

INTERNATIONAL WATCH



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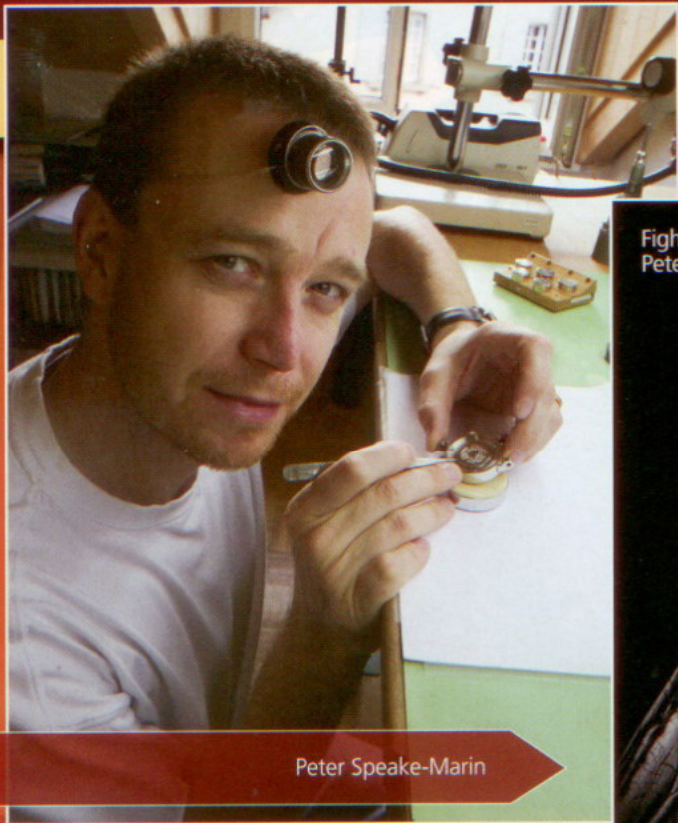


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International Watch February 2008



Peter Speake-Marin



Fighting Time, a unique piece by Peter Speake-Marin

Peter Speake-Marin

A proper English gentleman, Speake-Marin learned watchmaking both in his hometown of London and in Switzerland. He, too, began his career with restoration—but in the heart of London, in Piccadilly. By the mid-1990s, he had specialized in developing and making complications and by the turn of the millennium he finally realized the dream of opening his own workshop and making watches bearing his own name.

His is a name that calls beautiful images to mind—images of high complications clothed in decorative engraving and distinctive cases. “My goal is to make watches that span time,” he says. “My love of watchmaking is evident in each of my watches.”

Speake-Marin is one of the few A.H.C.I. members to make true “serial” watches, though his

unique pieces also do him justice with a number of extreme beauties to his credit.

The Speake-Marin Piccadilly line is a beautiful classic that currently utilizes a modern hybrid 2824 ETA caliber that was originally designed in 1971 and follows a classical design from the 1950s featuring a large balance that ensures precision and solid construction. This base movement is aesthetically and technically modified: the screws are blued, the finish of the bridges enhanced, and the dial train and setting system upgraded. The automatic mechanism was removed and reconstructed in Speake-Marin’s own style, which follows that of his Foundation Watch, a pocket watch tourbillon.

Speake-Marin is currently in the final stages of finishing his own base movement for future use and

plans to release twenty watches in 2008 powered by this new movement on a *souscription* basis before the final series releases at the end of the year. “I just strive to make beautiful things,” he modestly states before continuing, “but realizing dreams is the fun part.”

Christiaan van der Klaauw

The only Dutch member of the A.H.C.I., van der Klaauw is one of the few people able to pack large parts of our solar system into a space as tiny as the wristwatch. Having learned the occupation of instrument maker, he became interested in clocks and began to make them as an autodidact in 1974. Astronomic elements soon became his signature characteristic.

Two decades later, van der Klaauw decided to switch from clocks to watches, though his fascination with astronomic