

highbrowse



Lindy Bag

CARD-CARRYING CLASSIC

Style and practicality come together in the new Hermès Lindy bag. With a solid rectangular base and opening, it has a wide shoulder-strap and large handles so it can be carried by hand, on the arm or over the shoulder. Choose from supple, ultra-soft full leather or a canvas and leather mix. Available in two sizes from Hermès Boutiques: Liat Towers and Takashimaya Department Store.

NO OBLIGATIONS

David Zanetta, president of De Bethune SA, from Northern Italy became interested in watches from a very young age. "I grew up collecting watches," he reveals. In 2002, along with business partner, technical managing director, Denis Flagecollet, he created De Bethune. "We wanted to introduce a quality which does not exist any more, and to create timepieces without having a brand obligation," he explains.



David Zanetta

All De Bethune watches are finished by hand: "Every single piece, mechanics, case, dials, hands are of high quality. In Basel this year we present research on a neo classical watch in the style of the perpetual calendar, but simple with the upgraded automatic mechanic," he says.

This year the company launches a special branch, "We have created many unique pieces in the past and this branch is dedicated only to custom-made special watches and pieces."

De Bethune is located in Jura, Switzerland, "There's only one place in the world where you can find proper watchmakers and that's in Switzerland," says Zanetta. "You cannot make this quality in Japan, Singapore or the USA." However, he maintains it's not necessary to wear an expensive watch all the time, "It's a question of personal choice. It's like using a Rolls with a driver every day." Zanetta prefers a Volkswagen.

The latest release from De Bethune is the DB22 self-winding calibre. "This micro-mechanical time measuring machine" is the sophisticated culmination of in-depth research.

Zanetta relaxes by playing golf and breeding horses, remarking, "I enjoy the country life." His hobbies include fast cars: "I have a number of sports cars which I am not using much but, from time to time, I take one out for a ride," he says. His favourite model is the GT2 Porsche, "a very special model."



The DB22



Chopard's LUC "Extra Plate"

STEP UP TO THE PLATE

The ultra-thin LUC Extra Plate is the new profile of elegance from Chopard. This paragon of understated refinement crafted in yellow or white gold comes with a choice of two dials, a self-winding movement equipped with two barrels and an almost 70-hour power-reserve. Available from Chopard Boutique and Sincere Fine Watches, Ngee Ann City.

TRANQUILLITY DEFINED

This year Vivienne Tam draws upon jade's different shades. According to the Chinese, green jade has a calming effect, bestowing on its wearer a sense of tranquillity which can be seen in Vivienne Tam's spring-summer dresses. Available from Tyan Boutique.



Vivienne Tam, spring-summer 2007