

Beauty on the inside

Ticking art

This spectacular, intricate and impeccably finished, limited edition Thomas Mercer Classis chronometer was unveiled at Monaco by Andrew Winch.

In a celebration of the instrument that allowed us to calculate longitude, Winch was asked by Thomas Mercer to help make the marine chronometer a work of art. The brand new one-off eight-day chronometer, wound

using a key that slides out of the base, has been reengineered to bring the gimballed escapement to the top, so you can revolve it and see the clock mechanism working.

The name Classis comes from the Latin for fleet, and the chronometer celebrates the key voyages of discovery in navigation history, so each facet of the body, in the shape of a windlass, features the name of a historic vessel, departure year and lat/long of the land discovered.

Only ten chronometers a year will be made by Linley for £125,000. www.thomasmercer.com





British silverware

One of the last British Sterling Silver houses has launched a Yacht Division to offer the world's finest silver for use aboard superyachts. What sparked our interest was the capability of the company, based in Sheffield where silver-plating was introduced in the 19th Century, to make anything from scratch or to plate any object from silver, including bespoke yacht models.

Having produced a multi-million pound dining table and silverware for a Middle Eastern royal family, they certainly possess the prestige and skills, with an in-house cabinetmaking team capable of meeting most custom requirements.

British Silverware consolidated six of the most prestigious names of the British silver industry, retaining their traditional skills so they can create bespoke pieces, with private commissions like this now forming the largest percentage of their turnover, www.britishsilverware.co.uk/marine



Material design

This Pocket Spa concept is the result of a competition to find interior designers of the future. Organised by the paint manufacturers, the Awlgrip Challenge is for design students and recent graduates to design a 2x2x3m piece for the inside of a superyacht.

The works were judged on looks and performance, ergonomics and manufacturing ability, and how innovatively they use upcoming Awlgrip products. The £5,000 prize went to Maja Vujec, a recent Master of Architecture student from Split, for this spa, sauna and massage room.

"We wanted to show the world that we are not just on the outside of the boat, but on the inside now too," explained Ken Hickling of Awlgrip. He gave us a sneak preview of a line of new coatings and paint products which will be introduced over the next three years, including a spray-on suede effect, which is already used in cars, clear coatings and virtual coatings. There is an impressive fluoro polymer film that looks like wood, is not flammable and allows builders to paint from bare wood to a finished coat (in a variety of finishes) in 24 hours, ready to ship.