



TNT ROYAL RETRO by Pierre DeRoche

### Pierre DeRoche

Hall 5.1 has an amazing assembly of talented watchmakers and the Pierre DeRoche company is one of them. Pierre Dubois, the CEO, took some time out to show me the latest creations and in addition to a very elegant Full Black version of the SplitRock chronograph, there is a very impressive 47mm timepiece called the Grandcliff TNT Royal Retro, which has a subtitle of '6 x 10, the arithmetic of seconds according to Pierre DeRoche'. According to Pierre Dubois, the brand has "... created the first movement able to house six retrograde seconds mechanisms. While this complication has been introduced to provide an element of fun, it also reveals a totally original approach: all the retrograde hands in this model are driven by gears rather than cams and, thanks to a strip-spring that has replaced the classical balance-spring system, return to their initial positions after 'passing on the baton' to the next retrograde hand. This innovation facilitates adjustment and enhances shock resistance."

The GrandCliff TNT Royal Retro case has a black PVD titanium middle, steel bezel, 18 carat pink gold horns and a crown-shield and crown. Equipped with an automatic, exclusive Dubois Dépraz calibre, the watch has an engraved 22 carat gold oscillating weight, a 12-pivot central bridge and 6 chamfered and satin-finished seconds bridges in 18 carat gold, moving retrograde hand indicators, a minute wheel with logo, a hand affixed by a transversal pin, 6 retrograde seconds hands on gears, a strip-spring return and the date at 6 o'clock. The functions are hours, minutes, retrograde seconds in six 10-second. For aficionados of complications, this is a beauty of a collector's item.



TECHNOGRAPH by Paul Picot

### Paul Picot

My annual pilgrimage to meet up with Eric Opplinger at Paul Picot is always a pleasure and this year was no different - in fact I found the new collections stunning.

To start with there is the new Atelier Tourbillon, an 18 carat gold watch with retrograde date function, power reserve indicator, second hand on the tourbillon and diamond indexes. A magnificent looking timepiece that retails at CHF 120,000 (Euro 79,300).

Then there's a whole series of watches in the C-Type Collection, their bestseller, ranging from a new round titanium version with a compass to a square Chronograph. The C-Type Collection was launched 19 years ago and took a little stick for being too large. Today, everyone and their brother is in on the act as bold, big and brazen is worn as an everyday timekeeper. The latest all-black model is a very wearable 48mm.

"We're continuing to develop our in-house movements," Opplinger told me. "We are developing both our own complications and our own parts with the objective of designing exclusive and original Paul Picot complications in the *haut de gamme* sector. Just look at what we've achieved with the Technograph ..."

And with that out came the new, vibrant Technograph Discotime. A kaleidoscope of masterful colouring to aid the reading of both the real time and the chronograph timing function, this timepiece gives the already estab-

TECHNOGRAPH DISCOTIME by Paul Picot



lished Technograph an entirely new look that will appeal to both aficionados of watch complications and any one looking for a modern, trendy eye-catching watch. The Technograph Discotime in stainless steel (44mm) is equipped with a self-winding Valjoux 7750 base movement with rotating discs for the small seconds and the minute counter of the chronograph. The dial has *Clou de Paris* decoration with a date indicator at 6 o'clock that always highlights the actual time in red. This Limited Edition of 300 pieces comes with leather or rubber options for the strap and is water resistant to 100 metres. The price? An affordable CHF 8,600 to 8,900 (Euro 5,670 to 5,880) considering the complexity of this mechanical timepiece.

After a coffee and a well-earned glass of sparkling water it was *au revoir* to Eric Opplinger and Paul Picot and hello to the Director of Exhibitions.