



CENTURION

| A GREEK BEAUTY | THE ART OF TIME |

| PARISIAN REVIVAL | FIT FOR A GENTLEMAN |

| PRETTY IN PINK | DOING THE CAPE |

WINTER 2013

CONTRIBUTORS



LAURIE KAHLE P. 76

“Born out of the quest for higher precision, the tourbillon is so visually captivating, it also satisfies our yearning for magic,” says the Boston-based writer, who offers a female perspective on the mechanism in **Whirl power!** “Especially when paired with jewellery and other decorative arts, the tourbillon seduces women like no other watch complication.” Kahle regularly writes for *Cigar Aficionado* and *Robb Report*, among others.

EARL WAN P. 110

With a background in illustration and animation, the photographer from Hong Kong has developed a multimedia approach for rendering movement – a skill he puts on full display in **Into the night**. Wan’s subjects have ranged from new collections of local designers to portraits of A-listers in publications such as *Vogue Italia* and *Hong Kong Tatler*.

SUE BRYANT P. 50

“What surprised me most about travelling around India on an ‘air-cruise’ was the visible excitement among the 40 passengers every time we boarded the jet. These are people who are used to travelling in style but they developed a real sense of ownership of and a great fondness for the crew,” says the writer from London who penned **Flights of fancy** about private jet tours. Bryant also contributes to *The Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Times Travel*.

PATRICIA BRÖHM P. 138

As editor-in-chief of *Gault&Millau Germany*, Bröhm was part of the team that selected Christian Jürgens as the guide’s 2013 Chef of the Year. She writes about the cook and his captivating, landscape-inspired dishes, as well as his idyllic Bavarian surrounds, in **A cut above**. In addition to her work for *Gault&Millau*, the Munich-based journalist writes about all matters culinary and oenological for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and *Feinschmecker*.

RACHEL HOWARD P. 124

“The Amanzo’e is like a bubble of exquisite calm in troubled Greece,” says Howard, who is based in London, about the latest Aman opening, which she covers in **The new Riviera**. “I’ve travelled all over the country, but have yet to come across a hotel in such a serene setting. The sunsets are so dramatic that everyone stopped talking to watch the show.” Howard writes regularly for *Condé Nast Traveller*, *National Geographic Traveler* and *How To Spend It*.

WRITE TO US The editorial team welcomes questions, comments, concerns and letters, which may be edited for purposes of clarity and space. We are also happy to share our own tips, advice and guidance. Contact mail@centurion-magazine.com.

KEY All prices are in British pounds, euros or American dollars unless otherwise specified.

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JAEGAR-LECOULTRE

The Art Deco-inspired
Rendez-Vous Tourbillon
Wild; jaeger-lecoultre.com



WHIRL POWER!

Works of great craft and beauty, tourbillons bring a decidedly feminine touch to the world of horology.

By Laurie Kahle

The tourbillon is where mechanical watchmaking's prowess and poetry meet. Patented in 1801, Abraham-Louis Breguet's regulating device places the escapement and balance assembly in a constantly rotating cage, a mastermind's solution to the deleterious effects of gravity on a fixed-position pocket watch movement. And yet, the tourbillon's execution is delightfully ethereal, arguably pointless in a wristwatch, and intrinsically appealing to women, whether or not they appreciate the mechanical mastery involved. Even the name, which translates to whirlwind, is steeped in romance. As these alluring women's tourbillons embellished with traditional *métiers d'art* can attest, watch ▶

“THE TOURBILLON’S EXECUTION IS DELIGHTFULLY ETHEREAL AND INTRINSICALLY APPEALING TO WOMEN”



DELANEAU

The sky is the limit with the Rondo Tourbillon Great Bear Constellation; delaneau.com



GIRARD-PERREGAUX

Unusual pearl engraving and 1,000 diamonds embellish the Cat's Eye Jewellery; girard-perregaux.com



LOUIS VUITTON

The Monogram Tourbillon with its maker's mark subtly weaved into the design; louisvuitton.com



ULYSSE NARDIN

A rose-hued Royal Ruby Tourbillon with 200 diamonds; ulyссе-nardin.com



RICHARD MILLE

RM 26-01 Tourbillon with its distinctive panda and bamboo motif; richardmille.com



CHANEL

The award-winning Premiere Flying Tourbillon; chanel.com

designers have caught on that it takes more than merely downsizing a man's watch and sprinkling it with diamonds to capture the imagination of the fairer sex.

All eyes are naturally drawn to a spinning tourbillon, so the better we can see it, well, the better. Bovey dispenses with the dial altogether to create the airy, skeletonised **Récital 9 Tourbillon Miss Alexandra** with a realistically engraved, easy-to-set moon phase, another inherently feminine complication, plus a seven-day power reserve. Transparency also heightens the drama of Ulysse Nardin's **Royal Ruby Tourbillon**, a "hers" follow-up to the "his" Royal Blue Tourbillon. With its main plate and bridges cut from translucent ruby and sapphire, this rose-tinted flying tourbillon invites you to gaze deep into the mechanism with the spinning cage appearing to dangle in mid-air. The brand will produce 99 pieces in platinum with complementary rubies set as hour markers and 200 sparkling diamonds for good measure.

Using a rare technique called snow setting that relies on instinct rather than a specified design, a master jeweller spends three weeks setting more than 1,000 diamonds of varying sizes to cover the oval case of Girard-Perregaux's **Cat's Eye Jewellery**. The mother-of-pearl dial is engraved with a distinctive bubble pattern, while the brand's hallmark golden bridge supports the tourbillon. Take a closer look at the mother-of-pearl dial on Louis Vuitton's automatic **Monogram Tourbillon**, and you'll discover the brand's familiar monogram pattern subtly engraved in the background. The one-minute tourbillon is framed with brilliant diamonds, and the bridge is modelled on Vuitton's signature flower, focusing the gaze on the whirling cage.

Bulgari certainly knows how to draw attention with its bold Italian style and a swirl of sizable gems including diamonds, emeralds, tourmalines, a ruby, an amethyst and a sapphire. The **Berries Tourbillon** is as much about brains as beauty with an automatic tourbillon paired with a retrograde hour hand that progresses across the mother-of-pearl ▶

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE WATCHMAKERS



BOVET

The remarkable skeletonised Récital 9 Tourbillon Miss Alexandra; bovet.com



BVLGARI

Emeralds, tourmalines, a sapphire, a ruby and an amethyst frame the central feature of the Berries Tourbillon; bulgari.com



BOUCHERON

Epure Tourbillon Vitis has a Renaissance Florence touch in its intricate inlay; boucheron.com



HUBLOT

Electric Blue Tutti Frutti Tourbillon, one of eight versions of the watch; hublot.com

marquetry dial before snapping back to restart its dance.

Sapphires brought a wardrobe change to Chanel's **Premiere Flying Tourbillon** with two, five-piece limited editions – black set with blue sapphires and white with pink sapphires. Produced in partnership with Swiss speciality house Renaud et Papi, the design was voted the best women's watch of 2012 at the annual Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève. Blue, pink and orange sapphires also add razzle-dazzle to Hublot's rainbow-hued line-up of eight **Tutti Frutti Tourbillons**, each set with a different gem and limited to 18 pieces. Launched last year, this vivid collection marks the first time the brand has produced a tourbillon for women.

Jewellery is one way to capture her heart, but artisans are digging deeper with an array of decorative disciplines

to create extravagant watches that tell a story. The intricate mother-of-pearl inlay work found on Renaissance Florentine cabinetry inspired Boucheron's **Epure Tourbillon Vitis**, featuring a mirror-polished hematite dial inlaid with diamond-set grape leaves and a bunch of grapes sculpted from a single piece of mother-of-pearl. Between the luminous vines and the beautiful flying tourbillon at seven o'clock, you hardly notice the small time display.

Jaeger-LeCoultre's take on marquetry gets a little outrageous with the **Rendez-Vous Tourbillon Wild**, channelling the brand's Art Deco spirit with a bold geometric-patterned dial combining snow-set diamonds, mother-of-pearl and genuine bird feathers in varying shades of blue, echoing the colours found in Chinese jewellery from the 15th-century

Qing dynasty. Richard Mille also tips his hat to China with the **RM 26-01 Tourbillon**, a limited edition of 30 pieces adorned with a giant panda set with diamonds and black sapphires happily munching on bamboo sculpted from hand-painted yellow gold.

People all over the world instantly recognise the familiar formation of seven stars, the brightest in the Ursa Major (Great Bear) constellation, whether they call it the Plough, the Big Dipper or another name. Delaneau evokes the romance of a starry, starry night with its unique **Rondo Tourbillon Great Bear Constellation**, which re-creates the shining stars in white gold and diamonds on a sparkly aventurine night sky encircled with 139 blue sapphires – for the watch-loving girl who has her feet on the ground and her head in the stars. ◀