



Richard Mille

Richard Mille extends the brand's technical prowess to the depths of the sea with the new RM 025, while simultaneously venturing even further into new emotional and artistic worlds of incomparable expressivity.

Inspired by myriad sources such as motorsports, aeronautics and the oceans as well as new materials, shapes and forms, the secrets of precious stones and even ancient symbols, the new 2009 collection presents an amazing number of choices and possibilities for both men and women.

Extending the limits of watchmaking is at the core of Richard Mille's nature; nonetheless his watches represent much more than technical feats alone. His timepieces embody inspiration and ideas with an all-encompassing coherency that can be felt and seen from the smallest details of each watch through to the larger lines of the collection's additions for 2009, and indeed his vision as a whole.

Not only do innovative materials make their entrance in watches like the new RM 021 Aerodyne Tourbillon for 2009; the new RM 019 with its ancient Celtic knot symbol and black onyx baseplate herald the entrance of secret and mysterious themes into the Richard Mille universe, showing that his inspiration is not limited to the technical world of men's watches alone.

The creative essentials at the core of Richard Mille's watches are based upon an ergonomic and holistic approach in which the watch case, the layout and appearance of the movement, the materials used, the hands and even the strap must form a coherent whole, even including the back of the watch's movement that we rarely ever see. With these central concepts in place, inspiration from myriad sources can be transformed into passionate designs, where catalytic and creative impulses combine to take a unique role in the design of new timepieces. It also guarantees that even when going to extremes, the Richard Mille concept never loses its coherence. Take for instance the elegant lines of the new RM 023 with its asymmetrical dial design

and slightly smaller dimensions that bring an elegant character to the collection, whilst the subdued cases bring us closer to the world of stealth and discretion. Worlds apart in character, they both unmistakably belong to the vision of Richard Mille. In 2009, Richard Mille introduced the large, bold and extreme RM 025 Tourbillon Chronograph Diver's Watch, proof that there are no limits to be found in horology except those that we create ourselves.

Mille's freedom to challenge, dream and create remains a joy for passionate collectors of Haute Horlogerie the world over, and his continuous desire to go further in pursuing these ideals. The collection for 2009 reveals his sensitivity to ever-changing developments and impulses as never before, and prove that he remains true to his goals.

RM 023 Skeletonized Automatic

Everything is in motion. Our expectations are to experience and feel things – in the 'now', not the 'later.' And it is the job of 21st century watchmaking companies like Richard Mille to listen and react to everything that is taking place in horology, whilst at the same time never forgetting their philosophy of watchmaking. The new watch RM 023 symbolises the dialogue between the brand and the watch lovers who cherish it.

The partially skeletonised RM 023, which makes its appearance in 2009, has been given new dimensions (45.00 mm x 37.80 mm x 11.45 mm) and its size is between that of the RM 007 and the RM 010. It has a new and elegant dial design, using an asymmetrical layout with roman numerals in appliqué on sapphire with an unusual sculpted, Alcrin col-

ored crown. Designed for both men and women, this new model unites everything essential in Richard Mille's philosophy with a sophisticated appearance, convincing as well as comfortable under all imaginable conditions. With brushed or highly polished cases now available, as well as new colour combinations for the straps and interior flanges, this is a model of vast possibilities.

Whilst the case size of the RM 023 combined with the new dial and crown brings an air of elegance to the exterior, the interior – as can be expected from any Richard Mille creation – is focused solely on technique and performance, concepts close Richard Mille's heart. Great attention to every detail is ensured in this model starting with the winding rotor and its white gold V-shaped ribs and variable geometry, which can be personally adjusted to each wearer's activity level before leaving the workshop. The weight segment along the outer edge is milled from a special tungsten/cobalt alloy with the rotor's ball bearings created from synthetic ceramics. The special double barrel system lowers wear and tear on the movement, also evening out any variations in the flow of power to the movement. This extreme care and attention to the rotor and winding aspects of the watch's going train are directly connected with the necessity of an even energy supply as the essential basis for ensuring excellent chronometric results.

The PVD treated titanium baseplate, bridges and balance-cock with many skeletonised parts have been developed to guarantee excellent rigidity and accurate surface flatness, which in the case of skeletonised movements requires additional considerations. A casing ring is no longer used, with the movement instead seated in the tripartite case using chassis mounting rubbers and fixed with 4 titanium screws, thereby ensuring additional isolation from external shocks and vibrations. Potential problems caused by external shocks





are prevented by the balance wheel being given Incabloc protection on both dial and movement side. In its entirety, this tonneau-shaped movement, with 31 jewels and beating at 4 Hz, is the thinnest titanium-based automatic calibre in use today.

'All Gray' Series

Giving existing materials a new impulse by applying them in a new manner, as well as the implementation of new materials in watchmaking, is completely second nature to the Richard Mille watchmaking philosophy. In fact, from the brand's inception, the tone was set to



search for challenges and never look back – only ahead to the next bend in the track.

Just like the shockwave that went through the Swiss watch industry when the first Haute Horlogerie watches appeared in steel cases rather than gold a half century ago, Richard Mille shocked everyone by creating tourbillons with titanium cases and movements.

However, if that were all, it would never be enough for Richard Mille. This first step was quickly followed by the use of carbon nanofibre for movement baseplates, marking the

first ever application of this material in watchmaking. Carbon nanofibre is a composite composed of carbon fibres many times thinner than a human hair, which takes on an isotropic structure possessing mechanical, physical and chemical stability when moulded under high pressure (750 bars) and temperature (2,000° C). The reason why this material is so suited for use in watchmaking is that it is amorphous, chemically neutral and dimensionally stable within a wide range of temperatures. This might sound deceptively basic, but in actual fact, the different temperature coefficients of all the parts within a watch movement can create disturbances in the going train, therefore possibly affecting chronometric results. If the foundation of the movement is absolutely stable, as carbon nanofibre

ing Haute Horlogerie of the first order with a 'no-nonsense' technical exterior.

RM 021 'Aerodyne' Tourbillon

Continuing the expansion and application of truly unique materials to watchmaking, the RM 021 is the first watch created with a composite baseplate utilising a titanium exterior framework in combination with honeycombed orthorhombic titanium alumide and carbon nanofibre. The stability of a timepiece's baseplate remains essential for creating excellent chronometric results, and these new materials lend themselves perfectly to the job as yet another experiment in extending the boundaries of the watchmaker's world. Orthorhombic titanium aluminides are new group of alloys, developed



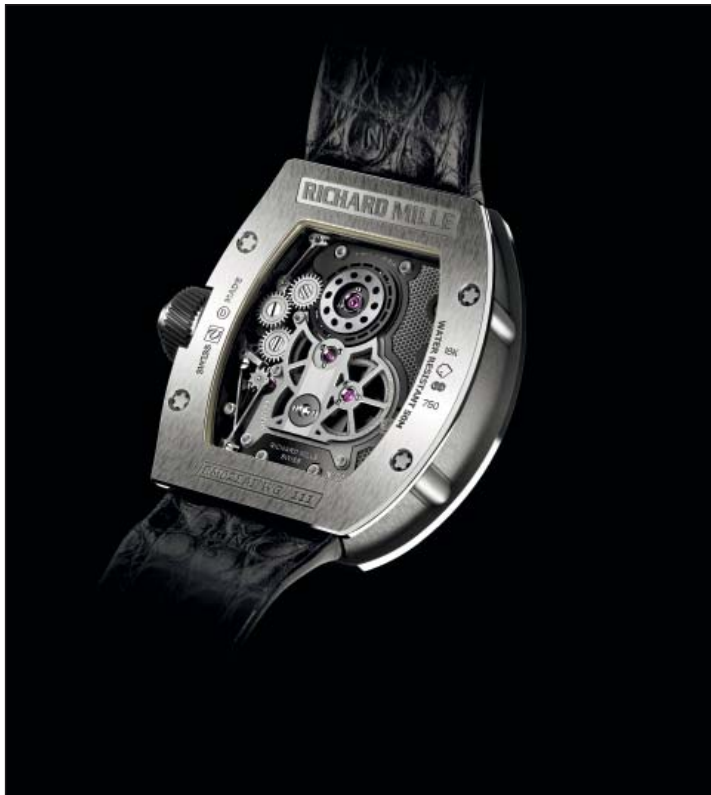
is, it provides the ideal basis for any kind of complicated horological creation, whether tourbillon or split seconds chronograph models.

Richard Mille's combination of titanium and carbon nanofibre has set a high challenge for watchmaking in the 21st century, and has been proven more useful, and more beautiful.

New for 2009, in celebration of these new impulses that started with the inception of the brand's birth and the realisation of a new alternative, Richard Mille has created the 'All Gray' series: the RM 002-V2 All Gray, RM 003-V2 All Gray, RM 004-V2 All Gray, and RM 008-V2 All Gray. Every watch in this series has a specially manufactured grey carbon nanofibre baseplate combined with a case of microblasted titanium, representing

from the main class of titanium aluminides, which possess a specific crystalline molecular structure ordered on the orthorhombic phase of Ti_2AlNb . Its use within a honeycombed geometrical pattern was originally the subject of research by NASA for application as a core material of supersonic aircraft wings, where resistance to extremely high temperatures and torsion is paramount. The alloy in this honeycombed form has unparalleled stiffness, a low thermal expansion coefficient and exceptional torsion resistance. The actual shape of the baseplate itself as seen from the dial side resembles the trench-like V-shaped profile of a flying wing aircraft, where the wing tips are positioned higher than the central body of the aircraft itself. The winding barrel and the tourbillon are both placed in the central depth of this aerodynamic structure, balancing on light and airy





bridges with four arms on two sides. The RM 021 Aerodyne Tourbillon is available in titanium and 18-carat red or white gold, with alligator strap and matching buckle.

RM 019 Ladies' Tourbillon

Extending the ladies' collection at Richard Mille Watches is a new tourbillon wristwatch that combines stone setting with eternal and mystical elements in the presentation of the RM 019 Ladies' Tourbillon wristwatch. Dating back to about the 5th century, the most emblematic and identifiable artistic expression of Celtic history must be considered the Celtic knot. This symbol, also referred to as the mystic or endless knot, suggests that in life there are neither beginnings nor endings, consequently reminding us of the timeless nature of the spirit. With its unlimited and returning pathway, this emblem symbolises an uninterrupted life; it is both an emblem of longevity and the never-ending cycle of our existence. The RM 019 proves that a combination of esoteric sensibility and technical horology is a perfect match for the 21st century.

The first and most striking feature of this new creation is of course the diamond studded knot that traverses and weaves itself over and through various parts of the movement, con-

necting and joining the winding barrel, power reserve indicator and tourbillon in an endless cycle. The hour and minute hands are striking in their asymmetrical placement within the flowing lines of the Celtic pattern. The baseplate of the watch has been created of black onyx, a variety of cryptocrystalline quartz chalcedony composed of silicium dioxide, (SiO₂). Onyx varieties with rectilinear black and white parallel stripes are actually a part of the agate family, whereas the fully black type is what one commonly calls true black onyx. Black onyx is considered a stone of protection against negative thoughts, as well being the stone of equilibrium and inspiration. Adding a refined vis-

ible touch to a technical part of the movement, the tourbillon's endstone bridge on the black onyx reverse side is an engraved triquetra knot.

In keeping with the technical nature of all watches created by the brand, the RM 019 utilises a newly developed power reserve indicator that makes use of a differential gearing system, directly connected to the winding barrel. Via a red line etched on its surface, the direct turning of the power reserve barrel allows the wearer to easily note if the watch requires winding. The RM 019 is available in 18-carat red or white gold cases, and finished with a specially sculpted, Alcryl collared crown.





RM 025 Tourbillon Chronograph Diver's Watch

After creating watches for the rigours of land, the G-forces of the racetrack as well as the open seas, Richard Mille has now explored the depths of the ocean with his introduction of the RM 025. This new creation is a watch suitable for the world of diving and the demands of the deep sea. At first glance, it is unlike any other Richard Mille creation in terms not only of its exterior appearance but also its ability to deal with one of the harshest environments on Earth without difficulty. However, its DNA is decidedly Richard Mille.

Visually the watch breaks with the iconic Richard Mille case, yet this is a change born directly from technical necessity. Water resistance of this

kind, 30 atmospheres (300 metres) compliant with ISO 6425 diver's watch norms, is only possible at these depths with a round case shape. However, look closely and what at first glance seems deceptively simple is much more complex...

The unique tripartite case is complemented by the additional integration of the lugs into the case's torque screw system, as well as the torque limiting crown and a new design of watertight pushers.

The bezel is also unlike any other. It is constructed of three layers, connected with 24 torque screws, turning unidirectionally in accordance with ISO 6425 norms in order to avoid timing miscalculations. In addition, the entire bezel system is screwed to the watchcase, making it

absolutely stable as well as impossible to inadvertently dislocate or loosen. This unique use of screws allows for perfect adjustment since the bezel is not tensioned into position. For clearer visibility under murky conditions, starting at 12 o'clock, the five-minute markers of the first quarter are highlighted red.

All this attention to detail is just the icing on the cake however; within it ticks the RM 025 calibre, a carbon nanofibre tourbillon chronograph movement based upon the famed RM 008 calibre, one of the major and uniquely new chronograph designs of the 21st century. This led to a number of new impulses, such as creating and manufacturing a number of parts such as the column wheel and levers in titanium in order to

reduce inertia and lower energy consumption circa 50%. This greatly reduces friction on the spindle and eliminates the jumps and shocks of the chronograph hand during stopping and starting, adding to the watch's precision. The production and assembly of the RM 025 Tourbillon Diver's watch takes many months, with only a select number of watchmakers able to cope with its complex assembly and testing. For this reason, it is only possible to produce a highly limited number of these watches per year.

The RM calibre 025 unites 2 extremes: the complication of a tourbillon with the notorious complexities of a chronograph movement. Available in titanium, fitted with 18-carat red gold lugs with a screwed-in rubber diver's strap.

