



【 飛凡英談 | NOEL'S ACADEMY 】



愈矛盾愈美麗
Challenging the absolute
The enchanting encounter of fine
watchmaking and fluid mechanics



液體是腕錶的天敵，當液體滲透進表內，零件便受到損壞，所以很多品牌都千方百計替腕錶做好防水措施。HYT 卻創製了全球首枚採用液體顯示時間的機械腕錶，名為 H1。
Moisture is the arch enemy of horological mechanisms. Pioneering watchmaking brand HYT decides to astonish the world by indicating the time with a liquid in a mechanical wristwatch.

資 本主義跟共產主義，本質上完全對立和矛盾，今天兩者卻可共存，一國兩制便是一個活生生的例子，鄧小平同志成功統一矛盾，做出前無古人的事。原來在高級腕錶世界裡，製表大師也喜愛在矛盾世界遊走，例如 Christophe Claret 的 X-Trem-1 腕錶利用磁場控制時與分，眾所周知，磁場乃腕錶的天敵，Christophe Claret 巧妙地將兩者矛盾地結合，成為一時佳話，亦為腕錶的賣點。

腕錶另一個天敵是液體，當液體滲透進表內，零件便受到損壞，所以很多品牌都千方百計替腕錶做好防水措施。之前提過，高級製表大師喜歡矛盾，愈矛盾愈興奮，愈有創作靈感，今天我要隆重介紹 HYT 這個品牌，它創製全球首枚採用液體顯示時間的機械腕錶，名為 H1。HYT 意指 Hydro Mechanical Horologists，中文意思大概是液體力學的鐘表製造者。

中國人早在周朝時代，已開始使用水鐘，稱為漏壺，乃古代一種非機械式時間測量器，今天，HYT 打破傳統界限，將傳統高尖端製表技術與液體機械結合，成就了 H1。H1 外型 Cool 爆，6 時位置見到有兩個像汽缸的裝置，表殼邊緣有一條橢圓形管導，12 時位置設有分鐘顯示，9 時位秒針，3 時位乃動力儲存顯示等。

H1 腕錶的精髓和賣點落在管導和長相猶如汽缸的液體儲存器身上，內有兩種液體，一種是螢光液體，另一種是透明黏性液

While capitalism and communism are contradictory by nature, it has been proven that they can co-exist by applying the constitutional principle of "One Country, Two Systems" formulated by Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader of the People's Republic of China. It takes similar creativity, boldness and vision for esteemed watchmakers to challenge the absolute and bring the impossible to life. For example, Christophe Claret has groundbreakingly introduced a magnetic field, the arch enemy of horological mechanisms, into the heart of X-Trem-1, to control the hour and minute indicators. By setting two contradictory elements in one small case and guaranteeing their complementary performances, Christophe Claret has once again stunned the watchmaking world by creating an horological legend.

Apart from magnetic fields, moisture is another arch enemy of horological mechanisms. Mechanical parts are prone to malfunction if the movement is exposed to humidity. As much as watchmakers are always keen to improve the water resistance of their timepieces, pioneering watchmaking brand HYT decides to astonish the world by indicating the time with a liquid in a mechanical wristwatch.

HYT, which stands for Hydro Mechanical Horologists, is a creative watch brand that realizes the eye-opening encounter of fine watchmaking and fluid mechanics.

As early as in the Zhou Dynasty (11th century B.C. to 256 B.C.), the Chinese were able to tell time by using ancient water clocks called "lou kun". Today, by combining fine watchmaking with fluid mechanics, HYT proudly presents H1, featuring two cylinder-like reservoirs at 6 o'clock, fixed to an oval-shaped capillary. The minute indicator is located at 12 o'clock, the seconds at 9 o'clock and the power reserve indicator at 3.

The highlight of the watch lies in the reservoirs and the capillary. In one is an aqueous liquid filled with fluorescein while the other contains a transparent viscous liquid. The repulsive force of the molecules in each liquid keeps them separated. To put it in a nutshell, while the first reservoir compresses, the other expands, and the other way round, resulting in the movement of the liquid in the capillary. As the hours go by, the fluorescent liquid advances and pushes the transparent liquid back to the reservoir. The meniscus that marks the boundary between the two liquids indicates the time. The next question is: what is the secret that gets the reservoirs going? Two bellows made of a highly resistant, flexible electro-deposited alloy, each driven by a piston. When the time reaches 6 o'clock, all the fluorescent liquid will be pressed back into its reservoir, and then it starts all over again by approaching 7 o'clock.



HYT 腕表的精髓和賣點落在管帶和長距離蒸汽缸的液體存留器身上。內有兩種液體，一種是螢光液體，另一種是透明粘性液體。這兩種液體相互排斥，不會黏在一起，但兩者相遇點真正顯示當下的時間。

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體，這兩種液體相互排斥，不會混在一起，但兩者的相遇點正顯示當下的時間。隨著時光飛逝，管內的螢光液體會增加，把透明黏性液體迫回去儲存它們的“汽缸”內，變得清楚一點，這兩個“汽缸”分別承載着螢光液體和透明黏性液體，由抗力強和靈活性高的電鍍合金製成。因此，這兩個類似汽缸的柱體會因應時間的變化作出伸縮。當時間走到6點的時候，螢光液體會全部退回汽缸內，之後會再隨著時間流走而重新出發，邁向7時位置。

根據品牌方介紹，H1液體部分的研究，是向醫學界借用治療人體的液體流動概念，創製出一套水泵系統，有效控制管內液體流動，防止它們流動過快而破壞管內的凹凸面。H1研究人員另一項挑戰是要準確量度管內的液體，以納米技術處理，液體過多就有機會導致“漏水”，損毀腕表部件。

H1腕表又再次印證造表工藝和現代科技的結合，這個科技絕對是可以外借，完全跳出鐘表製造業的傳統框架。H1既可保留傳統腕表應有的單位，例如發條、齒輪組、擒縱系統和游絲擺輪等，但同時注入妙想天開和矛盾非常元素，成功地共冶一爐，最開心是H1腕表價錢非常合理，絕對不是天價行為。Cool得有道理。

黃英飛

The development of H1 also took reference from the medical world, where fluid motion is used in certain medical treatments. A special kind of pump system was designed to control the fluid motion inside the capillary, so as to protect the capillary itself. Nanotechnology was applied to calculate the total volume of fluid in the closed circuit as it has to be extremely precise. Too much fluid will cause leakage and hence damage the watch movement.

As a manifestation of a brilliant combination of craftsmanship and technology in which the latter was introduced from a totally different field, H1 projects a new vision to watchmaking by fusing unconventional, even contradictory elements to the traditional hairspring, gear train, escapement and balance wheel. It is noteworthy that the piece comes with reasonable pricing which makes it even more attractive and approachable.

Noel Wong



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表評家 黃英飛

現為三寶珠寶集團有限公司副首席執行官的黃英飛，曾在電視台和報章從事新聞工作，九一一恐怖襲擊後，被派往巴基斯坦採訪，後來轉職鐘表界，曾擔任過三寶鐘錶珠寶集團市場副經理、蘇富比中國及東南亞區鐘表部主管、內地最大規模鐘表集團上海新宇鐘表集團有限公司副總裁、朗格亞太區董事總經理及卡地亞首席鐘表專家。黃英飛愛表備表超過十年，其表評廣見於中國大陸及香港多份報章雜誌，最愛將複雜及精湛的機芯，以風趣幽默的筆觸介紹給愛表人士，將名表儘量普及化，並出版其首本著作《腕表養督》，藉此與同好遊歷鐘表世界。

Watch critic Mr. Noel Wong

Living a passionately dedicated "watch life" for more than ten years, Mr. Noel Wong, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Elegant Jewellery Holding Limited, was the Chief Watch Expert of Cartier. Prior to that, he was the Managing Director, Asia Pacific, of A. Lange & Sohne. He was also Vice President of Shanghai Xn Yu Watch & Clock Group, Ltd, the largest watch and clock retail group in Greater China. Mr. Wong's experience also spanned the auction sphere when he was Head of Watches Department, China and Southeast Asia of Sotheby's Hong Kong. Before joining the watch industry, Mr. Wong was a television and newspaper journalist and a war correspondent in Pakistan right after 9/11. Mr. Wong has made a significant contribution to popular branded watches and to bringing the watchmaking culture to a more consumer-friendly level through writing columns for newspapers and magazines in Mainland China and Hong Kong. Recently, he has published his first book "The Journey of Collecting Watches - From Passion to Vision".