

JEAN DUNAND

JEAN DUNAND PIÈCES UNIQUES - Shabaka

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A PHARAONIC WORLD PREMIERE FROM JEAN DUNAND

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Defining both the personality and the originality of this impressive timepiece are the calendar indications, defying the convention of discs by instead using four cylinders. A quartet of different 90-degree transmission systems rotate the cylinders, each fitted with a security device to ensure precise calendar changes. Distancing the watch even further from the conventional, the dates - via two digits on separate cylinders - days and months jump instantaneously at midnight, when a sprung mechanism is released. A proprietary flywheel mechanism regulated by a train minimizes any shock from the jump action and so prevents premature wear and tear. No lag, no moment of indecision. And no margin of error.

Leap-year cycles merit their own, equally novel indication: a white plate under the dial, in a cut-out on the dial between 7 and 8 o'clock, illuminates the letter B (for "bissextil") and the three ordinary years. The leap-year is mirrored by the phases of the moon, with black discs skimming over the surface of the moon as if it were the shadow of the earth, eclipsing it to the left as it wanes, and revealing it from the right as it waxes. The mechanical moon deviates from the real moon by only one day every 120 years. Never has the phase of the moon been indicated on any watch with such elegant artistry.

For all the complexity of the calendar indications, the state-of-wind indicator on the back of the watch is deviously simple yet equally original. A single moving part - the mainspring itself in an open barrel - shows the power reserve of the watch against a scale.

Shabaka's minute-repeater strikes on cathedral gongs that go twice around the movement to give a deeper, more resonant chime. The minute-repeater slide occupies the left of the case, allowing the calendar setting controls to reside on the right. Only two chronograph-style pushers are needed to set the entire calendar, the pusher at 4 o'clock advances the date a day at a time, while that at 2 o'clock advances days only. A push-piece set coaxially in the crown advances the months and years, while the moon is set by a push-piece in the case-band at 5 o'clock.

A complex series of levers and rolls insinuate their way around the movement from the pushers to activate the respective calendar indications.

The caliber is of a radically original construction, with the perpetualcalendar mechanism integrated into the 13-ligne repeating movement. The 7mm-diameter cylinders are embedded 2.5 millimetres into the level of the minute-repeater to reduce further the thickness of the movement. An anthracite-black finish on the circular-grained baseplate and on the bridges, exquisitely decorated in concentric Geneva stripes, contrasts with burnished steel, ruby and gold to highlight the beauty of the movement. And such beauty is too rare to hide solely for the eyes of the craftsmen who made it. To ensure that the fortunate owner savors every element of the achievement that is Shabaka, the movement and all of its dazzling complexity can be viewed through the case-back.

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE SHABAKA

CALIBRE CLA88QPRM

Manually wound minute-repeater with instantaneous perpetual calendar.

INDICATIONS

Minutes and hours hands.

Days, dates and months on cylinders.

Leap-year cycle.

Moon-phases.

State-of-wind, directly by the mainspring.

Repeating the hours, quarters and minutes on two gongs.

CONTROLS

Pushers in the case-band to advance the entire calendar (4 o'clock) and the days only (2 o'clock).

Push-piece in the crown to set the months and years.

Push-piece in the case-band (5 o'clock) to set the moon.

Repeating slide.

BALANCE

With adjusting screws on an overcoil spring.

Swan's neck index.

18,000v/h.

POWER RESERVE

Approximately 45 hours.

NUMBER OF PARTS

721, including 54 jewels.

MOVEMENT DIMENSIONS

29.5mm (13 lignes).

Calendar plate, 36mm x 3.2mm (14 lignes).

Total height with dial and indications, 12.19mm.

CASE

18k white or red gold with a high-tech multilevel dial.

Dimensions, 44mm x 17.65mm.

Water-resistance, 3 ATM (30 metres).

HANDS

See-through "Skyscraper" style, in 18k gold.