

HERMES

HERMES - Arceau Le Temps Suspendu [Only Watch 2011]

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Behind a simple and playful gesture lies a sophisticated mechanism capable of making the user forget time via a subtle play of cams, pinions and segments. The mechanics behind the illusion are created by an additional module enabling automatic and spontaneous alternation between suspended time and standard time.

Protected by two patents - one for its construction and the other for the play-reducing gear teeth - this gem of horological engineering alone comprises no less than 24 jewels and is equipped with three play-reducing wheels. The running time and suspended time phases are coordinated by two synchronised column wheels, one driving the hours, and the other the minutes coupled with the date. The 360° retrograde hour and minute mechanisms make time disappear without interrupting the relentless running of the movement.

The herringbone guilloché dial motif bears the Hermès hallmark, while the contrasting retrograde indications are enhanced by a delicately grained finish. The asymmetrical design created by the winding crown placed at 2 o'clock hints that harmony can stem from paradoxes... Such as that of deliberately eclipsing time before willingly rejoining it.

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Technical Specifications:

Edition:

Unique piece

Functions:

Hours, minutes, date with retrograde functions

Movement:

Mechanical self-winding

"Time Suspended" module

34 mm in diameter (15 lignes)

6.15 thick

28,800 vibrations per hour (4Hz)

42-hour power reserve

254 parts including 45 jewels

Circular-grained and snailed bridges

Oscillating weight adorned with Côtes de Genève motif

Specific features:

Triple retrograde (world first)

360° retrograde hour and minute hand

Retrograde date hand

Function for starting and stopping the hands (making time suspended) by pressing a pushbutton

Dial:

Blue grained and snailed dial with herringbone motif

"Time Suspended" zone at 12 o'clock

Case:

Palladium

43 mm in diameter

Watertight to 30 metres

Hands:

Skeleton

Glass:

Anti-glare sapphire crystal

Strap:

Matt indigo alligator

Folding safety clasp in palladium