

MAITRES DU TEMPS

Chapter One

As far as watchmaking supergroups go (think Harry Winston's Opus collaborations and de Bethune's power duo of David Zanetta and Denis Flageollet), Maitres du Temps absolutely floors the competition by harnessing the powers of three of contemporary watchmaking's most talented minds - Christophe Claret, Roger Dubuis and Peter Speake-Marin. And naturally, its debut collection, the Chapter One, is nothing less than an epic grand complication that warrants the immediate attention of discerning watch buffs.

The gathering of mechanisms within its massive 51.3 x 31.6mm is a who's who of the complication cannon. There is a one-minute tourbillon, a mono-pusher chronograph, retrograde date and GMT indicators, and most stunningly, scroll-style moonphase and day displays mounted at the top and bottom of the case. And here's where the trio of master watchmakers showcase their flair to great effect - by weaving and presenting the myriad complications in an easy-to-use and highly legible timepiece that is more practical beauty than preposterous horological daydream. The dial, for one, bears a pleasingly symmetrical layout that never gets in the way of the displays while still extolling deep classicism with its decorative guilloché work and blue sword-shaped hands. Available in an 18K red gold case, the watch is powered by a manual-winding Calibre SHC02 with 60-hour power reserve.

