



Blancpain Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe,
for details see p. 68.

Holiday time!

As gift-giving shifts into high gear this month and next, INDULGE takes a close-up look at the art of buying timepieces. From how to start a collection to exactly what you need to know to make your next investment to the pieces that make perfect South Florida presents, we've got you covered.

WRITTEN AND EDITED BY KEITH W. STRANDBERG



Roger Dubuis, Excalibur 42 Skeleton Flying Tourbillon. \$164,000.
King Jewelers, 18265 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-935-4900; kings1912.com, rogerdubuis.com.

The gift of time

The holiday season has come around once again, and with it comes the age-old dilemma: what to buy for that person who is so hard to buy for? One answer is a fine timepiece.



Patek Philippe Ref. 5123R Calatrava. \$26,800. Torneau, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 305-932-2280; patek.com.



Tudor Heritage, Black Bay. \$3,100. Torneau, Aventura Mall, 19575 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-932-2280; tudorwatch.com, tourneau.com.



Chopard, L.U.C 1937 Classic. \$38,590. Chopard Boutique, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 305-868-8626, us.chopard.com.

A watch is undoubtedly a very personal gift, but if you get it just right, a watch can be the most meaningful gift of all. If your loved ones love the watch, they'll not only wear it often—maybe even every day—but when they do wear it and check it for the time, they'll inevitably remember who gave it to them.

"A watch is a great gift for the favorite people in your life," says Ed Dykes, co-owner of Weston Jewelers (along with his wife, Tracey). "It's a very personal gift and can be accessorized to fit the person's tastes and needs. A watch is very special and comes from the heart."

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TIMEPIECE

If you're lucky, your loved ones will talk about the watches they want in plenty of time to get to your local authorized retailer. In fact, one way to gauge their interest might be to put this magazine in front of them now and see what they react to!

Where and how you decide to buy your watch makes a big difference, whether the piece is for you or someone else. A fine timepiece is an important purchase and requires a lot of thought.

"A mechanical watch has a 'heartbeat' just like a person and has a very personal connection to the wearer," says Michael Gordon, Torneau's flagship store General Manager. "Watches, when taken care of properly, will last a lifetime and may be passed on to future generations to become a treasured heirloom."

First, you want to touch and feel the watch, try it on your wrist and see how it looks. At the same time, and find out as much about this watch and other fine timepieces as you can. Only an authorized, expert retailer can do this for you.





De Witt Twenty-8-Eight
Tourbillon. \$140,000.
King Jewelers, 18265
Biscayne Boulevard,
Aventura; 305-935-4900;
kings1912.com, dewitt.ch.

“Since a watch is such a personal gift, you can make sure you are selecting the right watch for the recipient by asking yourself a few simple questions,” says Jono King, director of sales, King Jewelers. “What type of lifestyle does the recipient lead? What is the person’s particular style? What does the person already own?”

In addition, with an authorized retailer, you know you are getting the real deal—a brand new watch that will be warranted and serviced by the brand. On the Internet and in stores that are not authorized retailers, it can get a little dicey; there have been horror stories of people buying watches that they thought were new and were actually secondhand, counterfeit or even stolen.

“Only an authorized retailer has the expertise and knowledge to properly answer questions as well as service brand watches,” says Eva Hartling, director of public relations, Mayors. “A watch is an investment piece, and customers need to know they can count on their retailer in case their watch needs servicing, or if an issue arises.”

Lastly, buying a fine timepiece is not like buying a book or a CD. It’s an experience to enjoy, and a great retailer can really make buying your timepiece fun. Take your time and enjoy yourself.

A watch, no matter the style, the brand or the cost, can be the perfect gift. You just have to take care to choose the perfect one, which is why it’s a meaningful, and thoughtful, gift.



TAG Heuer LINK Lady. \$5,600. TAG Heuer
Boutique, Aventura Mall, 19501 Biscayne
Boulevard, Aventura; 855-469-5019;
Shop.TAGHeuer.com, TAGHeuer.com.



Jaeger-LeCoultre Master Ultra Thin Moon 39.
\$18,100. Jaeger-LeCoultre Boutique,
312 Plaza Real, Boca Raton; 561-368-3866.
Jaeger-LeCoultre Boutique, 254 Worth Avenue,
Palm Beach; 561-833-0801.
Concierge: 877-JLC-1833; jaeger-lecoultre.com.

Collecting 101

King Jewelers' Jono King, one of the watch world's reigning experts, offers advice on the best way to begin a collection.

It can be an intimidating prospect. With so much information on watches swirling about, the thought of starting a watch collection might leave your head spinning. We turned to one of South Florida's premiere experts, Jono King, director of sales at King Jewelers and an avid collector himself, and asked for his best tips for where to begin.

What's the most important piece of advice you have for someone who wants to start collecting watches?

A lot of people tend to gravitate to brands that have a rich history. They can look back at 100 or 150 years of collections and the evolution of the watches. It's nice for people to start off with a brand that is well known, that is written about, that there is a lot of information about to help people make their choice. You should do your research online and in the magazines. Start off with an established brand that has a wide variety of offerings. Then, you can expand your collection by buying watches that catch your eye.

What should your first watch be?

The first piece should be something versatile, something you can wear at work, on the weekends, on vacation, something suited for any or every occasion. Then, once you own this, you can expand to a sports watch or a dress timepiece.

Should people buy new watches or pre-owned?

I would suggest that people start off with a new watch, because you have a manufacturer's warranty and a sense of comfort and security. The introduction to watches has to be a positive experience. If you are buying pre-owned, you don't know where it came from. We do carry some pre-owned, but the vast majority of these pieces were sold new from this store.

Is there a benefit to buying pre-owned?

There is such a watch craze that there are a lot of pre-owned pieces on the market. Some collectors love to have the newest and greatest, so they trade out of other watches to buy the new ones. Depending on the outlet, there is a great opportunity to get fantastic watches on the pre-owned market.

What are things people should watch out for, whether buying new or pre-owned?

I can't tell you the number of times we have seen people buy counterfeit or stolen watches without knowing it. One of our clients brings in the Officine Panerai that he buys on the Internet, and every single one he has brought in has been a fake. The bigger the brand, the more counterfeits there are. You have to know who you are buying from. I always suggest you deal with an authorized dealer. And if you are a novice, you should never buy sight unseen.



Jono King's TOP 5

So what are your top five watches with which to start a collection?

Abraham-Louis Breguet was one of the founding fathers of the watch industry, so every watch collection should feature at least one watch from Breguet. Harry Winston is known for doing things differently, like the Project Z6 Black Edition with an alarm movement. The Chopard Mille Miglia is a fine, versatile sports watch. I'm a big fan of Zenith; their pilot collection is a great entry point, and the El Primero Stratos Striking 10 is a great watch to begin with. And lastly, the Jaeger-LeCoultre Reverso is an iconic watch and the Squadra version is sporty and great-looking.



Breguet Tradition GMT, \$39,200.



Zenith El Primero Stratos Striking 10, \$10,400.



Jaeger LeCoultre Reverso Squadra Chronograph GMT, \$25,500.



Harry Winston Project Z6 Black Edition, \$48,500.



Chopard Mille Miglia Classic Racing GMT Limited Edition, \$6,930.

Go ahead, get wet!



Harry Winston Ocean Dual Time Monochrome. \$40,500. Harry Winston Boutique, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 786-206-6657; harrywinston.com.

The quintessential Miami lifestyle accessory? A sports watch that can keep up with all the underwater fun.

Taking a dip in the pool? Relaxing in the hot tub? Jumping into the ocean from your boat? Scuba diving in the Keys? With the right watch, you can do all of the above without worrying about damaging it. You can choose anything from a dedicated dive watch to a rugged, sporty one or even an elegant timepiece, as long as the water resistance is high enough. So, even if you get thrown into the pool at the next party, what's on your wrist will keep ticking.

A high-quality water sports watch is one that's been tested to withstand water pressure, shocks, changes in temperature, exposure to perspiration and the elements. Versatile, do-everything, good-looking timepieces, they function well in the deep blue sea and look as good on your wrist at the office as they do during a night out.

Up until the early 20th century, watches were not water resistant at all. If you got your watch wet, chances were it was ruined. Then, in the 1920s, Rolex introduced its first water-resistant Oyster case and



Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe. \$10,500 (men's); \$9,500 (ladies'). East Coast Jewelry, 16810 Collins Avenue, North Miami Beach; 305-947-8883; ecjusa.com, blancpain.com.

became an early leader in manufacturing watches that could stand up to immersion in the ocean.

Today, most watches are water-resistant to a certain depth. The bare minimum now is 30 meters, which means that it has been tested as water tight to a pressure of 30 meters, or about 90 feet. Most all-around watches are water resistant to at least 100 meters (approximately 330 feet) and, to qualify as a diving watch, 200 meters (about 655 feet) is the minimum.

There are watches that go even deeper; however, the lowest depth a person can safely scuba dive is 130 feet or 40 meters, so what's the point of having a watch that can go down any lower than that? Well, the current world record for a water-resistant watch is 20,000 feet (deeper than the Titanic's sunken remains) and this is a very technical achievement. Being able to manufacture a watch capable of going so deep is a credit to engineering and technical knowhow. And, if your watch can go down to that depth and keep ticking, it must be able to withstand a dip in the pool or a plunge into the hot tub!



Rolex Cosmograph Daytona in Platinum. \$75,000. Mayors Jewelers, Dadeland Mall, 7457 North Kendall Drive, Miami; 305-667-7517; mayors.com, rolex.com.



Omega Seamaster Aqua Terra Day-Date. Price upon request. Morays Jewelers, Downtown Miami, 50 Northeast Second Avenue, Miami; 305-374-0739; moraysjewelers.com.



Ulysse Nardin Black Sea Marine Diver. Price upon request. Ulysse Nardin Boutique, Aventura Mall, 19501 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-830-1786; ulysse-nardin.com.



Hamilton Khaki Navy Sub Auto Chrono, \$1,995. Torneau, Village of Merrick Park, 320 San Lorenzo Avenue, Coral Gables; 305-448-6878; torneau.com; shop.hamiltonwatch.com.

It's complicated

Well, not exactly. But understanding complications—the interesting functions of a watch—is key to knowing what to buy. Here, our guide to the best of the best.



LIQUID DISPLAY

Today's new ways of displaying time make power regulation challenging. The HYT H2 pictured here uses a liquid display of the time, managed by hydraulic pumps. It used to be that any kind of liquid was death to watches, but HYT has turned that idea on its head. \$129,000. King Jewelers, 18265 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-935-4900; kings1912.com.



PERPETUAL CALENDAR

Keep a perpetual calendar, like the Breitling Transocean QP pictured here, running and you won't have to reset it until the year 2100 or later. \$60,165. Moray's Jewelers, 50 Northeast Second Avenue, Miami; 305-374-0739; moraysjewelers.com, breitling.com.

When you hear someone say the word “complications,” it’s usually not a good thing. But in watch parlance, a complication is the interesting aspect (or aspects) of a timepiece that makes it more useful and infinitely more valuable. By definition, a complication is anything more than the standard three-hand time display in hours, minutes and seconds. So, for example, at its simplest, a date display or a small second sub-dial is considered a complication. Any complication makes a watch more difficult to manufacture because the additional functions draw stored power from the movement and must work flawlessly while the watch continues to do its main job, telling time precisely. Here’s a quick and easy guide to today’s top complications.

CHRONOGRAPH

This is a watch that allows for the independent timing of an event. Usually, a chronograph has two pushers on the side of the case to activate, stop and return the chronograph hands. Most chronographs have sub-dials that measure the minutes and hours. Pictured here is the Roger Dubuis Excalibur 42 Chronograph, with a movement that is certified by the prestigious Geneva Hallmark. \$43,100. Levinson Jewelers, 888 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale; 954-462-8880; levinsonjewelers.com.





TOURBILLON

A device that is designed to counteract the effects of gravity on the movement's balance, thereby increasing the movement's accuracy, a tourbillon features a small cage that holds the balance and the escapement, and the cage turns independently of the watch, usually at a constant rate of once per minute. The tourbillon, which means "whirlwind" in French, is one of watchmaking's most involved and elegant complications. The Chopard L.U.C Perpetual T combines the tourbillon with a perpetual calendar. \$166,500. Chopard Boutique, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 305-868-8626; us.chopard.com.



GRAND COMPLICATION

A Grand Complication is a watch that combines several high complications. The A. Lange & Söhne Grand Complication has six major complications and a total of 876 parts, and is currently the most complicated watch that Lange makes. Price upon request. A. Lange & Söhne Boutique, 252 Worth Avenue, Palm Beach; 561-833-0803; alange-soehne.com.



DUAL TIME/GMT

This timepiece displays two times simultaneously, either through a GMT hand that points to the second time zone or through a separate sub-dial for the second time zone. Rolex GMT-Master II is the ultimate in unassailable classic style in a GMT watch. \$8,950. Rolex, 135 NE 39th Street, Miami; 305-576-5391; rolex.com.



JUMPING HOUR

Instead of regular hands, a single digit shows the hour and it jumps directly to the next hour, for example, from three to four. Pictured here is the Harry Winston Ocean Tourbillon Jumping Hour, which combines a tourbillon with this unique display. \$217,300. King Jewelers, 18265 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-935-4900; kings1912.com.



MINUTE REPEATER

This is a watch that chimes out the time (hours and minutes) when a lever is activated. The Minute Repeater is considered one of the most complicated watches to manufacture. An excellent example is the Ulysse Nardin Carnival of Venice Minute Repeater, pictured here, with a stunning enamel dial complete with animated figures that remove their masks when the minute repeater chimes. Price upon request. Ulysse Nardin Boutique, Aventura Mall, 19501 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura; 305-830-1786; www.ulysses-nardin.com.

Miami Time

Local launches, debuts and openings you'll love.

HUBLOT'S 305 TIMEPIECE IN HONOR OF THE MAGIC CITY

As a tribute to the Magic City, Hublot is offering the limited edition King Power "305," using Miami's area code as the model number. White and ocean blue remind its owner of the

ocean and the sand. The 48mm watch is limited to just 40 pieces. The hefty case is made of King Gold, a special alloy of 18 karat gold and platinum. The timepiece features a Hublot skeleton movement and the solid gold caseback is engraved with a view of Miami's South Beach and the

number 305. If you like ice with your water and sand, there are 10 versions featuring 374 white diamonds (totaling about 3.34 karats). Hublot Boutique, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 305-865-1855; hublot.com.

FIRST ROLEX BOUTIQUE ARRIVES IN DESIGN DISTRICT

Right in the heart of the Design District, Rolex Boutique Luxury Swiss opened this month. Offering a unique Rolex experience for customers, the boutique is located at 135 NE 39th Street. The 1,250-square-foot boutique is almost entirely encased in glass and, inside, the decor blends luxurious materials like Italian leather, Crema Marfil marble, walnut and bronze. rolex.com; 305-576-5391.

LeBron James launches signature timepiece

LeBron James recently launched his latest timepiece, the Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Offshore Limited Edition LeBron James, at an event in Miami Beach. An 18-karat pink gold watch with a titanium bezel, the limited edition (only 600 will be made) is an interesting mixture of sophistication and boldness. The dial is gray with a "Méga Tapisserie" pattern, with pink gold applied numerals and pink gold hands. The sapphire crystal exhibition back is engraved with the legend "Royal Oak Offshore Limited Edition Lebron James" and also features number 6's signature printed in blue. "The mechanics of watchmaking have always interested me. My first visit to Audemars Piguet—seeing what it takes to create a watch and bringing everything together—was incredible," James said. "I never imagined the number of stages and the amount of people involved in making a watch. For me, as a professional basketball player, I continue to strive to get better, year after year. I feel that's something Audemars Piguet and I really have in common. They're always trying to improve and innovate." Audemars Piguet, Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue, Bal Harbour; 305-864-6776; audemarspiguet.com.

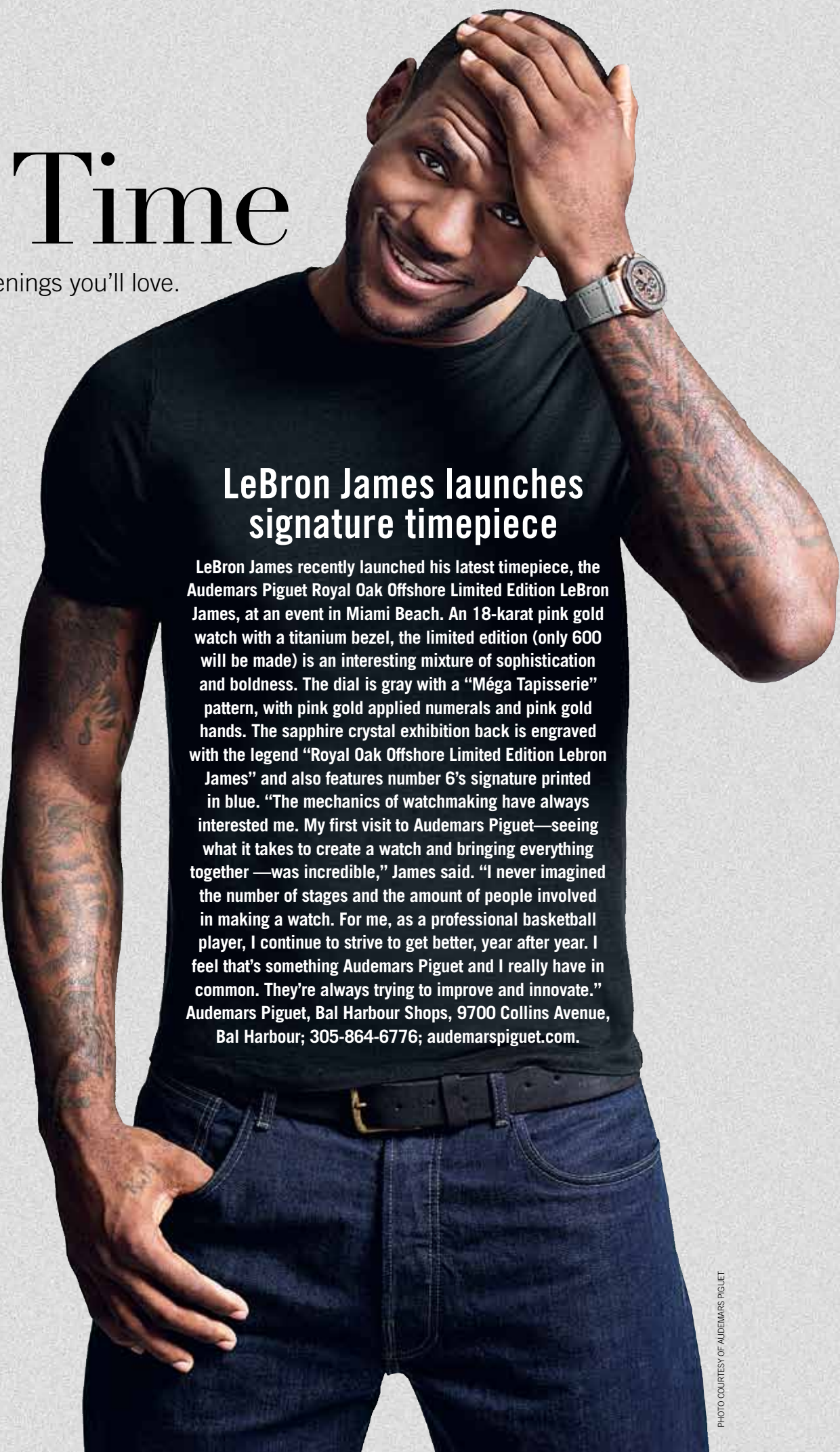


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