

SINGAPORE'S PREMIER WATCH PERIODICAL

WOW

#26 SPRING 2013



SPRING REPORT 2013

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- Understanding the middle segment
- Classic chronographs that last generations

TRADITION BECKONS

A. Lange & Söhne
1815 Rattrapante
Perpetual Calendar



Upside-Down watch (\$97,500)




LUDOVIC BALLOUARD

Inner Sanctum:

Recognised by his rock star mane and adored for his humour, French watchmaker Ludovic Ballouard's quirky personality is manifested in his intriguing timepieces. Although he made his debut as an independent watchmaker only in 2009, Ballouard had spent over a decade working for the likes of Franck Muller and Francois-Paul Journe, where he honed his expertise in top-dollar complications.

His first eponymous ticker, the whimsical Upside-Down watch, is a regulator-cum-jumping hour mash-up that displays 11 upside-down hour numerals, with only the 'active' hour shown the right way up. The 228-part, hand-wound B01 movement, which features 12 Maltese crosses to rotate the individual hour discs with the movement, is crafted in brass for extra radiance.

Play Time:

Ballouard sets himself the target of unveiling a new creation every two years, and he makes good on the promise with last year's Half-Time. Building on the concept of the Upside-Down watch and further exploring the Maltese cross system, the Half-Time features hour indexes that are divided into two, rendering them unreadable, except for the active hour at 12 o'clock. As such, the dial requires no hour hand, and instantaneously 'switches' show to the correct hour after each 60-minute cycle, displayed via a retrograde minute counter at the bottom. 

Like its name suggests, the Half-Time watch literally slices each Roman hour numeral in half, and mounts each half on two separate disks. The disks rotate in opposite directions so only the current hour is legible at the top of its dial



Visible through the sapphire case back the beautifully finished calibre comprises over 300 different components, including the newly patented rotating disk complication