le monde. De fait le GPHG passe en revue la quasi-totalité des genres dans les catégories homme, femme, complications mécaniques et métiers d'art. S'y ajoutent les prix à l'innovation, au parcours professionnel d'exception, à la révélation de l'année (marque ou horloger), à l'esprit vintage et au meilleur élève du canton, sans oublier le prix du public et, récompense suprême, L'Aiguille d'Or, qui couronne « la meilleure montre toutes catégories confondues ». En d'autres termes, les 42 marques encore en lice aujourd'hui pour ce GPHG 2015 ont pratiquement une chance sur deux de ne pas repartir les mains vides. Comme ratio, c'est plutôt avantageux. Comme le soulignent les responsables du GPHG, ne peut toutefois prétendre à l'appellation « Oscars de l'horlogerie » qui veut. Une comparaison qui, assurément, fait sens.

#### Une mue indiscutable

Depuis cinq ans, la GPHG a en effet entamé une mue qui a largement gommé ses défauts de jeunesse. Le Grand Prix est ainsi placé depuis 2011 sous l'égide d'une fondation reconnue d'utilité publique qui compte, aux côtés du groupe de presse à l'origine du Grand Prix, la République et Canton de Genève, la Ville de Genève, le Musée international de l'Horlogerie de La Chaux-de-Fonds (MIH) et le Laboratoire d'horlogerie et de microtechnique de Genève (Timelab). Objectif déclaré : « contribuer, grâce à son label, à la promotion de l'horlogerie suisse et de ses valeurs de par le monde ». Avec la Salon international de la Haute Horlogerie, qui tiendra sa 26e édition en janvier 2016, la GPHG contribue ainsi à positionner Genève comme un centre incontournable de la mesure du temps, non seulement en tant que pôle d'excellence et de production horlogère mais également comme cité d'accueil de manifestations à même d'en propager l'esprit.

Le jury est à la hauteur de ces ambitions pour inclure au sein de ses 26 membres présidés par l'incontournable Aurel Bacs, expert en montres de collection, des personnalités aguerries issues des milieux professionnels horlogers et des médias spécialisés. Pour renforcer son impartialité, le jury est renouvelé à raison d'un tiers chaque année. Un jury qui dispose désormais physiquement des pièces en compétition pour faire ses choix, contrairement aux pratiques antérieures basées sur dossier. Parmi les nouveaux entrants pour cette édition 2015 : Marc A. Hayek, qui conduit les destinées de Blancpain, Breguet et Jaquet Droz au sein de Swatch Group, James Gurney, fondateur du magazine QP et du salon éponyme de Londres, Pierre Maillard, journaliste respecté du magazine Europastar, ou encore, pour une touche un peu plus iconoclaste, Eric Singer, batteur du groupe de hard rock Kiss, et Dieter Meier, membre fondateur du groupe de musique électronique Yello, qui, en son temps, a participé à la relance d'Ulysse Nardin. Quant au commissaire du jury, il s'agit de Ludwig Oechslin, ancien conservateur du MIH et concepteur de montres astronomiques d'exception. À n'en pas douter, la route du GPHG est en train de se paver d'étoiles.

> Édition 2015 du Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève : les 72 modèles présélectionnés

## Industry News

### Editorial Team

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Jewellery watches

— **Nazanin Lankarani, Laurie Kahle and Anita Khatri talk about their favourite watches in the Jewellery category.**

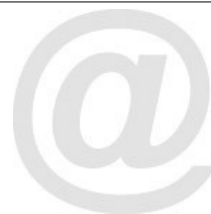


<http://goo.gl/H78ldH>

Nazanin Lankarani

Jewelry has long been a personal favorite category at the GPHG. This year, of the 12 watches in competition in this category, 6 were pre-selected. While all dazzling, the choice of the six reflects a wide range from the traditional bejeweled watch to the highly iconoclastic style.

The two most avant-garde styles - which get my vote - both revisit the past. My favorite, the Extremely Piaget double-sided cuff watch is a nod to the 1970s. This model is a contemporary re-edition of a vintage piece, and captures the nonchalant chic styles of that era. The piece is as fresh and modern as it was 40 years ago.


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### Extremely Reversible cuff

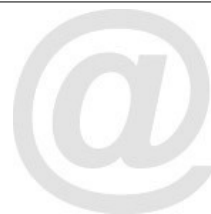
© Piaget

Audemars Piguet's Diamond Punk secret watch, my second choice, also revisits the aesthetics of the 1980s punk era, with a graphic geometric cuff, snow set with about 8000 diamonds. The watch remains nevertheless understated for a high jewelry piece and quite wearable. The secret compartment of the watch transforms the piece into a pure piece of jewelry, which is a useful option when considering jewelry watches.

On the more traditional side, my vote goes to De Grisogono's Grappoli watch with its luscious round dial dripping with blue sapphires. The piece is generous in its volumes, yet remains fun and festive, true to the spirit of the brand.

Fabergé's festive Summer in Provence Multicolored Sapphire watch also deserves a highly favorable mention for this ultra-feminine colorful creation. Although it is not a style I would wear, I can see the romantic, pastoral appeal of this model. If the jury were to lean ultimately toward more traditional styles in this category, Fabergé could be the top contender.





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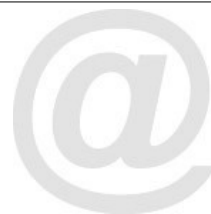
GPHG  
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Grappoli

© de Grisogono

Laurie Kahle

High jewelry watches are the haute couture of the watch realm, and no piece embodies that artful spirit like Audemars Piguet's Diamond Punk. Audacious and unorthodox, the bold cuff is sculpted with 56 three-dimensional pyramid forms that echo the metal studs that were in fashion in the punk rock era of the 70s, when I came of age. Yet, the piece exudes a futuristic rather than retro edginess. The badass grey gold bracelet is beautifully engineered, crafted, and frosted with 7,848 irregular snow-set diamonds. I also have a fondness for secret watches, so the Diamond Punk just steals the show. I also would give a nod to Piaget's retro '70s double-sided cuff, which is another big wow. Love the opal dial and the snow-set cage bracelet. Both channel the '70s in different but fabulous ways.



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Diamond Punk

© Audemars Piguet

Anita Khatri

Looking at the jewellery watches nominated for GPHG reminded me of what British Novelist George Eliot once wrote, "These gems have life in them: their colours speak, say what words fail of," Indeed, all the six brands nominated under this category are full of life, revealing the commendable craftsmanship that has gone behind every piece.

Jewellery is every woman's need and when it unites with time it becomes an extraordinary piece of art like the Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk, Piaget's Extremely Piaget double sided cuff watch or Fabergé's Summer in Provence multicoloured sapphire.

Diamond Punk makes a statement with sharp clean diamonds set on the cuff bracelet (7848 diamonds). Extremely Piaget cuff watch in 18k white gold with the lapis Lazuli dial in deep blue oozes calmness and beauty. Fabergé's Summer in Provence multicoloured sapphires is snow set with precious gemstones across the dial. Provence speaks through its aromatic flowers and Faberge through its gemstones.



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Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire

© Fabergé

Vote for your favourite watch in the ladies' category of the GPHG 2015 in our readers' poll

Date: 14.09.2015



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14 sept 2015 - 08h09

## ACTUALITÉS

### **GPHG 2015 #5 : Mais comment un jury de tels « spécialistes » a-t-il pu se prendre ainsi les pieds dans le tapis en ratant trop de belles montres ?**

Beaucoup d'oublis dans la présélection 2015, mais les jurés ont toujours la possibilité de « repêcher » des marques injustement écartées. N'empêche : il est temps de repenser les mécanismes de présélection de montres appelées à s'imposer dans le monde entier comme les plus belles montres de l'année...



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## Industry News

Brice Lechevalier

SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Interview of Jean-Christophe Babin

— Jean-Christophe Babin, CEO of Bulgari, talks about participating in, and winning, the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève and an upcoming new launch.



<http://goo.gl/AKPzNz>

Four Bulgari watches have been singled out by the GPHG jury. What pleases you most about these choices?

It's the perfect balance for Bulgari, two masculine watches and two jewellery watches! But Finissimo stands out in the Men's category, which had more candidates, making this pre-selection a particular source of



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satisfaction. Finissimo perfectly embodies the two dimensions of Bulgari Watchmaking: Italian style and horological expertise. On the one hand, it picks up Roman architectural codes while presenting highly technical lines that might have been designed by Leonardo de Vinci; and on the other, its exceptional movement would have been unimaginable 40 years ago when Bulgari became involved in men's watchmaking. With such a recent watchmaking history, producing a movement with the thickness of a five-franc coin in-house, with or without a tourbillon, is a great achievement in itself that demonstrates our mastery of high end watchmaking.

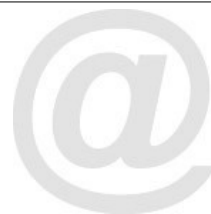


Finissimo

© Bulgari

Does this statement also apply to Il Giardino Notturmo selected in the Ladies' High-Mech category?

Indeed, and in this sector, Bulgari is one of the most innovative and ahead of the game brands. Many jewellery watches have been created in the past, and many masculine complications, but very few brands have brought a masculine complication into the feminine universe. Il Giardino Notturmo is the fourth development in this case featuring a concept combining jewellery, artistic crafts and sophisticated horological complexity. Therein lies the luxury of this watch, alongside its immediately visible aesthetic qualities.



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Il Giardino Notturmo

© Bulgari

What has the prize won last year in the GPHG Jewellery category meant to you?

While the impact at the end-consumer level is always very difficult to evaluate because there are many factors involved, the positive effects on influential trendsetters are undeniable. This award has sparked great motivation and instilled a sense of pride in our teams, including our boutique sales advisers. For multi-brand retailers, it is an additional argument in promoting Bulgari, since in a store with 15 or 20 brands, having powerful arguments gives a distinct competitive edge. For example, the fact of being a full-fledged Manufacture that can make jewellery watches – and in this instance of seeing our jewellery watches recognised by the most important jury in the watch industry – is somewhat like having a film that wins an award at the Cannes International Film Festival.


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Jean-Claude Babin

© Bulgari

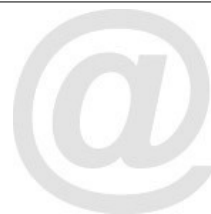
The 15th edition of the GPHG will take place on October 29th. What is your experience of the work achieved by Carine Maillard and Carlo Lamprecht who direct it?

The Grand Prix has become an institution that reaches well beyond the watchmaking microcosm: it is clearly THE most sought-after annual get-together, and no longer exclusively among the watch industry community itself, but also for watch fans. In my opinion there are two reasons for this success: repetition, because it takes time to develop the visibility and reputation of an event; as well as the admirable manner in which the jury has evolved. Its expansion and its neutrality give the Grand Prix ever-increasing legitimacy and credibility. Carine Maillard and Carlo Lamprecht were right to have fought tooth and nail to defend the Grand Prix, and also to have revamped the jury so as to make it completely independent. Today, it is an essential landmark for all watch brands and I hope that all will take part in it, convinced that it is won on the merit of creativity and craftsmanship. And if they don't get a prize this year, they may well do so next year or in two or three years' time, not to worry. Each prize-winning watch is an advertisement for our industry and in the end, the greatest advantage of the GPHG is an annual celebration of watchmaking giving the sector special international visibility on this occasion. This major spotlight is amazing for the entire industry, and that is why we take part each year.

You are launching your new Divina collection in parallel. What should your clients expect?

Firstly, to rediscover the Diva shape, notably with regard to the wristband attachment, because Bulgari is committed to its jewellery design codes. But above all to discover an endless range of acetate dial variations produced by our dial-making company in La Chaux-de-Fonds\*. Acetate is a living material that makes each dial unique. It is as if one were to cut the trunk of a tree: each slice is different because you never find the





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same texture in the same place. These rich depths of texture provide an appealing alternative to mother-of-pearl. In addition, this new line offers women an evening watch that one can classify in the category of affordable jewellery watches, with prices starting at 15,000 francs. It is positioned between the everyday wear watches such as the Serpenti and Lucea that have become our bestsellers, and the Diva, Astrale and Musa occupying the very high end of the range at 50,000 francs and up. The Divina will be available in our boutiques in October 2015 and in our retailer network next year.

\*Bulgari Manufacture de Cadrons (Bulgari Dial Manufacture).



Divina

© Bulgari

## Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Men's Watches

5 hours ago

With the pre-selected Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève watches now visible on the organization's own site (gphg.org), enthusiasts can see all the nominees for the annual 'Oscars of the watchmaking industry' on October 29. Until then, iW will annotate the list of nominated watches for you with a series of posts, organized by category, so you can put each nominee into context.

All told, seventy-two timepieces will be competing to win the "Aiguille d'Or" Grand Prize or one of the sixteen prizes awarded for creative talent and watchmaking expertise. Readers can submit their own vote for Public Prize at the GPHG site, where each voter also enters a contest to win a Glorious Knight Chronograph by DeWitt. The 2015 list of winners will be announced at the 15th annual ceremony at the Grand Théâtre de Genève on October 29. Today we look at the watches nominated in Men's Watches category.

### GPHG 2015 Men's Watches Nominees



### BVLGARI OCTO FINISSIMO SMALL SECONDS

Ever since Bvlgari's Octo first launched five years ago, an Octo has found its way onto many well-dressed collector wrists. Octo's impressive and well-conceived architectural case design has already made it a classic for this Italian-Swiss maker, and Bvlgari smartly has created a wide-ranging Octo collection, including a record-breaking ultra-thin tourbillon. The dial is uncluttered and very easy to read. Only the numbers six and twelve appear on it to honor a Bvlgari watchmaking custom since the 1940s. Added markers indicate all the other hours. This particular mechanical hand-wound Octo Finissimo watch, with a Bvlgari-made movement, is available in two thin 40mm models, both with an impressive 65-hour power reserve.



### LAURENT FERRIER GALET SQUARE

A critical favorite, this luxurious 41mm model –for the first time offered in steel–adds an unusual technical edge to the caliber inside its cushion/tonneau hybrid case. Ferrier's own movement, self-winding FBN 229.01, with unidirectional pawl-fitted micro-rotor and a three-day power reserve, is his third in-house caliber. It's equipped with silicon escapement featuring double direct impulse on the balance that enables the balance to be impelled twice per oscillation, a principle that requires two escape-wheels and an appropriately shaped lever.



### LOUIS VUITTON ESCALE TIME ZONE

A new series production of last years' larger, hand-painted Escale World Time, Louis Vuitton with this new model made its version of a luxury travel watch more affordable. The original model is a 42mm hand-painted watch that Louis Vuitton displayed alongside its own dial artisans last year at Basel. Louis Vuitton added a minute-repeating cousin, the Escale World Time Minute Repeater, earlier this year. Shown alongside the repeater, this 39mm Escale TimeZone model, with its production-friendly transferred dial, will again intrigue travellers who want an original GMT design, but perhaps without the higher price tag of other models. In two rows of color, the rim of the dial bears the cities' initials. A 24-hour disc, directly adjustable by the crown, allows the time of reference to be set opposite the name of the desired city, and therefore all the others. At the center, the local time is displayed in traditional fashion by a small hour hand marked by a triangle and a minute hand.





MB&amp;F HMX

Recently while visiting iW in New York, Max Büsser pointed out one of his favorite features on this auto-inspired HMX: the two oil caps on the top of HMX's movement not only mimic their automotive namesake, they actually can be unscrewed to allow a watchmaker to add oil to the rubies below. Büsser's childhood dreams of becoming a car designer have come true—at least on a miniature scale. Rotating discs on top of the movement feature mirror-image numerals. These are reflected 90° and magnified by two sapphire crystal optical prisms that “project” the time onto the front vertical display. This completely re-engineered take on the HM5 was sold at a reduced price to thank MB&F collectors, who responded by buying every one of the eighty HMX pieces made.



PIAGET ALTIPLANO 900P

The 38mm 900P Altiplano burnishes Piaget's name as the watchmaker specializing in ultra-thin watches. This world's thinnest mechanical watch, at 3.65mm thick, utilizes the case as a movement plate. Housing both the caliber and the case, the caseback was itself machine-tooled to accommodate the mechanical components. Dazzlingly contemporary, the watch maintains a more vintage size, at 38mm in diameter, yet looks like nothing made in previous generations. But Piaget did not utilize high-tech materials to keep this watch thin, simply working with its own decades of experience. Despite its size, the 900P maintains a healthy 48 hours of power reserve.



## VOUTILAINEN GMR

This watch by independent watchmaker Kari Voutilainen was cited as a favorite by many iW Leading Watch Retailers after they saw it at Baselworld earlier this year. The new timepiece offers a 24-hour second time zone and retrograde power reserve indicator from its in-house, handmade movement. Voutilainen's design allows the wearer to adjust the second time zone by the crown. The timezone then advances by jumping an hour each time rather than rotating freely. As a result, no accuracy is lost when comparing to local time. The GMT utilizes the small second at 6 while the retrograde power reserve indicator is at 12h. This is a limited edition of twelve watches.

The post Grand Prix View: GPHG 2015 Men's Watches appeared first on iW International Watch Magazine.

[View the entire article on iW Magazine](#)



## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Men's Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why. Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical editor

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

What Makes Me Tick (WMMT), resident opinionator and storyteller

Note: as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

The official definition of the Men's category is that the timepiece in question must comprise two at most of the following indications: date, power reserve, classic moon phase, and second time zone. The timepiece may be adorned with gems of up to 5 carats only.

JM: For the Men's category in the 2015 GPHG there are some very worthy examples. This is a hard category for me simply because I have my favorite, but in the end I know that will not hold the top spot as there is one in this category truly deserving of ultimate honors.



Men's watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Bulgari Octo Finissimo Small



Seconds, Laurent Ferrier Galet Square, Louis Vuitton Escale Time Zone, Voutilainen GMR, MB&F HMX, and Piaget Altiplano 900P

IS: When selecting which watches might win in these categories, it's not enough to pick a personal favorite, Joshua, but rather one that we think the jury will think is the best. And while it's not mentioned in the definition, juries over the years have tended to favor relatively conservative dress watches in the Men's watch category.

So my top three are watches that would feel natural while wearing a suit and tie as much as jeans and a t-shirt. And if the jury goes wild and selects a crazier or more colorful watch, so much the better!

WMMT: The final list of men's watch is a fantastic example of today's offerings from the extremely classical to the audacious and from small artisans to major luxury brands. This is the only category where I actually like all six pre-selected watches.

Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

IS: My pick for the Men's category in the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève is the Laurent Ferrier Galet Square. It comprises an impeccably hand-finished in-house movement within a slim 11-millimeter case, which is important in a dress watch. It displays just the essentials: hours, minutes, and small seconds. The case at 41 x 41 mm is a sweet spot for size, and the cushion shape adds a touch more interest over ubiquitous round cases without being too flashy . . . what's not to like?



Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

WMMT: I felt smacking all those people in the face who said it looked like a Panerai! It's like comparing a Big Mac to a burger made by Alain Ducasse!

“Galet” means “pebble” in French, and I love the way the tactile feel of a pebble has been maintained in the square case. The movement is just stunning with its micro rotor, direct-impulse escapement, and a touch of modernity with the silicon escapement and not to mention the superlative hand finish.

IS: And the beauty of the movement is more than skin deep. Much more.

While the micro rotor is a nice touch for keeping the thickness down, it's the silicon escapement that deserves a closer look. The double direct balance has two escape wheels and is powered twice per oscillation. Be still my beating heart.



Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

WMMT: The dial is pretty amazing as well as it looks simple yet so complex with the different finishes.

GG: This year, we've changed our format a bit, and no longer have separate categories for “what the judges should pick” and “my personal favorite.” My selection of the Laurent Ferrier is perhaps more based on the latter rationale, as it is hands-down the watch among this group that I would buy with my own money!

That midnight blue dial with white metal case is calling out for me. The case shape is a triumph, and the underlying micro rotor movement is pure class.

#### Quick Facts Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

**Movement:** in-house automatic Caliber FBN 229.01 with 72 hours' power reserve and double direct impulse balance with silicon escapement

**Case:** 41 x 41 x 11.1 mm, stainless steel

Functions: hours, minutes, subsidiary seconds

Price: 35,000 Swiss francs

Piaget Altiplano 900P

IS: GPHG juries have tended to be conservative in the Men's category, but with its exposed gear train on the dial side, the Piaget Altiplano 900P is a nice blend of the classic dress watch with technical aesthetics. But looks are just the first course in this horological feast: the main meal is the thickness (or lack thereof). At just 3.65 mm, this is a world record-holding ultra thin of ultra thins.

To shave every possible fraction off the height, the Altiplano 900P dispenses with a main plate and uses instead the case back as its main plate. And though the mainspring barrel is suspended in the drive by a single bridge for thinness, the power reserve is still a very healthy 48 hours, which is unusual for a watch this svelte.



Piaget Altiplano 900P

GG: The Piaget Altiplano 900P is my second pick.

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N° de thème: 781.033  
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Piaget Altiplano 900P

JM: For my second runner-up I chose the Piaget Altiplano 900P for extraordinary mechanical feats of creating the thinnest mechanical watch in the world. Utilizing the case back as the main plate of the movement, and going for clean and modern styling, this watch stands out to me as a true modern man's watch. Simply awesome.

#### Quick Facts Piaget Altiplano 900P

Movement: manually wound Caliber 900P, world-record holder as the thinnest mechanical watch

Case: 38 x 3.65 mm, white gold

Functions: hours, minutes

Price: 25,500 Swiss francs

Voutilainen GMR

IS: If I had to choose one of the pre-selected watches in this category for myself it would be the Voutilainen GMR. Beautiful movement, superlative finishing, impeccable execution, sublime guilloché dial, drop-dead gorgeous teardrop lugs, and those hands need no superlatives from me. And exclusivity is assured in a limited edition of 12 pieces.

But I don't think this will be the jury's favorite because Voutilainen took the prize for best Artistic Crafts watch in 2014 and I think it will want to spread the love a little wider this year.



Date: 11.09.2015



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Voutilainen GMR

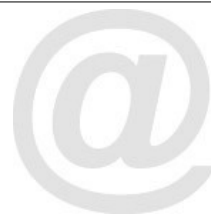
JM: There is no other winner than the inimitable Kari Voutilainen and his GMR. This watch is classic and still modern. It is an exquisite piece of horological workmanship, a cleanly designed and executed watch, and something that will never, ever look out of place on a man's wrist. That is why it is a winner.

Date: 11.09.2015



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#### Voutilainen GMR

It checks every category one could want in a classic men's watch, and then some. And when you consider the pedigree of the watchmaker (which is ever more important than branding) there can be no doubt which one deserves top honors as the winner in this category.

#### Quick Facts Voutilainen GMR

Movement: manually wound movement with 60 hours of power reserve; 18,000 vph

Case: 39 x 11.5 mm, white gold

Functions: hours, minutes, subsidiary seconds, second time zone, power reserve

Limitation: 12 pieces

Price: 108,000 Swiss francs

#### MB&F HMX

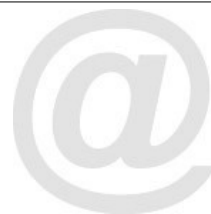
WMMT: I love the concept behind this watch: most brands bring out expensive multi complications for their anniversaries, while MB&F presented its most affordable watch to date. And it isn't any less exciting because it is cheaper!

Date: 11.09.2015



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N° de thème: 781.033  
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MB&F HMX Blue

GG: My third place is a tie between the Louis Vuitton Escale Time Zone and the MB&F HMX.

But while I'm at it, I'll confess that perhaps second on the list of "my own money" watches in this category is the Louis Vuitton with its combination of time zone functionality, fun looks, and unbeatable price.

IS: The MB&F is by far the most interesting watch here in terms of design, but I can't help feel that the jury will be looking for something more conservative in this category.



Looking between the vertical indication of HMX you can see the MB&F logo on the top of the “engine”

JM: For the first runner-up I painfully had to choose the MB&F HMX, one of my favorite MB&F pieces (okay, okay, I love them all for different reasons, this one is just the newest).

The mechanical ideas of this watch are incredible and clever, building on the success of the HM5. The reason it is painful is because I just get more viscerally excited by this watch compared to the rest of the category, and I want it on my wrist. And yet it still stands second best to another here (sorry, Max, I still love it).

For more on the HMX, please read The Independent Genius Of MB&F's HMX.

#### Quick Facts MB&F HMX

Case: 46.8 x 44.3 x 20.7 mm, titanium and stainless steel; dual reflective sapphire crystal prisms with integrated magnifying lens

Movement: automatic Sellita caliber with jump hour and training minutes module developed in-house; 223 components

Functions: bi-directional jumping hours and “trailing” minutes

Limitation: four color schemes of 20 pieces each in Lotus Black, Ferrari Red, Bugatti Blue, and British Racing Green for a total of 80 pieces

Price: CHF 31,400

Bulgari Octo Finissimo



WMMT: It was a close call between this and the Voutilainen, but I love the way Bulgari has taken the Octo case and slimmed it down. The off-center small seconds is a fantastic twist, and the overall design is classical, contemporary and . . . sartorial.



Bulgari Octo Finissimo Petite Seconde

Quick Facts Bulgari Octo Finissimo

Movement: manually wound movement, not specified which

Case: 40 x 5.15 mm, pink gold

Functions: hours, minutes, subsidiary seconds

Price: 23,000 Swiss francs

Predicted winners:

Ian: Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

What Makes Me Tick: Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

Joshua: Voutilainen GMR

Gary: Laurent Ferrier Galet Square

## Quill & Pad's Predictions For The Ladies Category Of The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

Welcome to the 2015 edition of Quill & Pad's early Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) predictions in which we pick our favorites and explain why.

Our panelists are:

Ian Skellern (IS), co-founder and technical director

Joshua Munchow (JM), resident nerd writer

GaryG (GG), resident collector

Nancy Olson (NO), resident pen expert

Note, as a GPHG jury member, Quill & Pad editor-in-chief Elizabeth Doerr is excluded from these predictions.

Ladies': women's watches comprising two at most of the following indications: date, power reserve, classic moon phase, second time zone; may be adorned with a maximum 5-carat gemsetting.

IS: As I'm the wrong sex to know exactly what women are looking for in a watch, I'm going to base my selection on which of these pre-selected watches I'd consider for my wife (money not being a limiting factor) and why.

NO: While I think all the watches featured this year in the Ladies category are really beautiful, well-crafted timepieces, my top three picks are the DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony, the Ulysse Nardin Jade, and the Audemars Piguet Millenary – each for very different reasons.

JM: While I am not a woman, I can definitely appreciate beautiful and feminine timepieces. My favorites stand out for their style as well as their mechanical competence, and specifically because they are not limited, special, or unique editions (with the exception of the hand-enameled DeLaneau, of course).

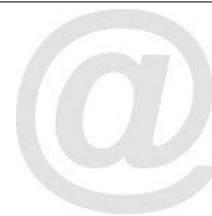
All six Ladies watches pre-selected for the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève clockwise from top left: Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds, DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony, Hublot Big Bang Broderie, Audemars Piguet Millenary, Ulysse Nardin Jade, and Piaget Limelight Gala

Delaneau Rondo 42 Peony

Delaneau Rondo 42 Peony

IS: My top pick in the Ladies category has to be the Delaneau Rondo 42 Peony, mainly for its visually striking oven-fired black enamel dial, which makes a sensational background for the colorful peony set with 12 yellow diamonds in the center.

NO: It is stunningly understated and perhaps best described as the classic little black dress of watches –


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every woman should have one. The seemingly simple embellishments of diamonds totaling about six carats, augmented by the gem-studded peony at 10 o'clock, are really not simple at all. In addition to exquisite stone setting, it comprises a few different types of enameling techniques: grand feu, plique à jour, and paillon.

IS: But looks aren't everything, and while it was the spectacular dial that first attracted my eye, the reason that the Rondo Peony is my top pick is that it also ticks a few more boxes that generally appeal to women: automatic winding and diamonds. Diamonds around the bezel, diamonds on the lugs, diamonds in the peony flower, and there's even a diamond in the crown.

### Rondo 42 Peony by Delaneau

While a few women may find 42 mm a touch on the large size, I think that because it is slim it will look and feel great on any wrist size. I don't know about my wife, but I would never get tired of looking at that dial.

NO: The inky-black dial, interrupted only by the flower and its sparkling yellow sapphire center, breathes an entirely distinctive spirit into the Rondo, particularly with the addition of the graceful hour and minute hands. This watch gets my vote for authenticity, since it is a true tribute to what DeLaneau does best.

### Quick Facts DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony

Movement: automatic, caliber not specified, 72 hours power reserve

Case: 42 x 11.34 mm, white gold

Functions: hours, minutes

Price: 95,000 Swiss francs

### Ulysse Nardin Jade

### Ulysse Nardin Jade

IS: There are many things that I like about the Ulysse Nardin Jade, not the least of which is the manufacture movement especially developed for these ladies models. But the Jade has much more going for it than a nice movement. The slightly oval case adds a touch of je ne sais quoi that makes round cases look a little bit bland at times.

NO: The Jade collection, first introduced in 2013, is significant for many reasons, but perhaps most notably because it is the first ladies collection in which the company has offered an in-house movement: the UN-310 with hours, minutes, small seconds, date, and power reserve. This latest pink gold rendition has everything I want in a watch, from its user-friendly manufacture movement to its drop-dead gorgeous looks.

IS: The diamond-set bezel and crown are a perfect balance of not too bling, but not shy to strut either. I like the non-uniformity of mother-of-pearl dials, and that serpentine diamond-set gold swirl on the dial is a nice touch.


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The crown, which neither needs pulling or pushing to operate is clever. And I while some dislike power reserve indicators on automatic watches, I think that they are a good idea, especially on a ladies' watch with a smaller rotor.

### Jade by Ulysse Nardin

NO: The Jade has a pusher at the 4 o'clock position on the case designed to change the function of the crown: position one winds the watch, while position two sets the date forward and backward. Position three sets the time. Each function is then actuated by turning the crown forward or backward without any need to pull it out – brilliant, and apparently manicure-friendly.

IS: The Ulysse Nardin Jade would have been the winner for me except for one indication: the date. To my eyes that date is too small and I'm not talking too small for old eyes to read. That date just ruins the lines of the dial for me.

NO: I love the stylized interpretation of the Arabic numerals on the dial, not to mention the unexpected dotting and swoop of diamonds on the white mother-of-pearl that seem to caress the small seconds without constricting them. This is a lovely new interpretation of this flagship model.

For more information, read 5 In-House Calibers From Ulysse Nardin.

### Quick Facts Ulysse Nardin Jade

Movement: automatic, Ulysse Nardin in-house Caliber UN-310 with silicon escapement

Case: 36 x 39 x 10.64 mm, pink gold

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds; date, power reserve indication

Price: 25,500 Swiss francs

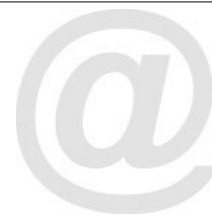
### Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds

### Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds

IS: It's surprising, moon phase indications being a staple of ladies' watches, that the Hermès Arceau Petite Lune is the only one of the six pre-selected Ladies' watches to display a moon phase indication. While the diamond-set bezel is fairly ubiquitous in this category, those sparklers look the part and they neatly frame the mother of pearl dial with the "old" Hermès font of the Arceau line, which I'm a big fan of. I also like the new font of the Slim d'Hermès line very much! (Read Introducing Slim d'Hermès: The Elegant New Backbone Of The Hermès Collection.)

While I think that automatic movement is a plus – because in my experience, women generally (and I know there are many exceptions) tend to prefer wearing and admiring over winding – the Petite Lune loses points for me because the movement is slightly small for the case. That moon phase indication and date are on the periphery of the movement, and it's a pity that they are not also on the periphery of the dial. That said, this is a




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good-looking watch and I much prefer the date on a ring like this to a window in the dial.

#### Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds by Hermès

JM: As my pick for winner of the category, I would choose none other than the Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds. Not only does this piece have a date and moon phase combined with a very clean mother-of-pearl dial, it maintains readability and stylistic integrity throughout the entire piece.

The wire lugs of uneven sizes typical of the Arceau line lends some dynamism to the entire watch on the wrist, instead of forcing an uneven design to overtake the dial for a sense of movement. It also tops out the competition as the most affordable model, putting it in reach of a wider swatch of feminine watch aficionados. Quite amazing considering its exclusive movement!

GG: I also put the Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds in top three of this category.

#### Quick Facts Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds

Movement: automatic, Hermès manufacture Caliber H1912 with Dubois Dépraz module for moon, 50 hours' power reserve

Case: 38 mm, stainless steel

Functions: hours, minutes; date, moon phase

Price: 14,900 Swiss francs

#### Piaget Limelight Gala

#### Piaget Limelight Gala

JM: For my second runner-up, I choose the Piaget Limelight Gala for its refined and graceful beauty combined with a truly petite and feminine size: 32 mm is the smallest watch in the category, and while I know many women enjoy larger watches, it seems to me to be the most restrained and classic.

GG: I also put the Piaget Limelight Gala in top three of this category.

#### Limelight Gala by Piaget

#### Quick Facts Piaget Limelight Gala

Movement: hand-wound, caliber not specified

Case: hours, minutes


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Functions: hours, minutes

Price: 32,500 Swiss francs

## Diamond-set Audemars Piguet Millenary

### Audemars Piguet Millenary

GG: I've long been a fan of this watch line that looks even better on the wrist than when seen on display, and this twentieth-anniversary interpretation is absolutely gorgeous. It's not too big to be wearable, but still makes a real statement.

NO: While the Millenary was first created a couple of decades ago, this white gold addition to the line has a new hand-wound manufacture movement: the Millenary 5201. Much of it is gorgeously visible on the dial side the watch.

While its functions are pretty straightforward – hours, minutes, and small seconds – the way they are visually elucidated is quite inventive. The offset diamond-paved hour and minute dial features non-conformist Roman numerals typical of the Millenary, and the diamond-rimmed mother-of-pearl small seconds subdial is nestled in at about 8 o'clock. On top of all this, I love oval-shaped watches, which seem so intuitive in their fit on one's wrist.

### Audemars Piguet Millenary Woman in white gold with diamond-set dial

GG: Audemars Piguet claims that the new 5201 movement has been created to fit the form of the case exactly; I wish that the balance bridge were even more toward the left edge of the case to follow through on this claim, but overall the combination of appearance and horological interest made this one my winner.

JM: For the first runner-up, I would go with the Audemars Piguet Millenary, both for the on-display mechanics treated elegantly and with sensible women in mind, and for the classic Millenary case shape and off-center dial.

Both combine to make something that is intriguing to look at, something perfect for a woman of intrigue.

NO: This watch has my vote for GPHG winner: it's a strong-looking, yet feminine example from a collection that is improving with age.

For more on the Audemars Piguet Millenary, please see Give Me Five! Scintillating Ladies Watches From SIHH 2015.

### Quick Facts Audemars Piguet Millenary

Movement: manually wound Audemars Piguet Caliber 5201 with visible regulation system

Case: 39.5 x 35.4 x 9.8 mm, white gold

Date: 08.09.2015



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1196 Gland  
022 367 02 92

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Presse spécialisée



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N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742

Functions: hours, minutes, seconds

Price: 56,500 Swiss francs

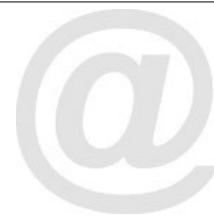
Predicted winners:

Ian: DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony

Nancy: Audemars Piguet Millenary

Joshua: Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds

Gary: Audemars Piguet Millenary



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GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
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## Industry News

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SEPTEMBER 08, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Ladies' High Mech Watches

— Anita Khatri, Nazanin Lankarani and Laurie Kahle talk about their favourite watches in the Ladies' High Mech category.



<http://goo.gl/aR0HG6>

Anita Khatri

Any kind of watch if meant for a woman cannot sacrifice on its aesthetic appeal. With this category of nomination in GPHG we salute all the qualifying brands shortlisted under this category. The piece which certainly deserves a standing ovation is Fabergé's Lady Compliquée Peacock. This piece has craftsmanship, innovation, elegance and beauty. It has no hour or minute hands. Instead elements of the peacock move constantly to display time. Its the unique display of time which features a fan at the heart of the watch. In a Platinum case with a platinum crown, size 38 mm with 54 brilliant cut diamonds. A piece of art for a successful sophisticated women.





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Lady Compliquée Peacock.

© Fabergé

Nazanin Lankarani

Only nine watches competed in the Ladies' High Mechanics category this year (see here), compared to 14 in the Men's Mechanical Exception category, to which, in fairness, must be added most of the other Mens' watches in competition given that most present a mechanical complication. That comparison demonstrates that in the high mechanical category, watches for women remain, in the market as in this competition, a relatively uncommon beast.

Here, I must also note the absence of Christophe Claret, a serious contender in this category and winner of the prize last year with the remarkable Margot. I am also disappointed that the ultra-cool HYT H1 Iceberg did not make the cut, as it is a fantastic model of mechanical prowess, sporty and feminine in white gold with blue liquid.

In this category, the watches that appeal to me are those that feature a horological complication in the service of a function that makes the watch quintessentially feminine.

The Fabergé Lady Compliquée Peacock is an interesting model. Inspired by the Peter Carl Fabergé's famous Peacock egg designed in 1908, it features a complication that displays the hours at the winding crown located at three o'clock using a rotating mother of pearl band, and the minutes by the peacock's fanning tail as it deploys its feathers with the passage of time.

Chaumet's creative Hortensia Complication is also a serious contender. Part of Chaumet's Hortensia high jewelry collection, the complication in this watch shows the time by the dance of two hydrangea flowers along



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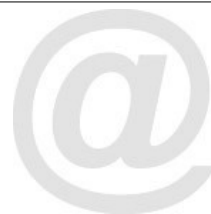
a winding path around the dial. The proportions and volumes make this a generous and opulent model.



Creative Hortensia Complication.

© Chaumet

Finally, the Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower is interesting in that it adds an "automaton" function to the mechanism of the watch, all in the same space and without interference with the watch's functioning. The automaton here is a blossoming flower, an added animation that allows a lotus flower to open.



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Lady 8 Flower.

© Jaquet Droz

Laurie Kahle

Bulgari's Il Giardino Notturmo speaks to my romantic side with its modern application of traditional métiers d'art combined with a dramatic moon phase complication, a personal favorite. The intricate multi-layered dial's execution is exquisite with its moonflower blooms engraved using the champlevé technique and set with white diamonds, while petals are inset with luminous white and Tahitian mother-of-pearl. Watery waves are sculpted from mother-of-pearl that has a bluish tint achieved by applying black varnish to the underside of the material. Sparkly blue aventurine glass serves as the night sky, a glittering backdrop for the oversize engraved and polished gold moons that sweep across the top of the dial. This beautifully rendered nocturnal scene, combined with a dynamic moon phase, captures the hearts of dreamers and stargazers.



Lire en ligne



GPHG  
GRAND PRIX D'HORLOGERIE DE GENÈVE

N° de thème: 781.033  
N° d'abonnement: 1096742



Il Giardino Notturmo.

© Bulgari

Vote for your favourite watch in the ladies' high-mech category at the GPHG 2015 in the WorldTempus readers' poll.



## Industry News

Michèle Brunner

SEPTEMBER 07, 2015

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Newsletter A warm welcome to Urban Jürgensen

— After a week filled with important announcements from the SIHH and the GPHG, let's now focus on the elegance of a few mechanical beauties.



<http://goo.gl/KiMUKO>

The 72 watches pre-selected for the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève were unveiled last Tuesday and this week we will continue the series of round tables that began last Friday, with an ongoing focus on women. Our three contributors Nazanin Lankarani, Anita Kathri and Laurie Khale present their favourite models in the Ladies' High-Mech and Jewellery categories. Bulgari, Chaumet and Piaget are competing in each of the two

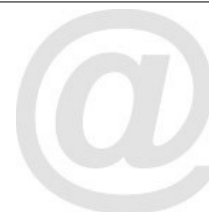


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Worldtempus  
1206 Genève  
022/ 588 61 00  
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categories: do their watches appeal to our writers? Don't forget that you also have the possibility of voting via our prediction competition for your favourite watches in each of the 12 categories by clicking here. Go right ahead!

"Ladies' watches, vintage cars and a new partners"

Michèle Brunner

Elegance was also in the spotlight at the Chantilly Estate yesterday, where another kind of fine mechanical models also competed beneath the benevolent eye of Richard Mille, sponsor of the Chantilly Arts & Elegance event. Later in the week, Olivier Müller will be filing his report on this prestigious automobile competition. Still in the world of luxury and speed machines, but switching from cars to yachts, the latest models from the Challenge Sea-Liner by Cvstos feature a navy blue that prolongs the spirit of summer on the wrist. And we will wind up the week with a flyover of the IWC Pilot's Watch collection and an interview with Jean-Christophe Babin, CEO of Bulgari.

At what is proving to be a particularly dynamic post-vacation period, the entire WorldTempus team is delighted to be welcoming aboard a new partner brand, Urban Jürgensen, one of the laureates in the GPHG 2014. And welcome back to our editor in chief who just returned from vacation!

Finally, our traditional monthly contest that kicked off on September 1st offers a chance to win one of 10 Swiss Kubik StartBox watch winding boxes; and since summer is not yet over, the daily competitions are also continuing through to September 21st. Make the most of this opportunity to explore fine watchmaking from a playful angle.

## GPHG 2015: Memoris by Louis Moinet: nominated for the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie of Geneva

Sep. 07, 2015



The nomination of a timepiece for the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie of Geneva is anything but a fluke – it's the tangible fruit of combined wisdom: that of a group of renowned experts.

Each will have had their own, private reasons, but at the end of the day the objective qualities of Memoris commanded a majority of votes. Here are six keys to understanding this unashamedly different watch.

**Memoris: a genuine horological invention**

Memoris is not just the latest reinterpretation of a chronograph – an exercise that has been done to death. Memoris is the first 'chronograph watch' in history: a timepiece that has been developed entirely with the 'chronograph' complication uppermost in mind, especially designed for the piece and in full view on the dial. In an unprecedented move, the time display thereby becomes secondary, offset here to six o'clock.

**Memoris: the quintessence of technology**

The Memoris LM54 caliber, is wholly exclusive to the piece. With a rhythm of 28,800 vibrations per hour (4Hz), it boasts 302 components – and a 48-hour power reserve. Over sixty parts have been designed and manufactured to allow the chronograph to be presented atop a dedicated movement plate, separating it from the automatic movement beneath.



The chronograph: king of complications

Watchmakers often consider the chronograph to be the finest of watch complications. Comprising a total of over 300 parts, Memoris is perhaps the most spectacular chronograph made to date: its entire function – over 60 parts – is fully visible on the dial side. The three functions of the column wheel, operated by its monopusher, can be seen. The assembly includes two separate hammers, another rare feature. And the swivel of the yoke is aligned along the same axis as the second wheel, further ensuring quality.

#### Energie Plus: the future of automatic winding

For the past few years, Louis Moinet has been developing and perfecting a completely new winding system, named Energie Plus – and Memoris benefits from the most advanced version. The process relies on a pawl system, featuring a spring with a 'crab claw' design, along with a ceramic ball bearing mounted on the dual-material rotor.

The advantage of "Energie Plus" is that it allows the piece to be wound up in both directions, with a minimum of excess travel. This optimizes each movement of the rotor, recovering its energy, and winding the movement more effectively. This particular invention has already earned the Mekanograph a prize in the Chronometry Competition.

#### Memoris: the crowning glory of Louis Moinet's first decade

In just ten years, between 2004 and 2014, Ateliers Louis Moinet has created its identity and fine-tuned its positioning, developing coherent, innovative and exclusive haute horlogerie collections. First unveiled in March 2015, Memoris is the epitome of the brand's first decade – highly creative, and proudly, fully independent from the very beginning.





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1004 Lausanne

021 624 39 00

www.watchonista.com

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## Memoris: a vibrant tribute to one man's genius

Mr Louis Moinet invented the chronograph in 1816. Memoris pays tribute to the man who laid the foundations for modern watchmaking in his Treatise on the subject (1848). As the first chronograph-watch in history, Memoris is opening up a new path, just as Mr Moinet did two centuries earlier – making a landmark contribution to restoring Mr Louis Moinet's name to the pantheon of watchmakers.

## GPHG 2015: Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Watch Pre-Selected in the 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

Sep. 04, 2015



The Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) has announced that the Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Limited Edition watch has been pre-selected in the Calendar watch category. The Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève is a world-renowned watch competition where watch brands from all over the world vie for the highest honors.

The Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Limited Edition was chosen in the first round of voting by a jury of more than 20 experts, including watchmakers, gemologists, historians and critics. The ultimate winner in each of the competition's 12 categories, as well as the winner of the Aiguille d'Or of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, the most prestigious award in watchmaking, will be announced at a gala ceremony at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, on October 29.

Named for founder Charles Tiffany, the Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar is handcrafted in a tradition of excellence established by Mr. Tiffany with the opening of his New York City store, in 1837. His reputation as timekeeper of the city's frenetic pace—famously referred to as the New York Minute—is richly reflected in the watch's self-winding, double-complication mechanical movement of the finest Swiss pedigree, with Côtes de Genève, Colimaçon and Perlage finishing. The movement is housed in a 40 mm case of 18 karat rose gold. A white soleil finish with gold poudré numerals distinguishes the clean, masculine dial. This timepiece was created in a limited-edition series of 60. Each piece is individually numbered on the case.

The Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Limited Edition will be part of a traveling exhibition alongside the other pre-selected watches, scheduled as follows: Hong Kong (Liang Yi Museum, October 2–), Seoul (Hyundai Card Music Library, October 6–), Dubai (Dubai Watch Week—DIFC, October 18–), Geneva (Cité du Temps,



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UUpM: 185'568  
Page Visits: 201'566

**Lire en ligne**

N° de thème: 781.033  
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October 264).

Since its spring 2015 launch, the Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Limited Edition has exceeded all expectations. In celebration of the 2015 opening of Tiffany & Co. in Geneva, the jeweler and watchmaker also created a new Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar Limited Edition watch in 18 karat white gold featuring a case back which is engraved with Tiffany's watchmaking facility that opened at Geneva's Place Cornavin in 1874. Fall 2015 will see the launch of two new Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar watches in white gold, with a black or gray dial, both in limited editions of 60 timepieces. Additionally, a new Tiffany CT60® Annual Calendar watch in rose gold with black dial will debut by the end of the year.

@tiffanyandco #tiffanynymminute



Lire en ligne

Editorial Team

SEPTEMBER 04, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Round Table: Ladies' Watches

— Our contributors Nazanin Lankarani, Laurie Khale and Anita Khatri look at the six preselected watches in the Ladies' category


<http://goo.gl/Sf41Ts>

Nazanin Lankarani

Competition was stiff this year with 21 watches entered in the Ladies' category. The six pre-selected by the jury in this first round reveal a preference for more traditional looking round dials. It was disappointing news for the rectangular Chanel Boyfriend Beige Gold watch that was, in my view, an outstanding model, sober yet discreetly luxurious and ultimately modern.

As a general rule, in the Ladies' watch category, my preference goes for timepieces that embody something purely feminine. Here, the primary criterion is aesthetics rather than mechanics. A ladies' watch should not be a smaller version of a man's watch, or one that is "feminized" by a setting of pavé diamonds. It should captures a certain feminine essence.

Of the six, the Piaget Limelight Gala, appears that do just that, with the simplicity of its curvaceous design and





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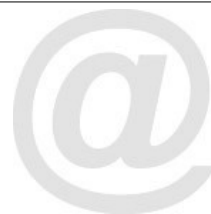
its pure lines. It is the ultimate feminine watch, minimalist in its form, just enough ornamentation with way of diamonds, with a design that suggests undulating movement and infinite grace.



Limelight Gala.

© Piaget

The Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with Diamonds also incorporates a feminine yet sporty spirit that is inherent in the saddle-making tradition of the house. The suggestion of the stirrup and the tilted Arabic numerals are attractive details that make this watch lighthearted and unfussy to wear.



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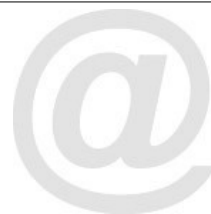
Arceau Petite Lune with Diamonds.

© Hermès

Laurie Kahle

Among this year's women's watch contenders, my favorite is Audemars Piguet's Millenary. While I have always been partial to Millenary's unusual oval shape and distinctive dial layout, the women's novelties stand apart not only for design, but also for the new manual-winding movement, the caliber 5201, which was built to fit the oval case. The complex, multilevel dial reveals the movement's fine finishing with Côtes de Genève and perlage decoration, plus you can also admire the pulsing escapement, so you are always aware of the watch's beating heart.

Blending classic elements, such as Roman numerals and mother-of-pearl dials, with an unconventional design, Millenary fuses contemporary with timelessness, which is my taste—not too avant-garde, trendy, or gimmicky, but modern with enduring style. As a testament to its staying power, Millenary launched 20 years ago. The shimmering mother-of-pearl and a sprinkling of sparkling diamonds balance the Millenary's technical presence with femininity. Even at a glance, everything about this watch projects exceptional quality, making it an all-around winner.


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Millenary.

© Audemars Piguet

Anita Khatri

I am delighted to see the brands nominated for GPHG under women's category. In a women's watch, design is like the heart of the watch. Each nominated piece has a distinct spectacular design which lends each brand an individual edge over competing brand. Two watches which take my breathe away are Audemars Piguet Millenary and Piaget limelight Gala.

Audemars Piguet Millenary does total justice to the brand tag line "To break the rules you must first master them". Millenary watch breaks the rules of modern watch design and the unique oval shape in pink gold case features a diamond set bezel and lugs as well as glare proofed sapphire crystal caseback. With the exposed moment it reveals the strength of the women. This watch is a perfect marriage between Fashion and Horology.



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Paul O'Neil

SEPTEMBER 02, 2015

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GPHG 2015 9 facts you probably didn't know about the GPHG

— The WorldTempus statistics boffin has examined over 3000 entries in the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève over the past 14 editions to come up with the facts below.



<http://goo.gl/HVAqHY>

The official website of the GPHG offers a mine of useful information to those who know how to access and process it. Using data mining techniques, we crawled the site to extract meaningful data about the 3,000-plus watches that have been entered into the competition over the past 14 years in order to come up with nine facts from the GPHG archives.





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Note that this was largely made possible by the fact that the GPHG records its specifications in a standardised format since 2008, allowing the data to be read quite easily. Before 2008, however, only the brand name, model and a descriptive text (which could be either in English or French) are recorded on the official website. And before 2003, only the prize winners, rather than all participating watches, are recorded. The analysis below is therefore based mainly, but not exclusively, on the categorised data available from 2008.

- 1) Total number of different brands that have participated: 289
- 2) Brand with most number of entries: TAG Heuer (79 entries)
- 3) Biggest watch entered: The Bichrono Rafaga by DeLaCour measures a whopping 60.5 x 59mm and was entered in 2013 but did not make the preselection.



Delacour Bichrono Rafaga.

© Delacour

- 4) Smallest watch entered: Ludovic Lesemann's "Peel Me!" at 15mm diameter.

The only entry in the competition by jeweller Ludovic Lesemann, the original design of the "Peel Me!" watch took the form of a sphere that could be peeled like an orange to form a bracelet. The 1800 diamonds used in each of the 33 limited edition watches pushed the cost to 90,000 Swiss francs. Sadly, this interesting piece failed to make the cut.

- 5) Most popular size of watch: 42mm

More a point for reflection, this figure is testament to an era of relatively large watches that may well be

passing. Will this figure still be the same in five year's time? (Note that this is the most popular single diameter indicated across all 3,000-plus watches and not an average of all the different sizes submitted).

#### 6) The thinnest watch ever entered: Piaget Altiplano Extra Thin enamel

A factual inaccuracy in the archives mistakenly throws up a Piaget Altiplano reference G0A33082 as the thinnest watch ever entered in the competition. But the case height of 2mm indicated would make the complete watch even thinner than the movement inside it (which is 2.1mm high)! The real honour goes to another Piaget Altiplano model, the 900P entered in this year's competition, which is the world's thinnest mechanical watch at 3.65mm.



Altiplano 900P.

© Piaget

#### 7) The most expensive watch entered in the GPHG: Hublot 5 million dollars.

Ironically, it almost slipped through the net in our analysis because the price is not indicated in the watch specifications, even though it is very clear from the watch's name. Submitted and pre-selected in the GPHG 2012, it is by far the most expensive ever seen in the competition, costing twice the price of its nearest rival.

#### 8) The cheapest watch entered: Azzaro Swiss Legend (365 Swiss francs)

9) The most water resistant: The limited-edition Pita Oceana model entered in the GPHG 2010 was water resistant to 5000 metres and broke new ground in diver's watch technology. Unfortunately it was not shortlisted in the competition.

## Complete List And Photos Of All Pre-Selected Watches In The 2015 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève

by Ian Skellern

The 2015 edition of the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) has just published the list of pre-selected watches in the run-up to the eagerly anticipated red carpet event in Geneva on October 29.

The categories for 2015 constitute the following: Ladies, Ladies' High Mech, Men's, Chronograph, Tourbillon, Calendar, Striking, Mechanical Exception, Petite Aiguille (watches with retail prices up to 8,000 Swiss francs), Jewellery, and Artistic Crafts. The main prize of the evening is, of course, the Aiguille d'Or, which celebrates the best watch among all the entrants according to the jury.

The pre-selected watches will go on a world tour, starting with Hong Kong on October 3. From there the watches will travel to Seoul, South Korea on October 7-8; be on exhibit during Dubai Watch Week October 19-21; and return to Geneva's Cité du Temps for public viewing from October 27 through November 4. Following the ceremony, the pre-selected timepieces will also be on exhibit during SalonQP in London from November 12 through 14.

But enough preamble, let's have a look at the watches that are in serious contention for the prizes as of today.



Ladies' watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG clockwise from top left: Hermès Arceau Petite Lune, DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony, Hublot Big Bang Broderie, Audemars Piguet Millenary, Ulysse Nardin Jade, and Piaget Limelight Gala

The Ladies' category contains women's watches comprising two at most of the following indications: date, power reserve, classic moon phase, and second time zone. These timepieces may be adorned with a

maximum of five carats of gemstones.

The pre-selected Ladies watches for the 2015 edition of the GPHG are shown in the image above clockwise from top left: Hermès Arceau Petite Lune with diamonds, DeLaneau Rondo 42 Peony, Hublot Big Bang Broderie, Audemars Piguet Millenary, Ulysse Nardin Jade, and Piaget Limelight Gala.



High Mech Ladies watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Fabergé Lady Complicquée Peacock, Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower, Montblanc Bohème Perpetual Calendar Jewellery, Piaget Altiplano 1200S, Chaumet Hortensia Creative Complication, and Bulgari II Giardiniere Notturmo

According to this category, Ladies' High-Mech are women's watches remarkable in terms of their mechanical creativity and complexity. These may feature all kinds of classic and/or innovative complications and indications and do not fit the definition of the Ladies' category.

The pre-selected Ladies High Mech watches for 2015 are shown clockwise from top left in the image above: Fabergé Lady Complicquée Peacock, Jaquet Droz Lady 8 Flower, Montblanc Bohème Perpetual Calendar Jewellery, Piaget Altiplano 1200S, Chaumet Hortensia Creative Complication, and Bulgari II Giardiniere Notturmo.



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Men's watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Bulgari Octo Finissimo Small Seconds, Laurent Ferrier Galet Square, Louis Vuitton Escale Time Zone, Voutilainen GMR, MB&F HMX, and Manufacture Royale 1770 Voltige

Men's watches comprise two at most of the following indications: date, power reserve, classic moon phase, second time zone. These timepieces may be adorned with a maximum of five carats' worth of gemstones.

The pre-selected Men's watches for 2015 are shown clockwise from top left in the image above: Bulgari Octo Finissimo Small Seconds, Laurent Ferrier Galet Square, Louis Vuitton Escale Time Zone, Voutilainen GMR, MB&F HMX, and Manufacture Royale 1770 Voltige.



Chronograph watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG are shown clockwise from top left: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher, Longines The Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph, Louis Moinet Memoris, Tag Heuer Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph, Piaget Altiplano Chrono, and Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama

Timepieces entered into the Chronograph category are mechanical watches comprising at least one chronograph indication. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.

The pre-selected Chronograph watches for 2015 are (clockwise from top left in the image above): Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept Laptimer Michael Schumacher, Longines The Longines Column-Wheel Single Push-Piece Chronograph, Louis Moinet Memoris, Tag Heuer Carrera Calibre 18 Chronograph, Piaget Altiplano Chrono, and Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie ExoTourbillon Minute Chronograph Vasco da Gama.



Tourbillon watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG are shown clockwise from top left: Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons, Blancpain L-evolution Tourbillon Carrousel, Bovet 1822 Braveheart, MB&F Horological Machine N°6, Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon, and Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision

In the Tourbillon category, we find mechanical watches that contain at least one tourbillon. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.

The pre-selected Tourbillon watches for 2015 are shown in the image above clockwise from top left: Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons, Blancpain L-evolution Tourbillon Carrousel, Bovet 1822 Braveheart, MB&F Horological Machine N°6, Ulysse Nardin Ulysse Anchor Tourbillon, and Greubel Forsey Tourbillon 24 Secondes Vision.





Calendar watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP, Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet, Claude Meylan Full Calendar, Ulysse Nardin FreakLab, Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar, and Hublot Classic Fusion Aeromoon

According to the GPHG Calendar category, these timepieces are mechanical watches comprising at least one calendar and/or astronomical complication (e.g. annual calendar, perpetual calendar, equation of time, complex moon phase display, etc.). Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.

The pre-selected Calendar watches for 2015 are (clockwise from top left in the image above): Hermès Slim d'Hermès QP, Blancpain Villeret Quantième Complet, Claude Meylan Full Calendar, Ulysse Nardin FreakLab, Tiffany & Co CT60 Annual Calendar, and Hublot Classic Fusion Aeromoon.





Striking watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater, Akrivia Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour, Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges, Hublot Big Bang Alarm Repeater, Franc Vila Inaccessible Tourbillon Minute Repeater, and Christophe Claret Allegro

Striking watches contain at least one acoustic indication or complication. These are notably watches equipped with a repeater, striking, musical, or any other acoustic function. Additional indications and/or complications are admissible.

The pre-selected Striking watches for 2015 are shown clockwise from top left in the image above: A. Lange & Söhne Zeitwerk Minute Repeater, Akrivia Tourbillon Chiming Jump Hour, Girard-Perregaux Minute Repeater Tourbillon with Gold Bridges, Hublot Big Bang Alarm Repeater, Franc Vila Inaccessible Tourbillon Minute Repeater, and Christophe Claret Allegro.



Mechanical Exception watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG are shown clockwise from top left: Christophe Claret Maestoso, Hautlence Vortex, HYT H3, Jaquet Droz Charming Bird, Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One, and DeWitt Academia Mathematical

The Mechanical Exception category features watches with a special mechanism, such as an innovative or sophisticated display, an automaton, a belt-driven movement, or any other original and/or exceptional horological concept.

The pre-selected Mechanical Exception watches for 2015 are (clockwise from top left in the image above): Christophe Claret Maestoso, Hautlence Vortex, HYT H3, Jaquet Droz Charming Bird, Emmanuel Bouchet Complication One, and DeWitt Academia Mathematical.



Petite Aiguille watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Hermès Slim d'Hermès, Habring2 Felix, Bulgari Diagono Magnesium, Zenith Elite 6150, Tudor North Flag, and Montblanc Heritage Spirit Orbis Terrarum

Watches entered into the Petite Aiguille category are offered for a retail price under 8,000 Swiss francs.

The pre-selected Petite Aiguille watches for 2015 are shown clockwise from top left in the image above: Hermès Slim d'Hermès, Habring2 Felix, Bulgari Diagono Magnesium, Zenith Elite 6150, Tudor North Flag, and Montblanc Heritage Spirit Orbis Terrarum.





Sports watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG are shown clockwise from top left: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Offshore Selfwinding Tourbillon Chronograph, Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe, Harry Winston Project Z9, Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000, Zenith El Primero Sport, and Tudor Pelagos

The Sports category contains watches linked to the field of sports, whose functions, materials, and design are suited to physical activities.

The pre-selected Sports watches for 2015 are illustrated clockwise from top left in the image above: Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Offshore Selfwinding Tourbillon Chronograph, Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe, Harry Winston Project Z9, Seiko Prospex Marinemaster Professional Diver's 1000m Hi-Beat 36000, Zenith El Primero Sport, and Tudor Pelagos.





Jewellery watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale, Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire, Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk, Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch, Bulgari Mvsa High Jewellery, and De Grisogono Grappoli.

Jewellery watches demonstrate exceptional mastery of the art of jewelry and gemsetting. These timepieces are also distinguished by the choice of stones featured in them.

The pre-selected Jewellery watches for 2015 are (clockwise from top left in the image above): Chaumet Joséphine Aigrette Impériale, Fabergé Summer in Provence Multicoloured Sapphire, Audemars Piguet Diamond Punk, Piaget Extremely Piaget Double Sided Cuff Watch, Bulgari Mvsa High Jewellery, and De Grisogono Grappoli.



Artistic craft watches pre-selected for the 2015 GPHG shown clockwise from top left: Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke, Blancpain Villeret with Shakudo dial, Girard-Perregaux Chamber of Wonders The New World, Hermès Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe, Piaget Altiplano Scrimshaw, and Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm

Watches in the Artistic Crafts category demonstrate exceptional mastery of one or several artistic techniques such as enameling, lacquering, engraving, guilloché (engine-turning), skeletonizing, and more.

The pre-selected Artistic Crafts watches for 2015 are shown clockwise from top left in the image above: Romain Gauthier Logical One Secret Kakau Höfke, Blancpain Villeret with Shakudo dial, Girard-Perregaux Chamber of Wonders The New World, Hermès Slim d'Hermès Koma Kurabe, Piaget Altiplano Scrimshaw, and Harry Winston Premier Precious Butterfly Automatic 36mm.

These are the 72 watches eligible for 12 prizes (13 with the Aiguille d'Or). Let us know which watches you think might take home a trophy and why in the comments.

In case you missed our coverage of the event last year, you might like Reflections On The 2014 Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève.

For more information, please visit [www.gphg.org](http://www.gphg.org).

## Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève 2015: top watches revealed

Sep. 01, 2015

- 15 reads



September 1, 2015. Of the 193 models sent in by the brands, 72 have been displayed in our GPHG section. Indeed, a good number of the watches we presented recently already caught our eye.

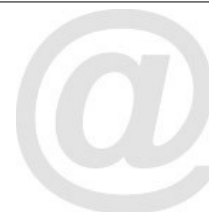


Joel Grandjean

Watchonista's Editor in Chief

Aurel Bacs, the man who gavel everything into gold, is the jury foreman. The jurors include a number of luminaries in addition to some members of the media, like the outstanding Pierre Maillard, editor-in-chief of the Europa Star. The presence of the great watchmaking master, Philippe Dufour, or of one of the world's most important collectors, Claude Sfeir, gives some idea of the sensitivity shown, which allowed the 72 models to be selected out of the 193 entries. They were divided up into twelve categories, i.e., six timepieces per category, and represent all in all 37 percent of the total entries.

The first surprise, which comes before we publish any more articles and commentaries on this year's Grand Prix, is that a fair percentage of watches among the 72 chosen ones already made an appearance in recent editions of our online magazine. You can get some idea of them by browsing through the articles linked below.



Watchonista.com  
1004 Lausanne  
021 624 39 00  
www.watchonista.com

Genre de média: Internet  
Type de média: Organisations spécialisées  
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Tag Heuer Calibre 18

Louis Moinet Memoris

Piaget Altiplano 900P

Fabergé Lady Peacock

Antoine Prezioso Tourbillon of Tourbillons

In terms of things to celebrate, let us note this year that the brand Tudor has maintained its presence in the contest, emitting strong vibes as to its credibility regarding the whole game and its rules in terms of quality and media impact. Another noteworthy bit of news is Swatch Group's positioning in the race after it once again entered a whole slew of brands: Jaquet-Droz, Blancpain, Harry Winston and even Longines. So, Swatch Group has now joined other groups like Richemont (Piaget, Montblanc, A. Lange & Söhne), LVHM (Louis Vuitton, Bulgari, TAG Heuer, Hublot and Zenith), Kering (Girard-Perregaux), which all have strong presence.

In addition to these thoughts, let us mention that the 2015 selection is spangled with promising pieces from the independent brands, like Audemars Piguet, Hermès, Oris, Chanel and Claret. And there are some great discoveries to be made, like the priceless and perfect chiming watch by the new brand AkriviA, which could well scale the Olympus inhabited by historical and recognized giants.

Discover all the watches and news from the GPHG 2015 on our dedicated page:







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Brice Lechevalier

SEPTEMBER 01, 2015

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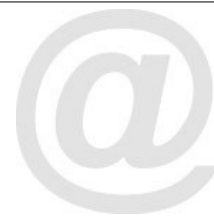


GPHG 2015 And the 72 pre-selected watches are...

— For its 15th edition, the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève unveils a selection of models highly representative of Fine Watchmaking. Which brands are already winners?


<http://goo.gl/LQykAx>

On September 1st, in keeping with the regulations, the Foundation of the GPHG posted on its website the 72 watches selected by the 26 members of the international jury that will convene before the prize-giving ceremony on October 29th to choose the winners in each of the 12 categories. The first clearly visible fact is that all the watch groups are represented, as are the major independent brands and various small niche players, spread across a number of segments. As in any competition, there are winners and losers (see the 72



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selected watches here).

Let's focus on the winners. Generally speaking, being selected is in itself a first victory. The six watches chosen in each category earn worldwide recognition as well as media coverage, and are exhibited in various cities around the world, in this instance Dubai, Hong Kong, Seoul and Geneva. Among the brands whose watches will appear in showcases designed by the students of the HEAD - Geneva University of Art and Design - some stand out by the sheer number of creations that appealed to the jury. This particular honour roll is topped by Piaget with no less than six watches selected! Absent from the GPHG last year, Piaget has managed to place its models among the top six in the Ladies', Ladies' High Mech, Men's (the most competitive with 32 candidates), Chronograph, Jewellery and Artistic Crafts categories, thereby powerfully showcasing the breadth of its expertise.



Altiplano 1200S Skeleton, gem-set, automatic, a candidate in the Ladies's High Mech category.

© Piaget

Blancpain, Bulgari and Hermès are right behind with four watches selected each, followed by Hublot and Montblanc with three watches apiece, and then Chaumet, Christophe Claret, Girard-Perregaux, Harry Winston, Jaquet Droz and Zenith, that will each see two watches travel to the Dubai Watch Week organised by the GPHG and the retailer Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons.



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Bulgari Diagono Magnesium, taking part in the Petite Aiguille category.

© Bulgari

They are right there in the mix

This first result must be particularly pleasing for Tiffany & Co, which has just launched a global operation designed to recapture the watch market, notably symbolised by the May opening of a flagship store in Geneva, and now by the selection of its Annual Calendar CT60. A longstanding loyal participant in the GPHG, Bovet has been singled out in the most crowded category after that of Men's watches: the Tourbillon, with 24 candidates. Former prize-winners A. Lange & Söhne, de Grisogono, DeWitt, Greubel Forsey, HYT, Laurent Ferrier, Romain Gauthier, Seiko and TAG Heuer will also be part of the Middle and Far Eastern tour that will culminate in Geneva at the Cité du Temps. They will be accompanied by timepieces from such diverse brands as Claude Meylan, Longines, Louis Moinet and Louis Vuitton, to mention only the WorldTempus partner brands.



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Tiffany & Co CT60 model, a candidate in the Calendar category.

© Tiffany & Co

Check out the entire selection and take part in the prediction competition here (which should not be confused with the official Public Prize vote that may be cast via this link).





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## Industry News

### Editorial Team

SEPTEMBER 01, 2015

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GPHG 2015 Official pre-selection

— The list of the 72 watches pre-selected by the 2015 jury is now available.



<http://goo.gl/BvtUNF>

These 72 timepieces will be competing to win the prestigious “Aiguille d’Or” Grand Prix or one of the 16 prizes awarded for contemporary creative talent and watchmaking expertise.

The 2015 awards will be revealed on October 29th at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. Presented jointly by Frédéric Beigbeder and Gaspard Proust, the prize-giving ceremony will be attended by Alain Berset, Federal Councillor. The event will be broadcast live on [gphg.org](http://gphg.org), on partner sites [euronews.com](http://euronews.com), [hodinkee.com](http://hodinkee.com), [worldtempus.com](http://worldtempus.com), as well as on the Léman Bleu TV channel.

Watchmaking enthusiasts from all over the world are invited to vote for their favourite watch. They will thus take part in electing a model to be awarded the Public Prize and automatically participate in the draw to win a timepiece.



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Worldtempus  
1206 Genève  
022/ 588 61 00  
www.worldtempus.com

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The roadshow that presents the pre-selected watches in various capitals each year will stop at Hong Kong (2-3 October), Seoul (6-8 October), Dubai (18-22 October, Dubai Watch Week), Geneva (27 October-4 November) and London (12-14 November, Salon QP).

