

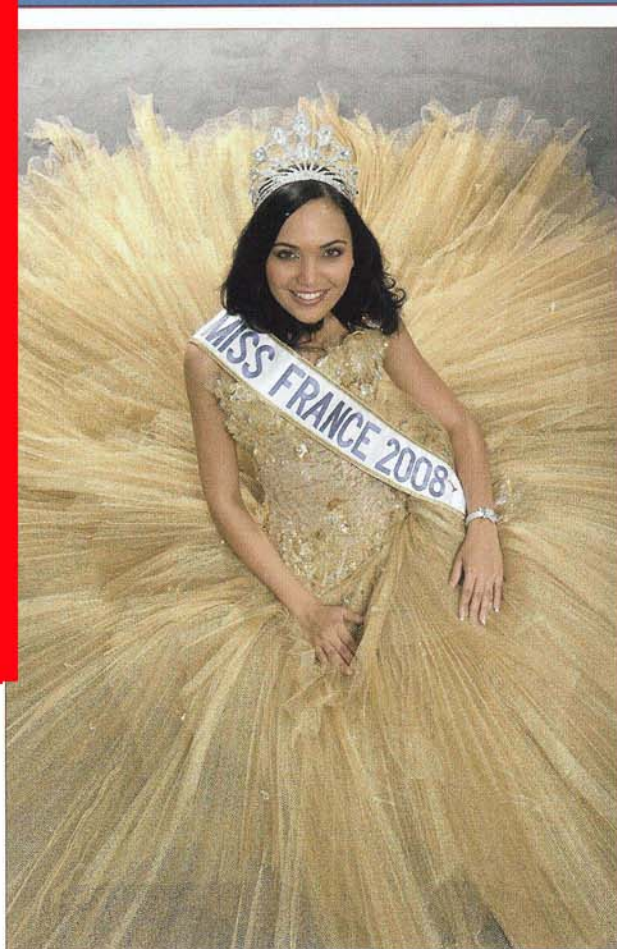
Horological Dream Team?

After more than two decades' experience on the client side of watchmaking, Steven Holtzman, formerly the distributor for Roger Dubuis in North America, has created his own luxury watch brand: *Maîtres du Temps*. The first watch, called Chapter One, features a world-premiere combination of complications that includes a tourbillon, mono-pusher chronograph, retrograde date, retrograde GMT and two very distinctive and emblematic rolling bars indicating phase of the moon and day.

The master watchmakers behind Chapter One are no less interesting than the watch itself. Holtzman sees *Maîtres du Temps* acting as vehicle for small teams of master watchmakers to work together to create timepieces reflecting their combined experience and influences. The "super-group" behind Chapter One is Christophe Claret, Roger Dubuis and Peter Speake-Marin. *Maîtres du Temps* will be presenting Chapter One in Geneva in early April. For more information, visit www.maitresdutemps.com.

JIC Awards Naas

Journalist and author Roberta Naas, who regularly contributes to the pages of *International Watch*, was honored for excellence in jewelry and watch writing by the Jewelry Information Center at the annual JIC Gem Awards ceremony in New York City in January. More than 600 industry representatives were on hand when Naas received the award, sharing the podium with two other awardees. Terry Burman, group chief executive of Signet Group plc and chairman of Sterling Jewelers, received a lifetime achievement award, and Bulgari won for excellence in marketing. Deborah Norville, a seasoned journalist, anchor of "Inside Edition" and author of several books, hosted the evening.



Bertolucci's Beauty Queen

Bertolucci has partnered with 22-year-old Valérie Bègue, this year's Miss France. Bertolucci crowned the queen with a glamorous tiara and a Stella "Glacé" watch. Bègue will be ambassador to the image of the company throughout the year, and will be present at BaselWorld 2008 introducing Bertolucci's latest collections.

Breil Milano Hits SoHo

Breil Milano this month opens its first U.S. store in New York City's trendy SoHo as part of a worldwide campaign that includes plans to open about 100 shops in the next two years. The 1,800-square-foot flagship store will feature all of the company's products, from watches and jewelry to fragrances and sunglasses, plus the firm's recently launched leather goods. Designed by Italian scene painter and art director Andrea Rosso, and featuring artworks by Czech contemporary artist Jakub Nepsas, the retail space will have a modern yet elegant design that complements the brand's Italian accessories.

