

# HOT

*Haute Horlogerie Special Edition 2014*



*Exceptionally Luxe*





HAUTLENCE PRESENTS A FIRST LINE, DESTINATION, OF THREE NEW TIMEPIECES UNDER ITS RECENTLY LAUNCHED "SIGNATURE" LABEL. THE COLLECTION IS INSPIRED BY THE HOUSE STYLE CODES AND REINTERPRETS THEM.



# HAUTLENCE

## CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS

Founded in 2004, HAUTLENCE – whose name itself is an anagram of Neuchâtel, the city that is the birthplace of the watchmaking art, has established itself in the horological domain. Watch collectors and aficionados from across the world have praised the brand for bringing a new dynamism to the art of fine watchmaking.

HAUTLENCE has pushed the boundaries of traditional watchmaking codes, taking inspiration from the past and combining this with innovative mechanical solutions borrowed from other high-tech industries. With the strong, easily identifiable product design, the group, which will now celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2014, is indeed a rising star in 21st century creative watchmaking.

Designing and developing all movements in-house, the company has its own contemporary watchmaking workshop in the heart of the Swiss watchmaking metropolis, La Chaux-de-Fonds.

The current collections of the brand are built on the successful launches of the brand's past. Worthy of mention here is the AVANT-GARDE collection launched in 2012. HAUTLENCE effectively introduced

its prêt-à-porter watch line with a view to securing its future and consolidating its creative range. The brand thereby created a sleek and powerful line of watches stemming from a subtle blend of contemporary influences and primarily inspired by the curves and aesthetic codes of avant-garde design. The first models, named HLRS were introduced in October 2012 and earned significant commercial success.

Earlier on, the brand also launched the first round case in its history, the HLQ, featuring a date display, followed two years later by a more classic version aptly dubbed the HLQ Classic. It paid a fitting tribute to traditional watchmaking, while remaining steeped in the brand DNA as evidenced in the in-house movement and the distinctive time display based on jumping hours and retrograde minutes, along with an instant date indication. Both these lines have impacted the current creations of the brand.



#### DESTINATION- FROM THE SIGNATURE LABEL

HAUTLENCE presents a first line, DESTINATION, of three new timepieces under its recently launched “Signature” label. The collection is inspired by the House style codes and reinterprets them.

DESTINATION offers a dual time-zone indication, which is a first for the brand. The look of the timepiece reflects the HAUTLENCE architectural DNA, its pure lines and 3D spirit. Yet, it is distinguished by its own more accessible style.

The piece carries a self-winding movement, Soprod 935I/A10-2, sourced from an external partner. It is thus able to offer new functions. The hours and minutes are complemented by a large date. There is a 12-hour dragging dual time-zone display, revealed by a 24-hour day/night indicator. The interplay of discs and reading indications through transparency effects is an integral part of the brand spirit. To achieve this, the movement has been modified in comparison with its standard execution – a process that involved altering the day/night indication and adapting the hand cylinders.

Housed in a titanium case, the movement caliber adorned with circular Côtes de Genève is protected by an opaline base dial topped by a sapphire intermediate dial on which the Arabic numerals appear to be floating weightless – a recurrent feature of HAUTLENCE designs.

The base dial is distinctive as is the case of all the designs of the brand. It has several interesting elements such as a large date bridge engraved with the brand name, as well as a central ring bearing the minutes markings.

A small opening in the case-back provides a chance to view the regulating organ and the oscillating weight. The back is also engraved with the characteristics of this line: the name “DESTINATION”, the series number, the time zones of 12 main cities, along with technical specifications and the brand-specific inscriptions “HAUTLENCE” and “Horlogerie Suisse”. The hand-sewn, rolled-edge strap is made of square-scale Louisiana alligator leather.

Intended both for brand aficionados and for a more eclectic clientele, DESTINATION is issued in numbered, non-limited series and in three versions.

#### THE HLRQ LINE – ASTHETIC BLENDS

At the GTE (Geneva Time Exhibition) in early 2013, HAUTLENCE presented the first two models in an unprecedented round line named HLRQ, stemming from the AVANT-GARDE watch family.

On the occasion of the SIAR (Salón Internacional de Alta Relojería held in Mexico), the brand unveiled an original new model and celebrated the eagerly awaited commercial launch of the first models in the HLRQ line.



More athletic and powerful than the previously launched round lines (HLQ and HLQ Classic), the HLRQ blends something of its predecessors, classicism with the sophisticated, sleek nature of the AVANT- GARDE watch family to which it is the latest addition. It is distinguished by an ultra-contemporary aesthetic giving it a much more lifestyle-oriented look.

The majestic HLRQ 01 is a powerful watch with its imposing 44 mm case band, made in circular satin-brushed black DLC-finish grade 2 titanium and featuring 18-carat pink gold horns, bezel, crown and push-button. Its in-house designed sapphire dial lends a sense of depth and transparency, while providing an admirable view of the manual-winding mechanical movement with its jumping hours and retrograde minutes (thanks to the famous HAUTLENCE connecting rod system) as well as its date display. The superimposed discs arranged on several layers accentuate the impression of weightlessness. The HLRQ line is issued in a non-limited series.

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#### HL 2.0 - A MECHANICAL REVOLUTION

The HL2.0 collection is faithful to the brand's fundamental concept of offering a different way of reading time. It represents the second generation of Hautlence watches. After 4 years of development, it was first shown in 2010 and officially launched in its final version in 2011.

The HL2.0 models display half-trailing jumping hours one of the special features of this second collection retrograde minutes a signature of the brand and a power-reserve indicator. The collection also includes an automatic movement for the first time, which is indeed mechanical magic in action.

Constructed around the retrograde minutes function, the jumping hours mechanism consists of a 12-link chain activated by a connecting-

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rod/crank as in the HL collection. The retrograde minutes are indicated on a 180° sector of the dial. An ingenious mechanism governs the movement of the assembly with a speed control that protects the components from any shocks arising from its operation. The chain rotates the mobile bridge through 60° each hour, compensating for the effect of gravity. To provide sufficient energy, the principal barrel, wound by the automatic system, winds a second barrel, which drives the display complication.

Developed and produced by the brand's own teams, this collection is the first to offer a Manufacture mechanical movement with automatic winding. The brand has three patents for this exceptional collection. The first is for the half-trailing hours chain. The second relates to the regulating organ integrated into the mobile bridge movement. The third patent covers the operation of the movement's two barrels wherein complex systems are powered independently without affecting the precision of the watch.

This timepiece also includes a power-reserve indicator as well as an oscillating weight in 18-carat gold. All numerals and indicators are luminescent to ensure excellent readability at night. Two models are currently available, each limited to 28 numbered timepieces: the HL2.1 in 18-carat white gold and the HL2.2 in 18-carat 4N rose gold.

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