



ARTISTIC ELEGANCE

An era that permeates grandeur in the lap of luxury, is the best time to make a dramatic statement on your wrist.

BY CHITMAN KANWAR AHUJA

1. PIAGET ALTIPLANO FEATHER MARQUETRY

A statement piece in every sense of the word, the dial is cloaked by iridescent duck, peacock and rooster feathers, and partially covered with a silver leaf. Its 18 carat white-gold case, set with 78 brilliant-cut diamonds, and is held by a navy blue satin-look calfskin strap, adorned with even more peacock feathers.

2. HARRY WINSTON PREMIER PEARLY LACE AUTOMATIC

The watch highlights the Japanese art of *Raden*, an ancient technique which uses silk thread and slivers of natural mother-of-pearl to weave a luminous fabric. Elaborate yet absolutely elegant, the lacework on this timepiece is directly cut from a wafer-thin disc of mother-of-pearl.

3. GIRARD-PERREGAUX THE CHAMBER OF WONDERS – CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE, EARTH

One of the newly introduced models in its collection dedicated to Renaissance Europe's cartographic knowledge. The illustration uses stone marquetry and miniature painting to highlight Greco-Roman astronomer *Ptolemy's* geocentric theory—the model of an earth-centred solar system.

4. CARTIER PANTHÈRE JOUEUSE

This watch flaunts a sculpted depiction of a panther cub, set with diamonds, two emerald eyes and accented with black lacquer, chasing a ball, represented by a single diamond that marks the hours. The white-gold case, crown, lugs, and buckle are also set with diamonds, beautifully offset by an alligator leather strap.

5. CHOPARD L.U.C XP URUSHI – YEAR OF THE MONKEY

A collection celebrating the Chinese zodiac signs, the painting is designed and supervised in Japan by *Master Kilchiro Masumura*, who has achieved the rank in Japan as the *living human treasure* due to his abilities. In the interpretation chosen by Chopard, a red-coated monkey is perched on a branch laden with fruit. It is gathering peaches beneath a golden sky ablaze with the last rays of the sun. Behind it,



golden valleys compose a warm scene in soft tones that make a perfect match with the warmth of the 18k pink gold.

6. BLANCPAIN – THE GREAT WAVE

A nod to a print of the same name by Japanese artist *Hokusai*, this timepiece features Mexican silver obsidian, a semi-transparent volcanic rock, using one of the brand's favoured techniques, *Japanese rokushō*.

7. VAN CLEEF & ARPELS – CADENAS PAVÉE BRACELET WATCH

The Cadenas, created in 1935, was inspired by the American socialite Wallis Simpson and has gone on to become one of the most iconic watches. This sleek and slinky bracelet watch transports you straight back to the *Art Deco* era of streamlined, architectural designs and allowed women to consult the time discretely while enjoying the elegance of a high jewellery bracelet.

8. HERMÈS – SLIM D'HERMÈS MILLE FLEURS DU MEXIQUE

Inspired by a silk scarf created for the brand by graphic designer *Laetitia Bianchi*, the intricate strokes present the art of miniature painting using a mother-of-pearl dial as a canvas.