

Reference 5278/50

Allegory of Music



*Calatrava minute repeater wristwatch with
dial in miniature painting on enamel*

This unique piece in rose gold reproduces “The Allegory of Music”, a work in oil on canvas dating from 1764 by the French painter François Boucher (1703–1770). A master of the Rococo style known for his sensual themes this artist excelled in the portrayal of scenes drawn from mythology and depicting gallant or pastoral pleasures. To recreate this work rich in detail and notable for the smoothness of its execution, Patek Philippe showcased the highly refined technique of miniature painting on enamel. The enameller built up his picture in small, deft touches using 19 base colors – including 7 blended shades – perfectly reproducing the flesh tints, the folds in the fabrics and the textures

of the hair. He then protected this decoration and intensified its brilliance with several layers of flux, a transparent enamel, according to the Geneva method. The dial required 17 firings at temperatures ranging from 800°C to 830°C. The elegance of the dial harmonizes with that of an alligator leather strap in matte chocolate brown. This watch is endowed with a caliber R 27 self-winding movement with minute repeater chiming on “cathedral” gongs. The architecture of this Grand Complication movement and the painstaking finishing touches lavished on its parts may be admired through a sapphire crystal back (interchangeable with a solid back in rose gold).

The “Cathedral” gongs

The “cathedral” gong differs from classic gongs in terms of its extraordinary length. «Cathedral» gongs wrap around the movement with a length equivalent to nearly two circumferences and are thus twice as long as classic ones. The result is a rich tone with a particularly long reverberation.

The Minute repeater

On demand, the Minute repeater strikes the hours, the quarter-hours, and then the minutes that have elapsed since the last quarter-hour. The first hammer strikes the hours on the low-pitched gong with one strike for each hour. Subsequently, each quarter-hour is sounded as an alternating double strike by two hammers on both the high- and low-pitched gongs. Finally, the second hammer strikes the high-pitched gong to count the number of minutes that have passed since the last quarter-hour. At 12:59, for instance, the melody consists of 12 low sounds, 3 double high/low sounds, and 14 high sounds (totaling the maximum of 32 strikes).

Miniature painting on enamel

Miniature painting on enamel, a decidedly Genevan specialty with which the manufacture decorates a few pocket watches and wristwatch dials every year, is the most complex discipline among enamel arts. These small works of art are based on the extremely painstaking reproduction of portraits or famous paintings on the compact enamel “canvas” of a pocket watch. The incredible richness of detail is achieved in countless time-consuming steps. Every application of pigment has to be fired at 850°C before the next color is applied with a brush, which for particularly tiny picture elements typically consists of a single badger hair.

Functions and settings



HANDSETTING

- BEFORE YOU PERFORM ANY CORRECTIONS OR SETTINGS, WIND THE WATCH BY HAND (20 TURNS OF THE WINDING CROWN).
- PULL THE CROWN OUT (1).
- TURN THE HANDS IN EITHER DIRECTION.
- PUSH THE WINDING CROWN HOME AGAIN (2).

Instructions

The strike sequence of the Minute repeater must be allowed to end completely before it is activated again.

Caution: Never actuate the winding crown as long as the repeater is working and for 30 seconds thereafter. Doing so could cause damage to the repeating mechanism which would not be covered by the warranty.

To activate the striking mechanism, push the slide (3) all the way up.

Now release it completely – do not pull it down!

Two small hammers will now strike the hours, quarter-hours, and minutes on two gongs of low and high pitch. If the watch was set aside unwound for an extended period of time, the Minute repeater might not indicate the correct time because the oil may have thickened at some points inside the mechanism. This is absolutely normal and has no negative consequences. The striking mechanism will function correctly again within one or two hours after the watch has been rewound.

Recommendations

WATER RESISTANCE

Although your watch is equipped with a water-resistant crown, it is not protected at all against the ingress of moisture because of the slot for the Minute repeater slide.

Therefore, exercise care to ensure that liquid does not come into contact with your watch.

WINDING

When fully wound, your wristwatch has a power reserve of at least 40 hours. We recommend that you wind your watch at about the same time every day. We advise you to wind the watch before you put it on. This way, you can avoid lateral pressure on the winding stem which, in the course of the years, could damage the stem tube. The same applies to handsetting. Please use your fingernails to pull the crown out and turn it gently between two fingertips.

SERVICE

We recommend that you have your watch serviced at least once every three to five years. For this purpose, we suggest you take it to an Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer who will send it to our Geneva manufacture, the only location authorized to service watches with Minute repeaters. You can then be assured that your watch will be inspected and overhauled by a qualified master watchmaker at Patek Philippe headquarters in Geneva.

The master watchmaker will completely disassemble the movement and then inspect, clean, and lubricate all the individual parts prior to reassembly. All functions of the watch will also be tested in detail and the escapement regulated if necessary. Finally, its rate accuracy will be monitored and precision-adjusted for a further period of at least two weeks.

The case and buckle will be polished as per your instructions and your watch will be returned to you in mint condition. The entire process may take several weeks because each watch must undergo a complete series of tests to fulfill the strict quality criteria of Patek Philippe.

If you have any questions regarding the maintenance of your watch, contact the Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer nearest you or our International Customer Service department in Geneva, or visit www.patek.com.

CHANGING THE CASE BACK

Your watch comes with a sapphire-crystal case back and a separate solid precious metal back. Only qualified master watchmakers at the Patek Philippe workshops in Geneva are authorized to exchange the backs.

PATEK PHILIPPE SEAL

The Patek Philippe Seal is a global emblem of quality that applies to the completed and fully cased watch. It covers the movement, the case, the dial, the hands, the pushers, the straps and bracelets, the clasps, as well as all other components that contribute to the accuracy and aesthetic appeal of a watch. It takes technical, functional, and design-related aspects into account and also covers the visual appearance of the watch, its rate accuracy and dependability, as well as the quality of the customer service to which its owner is entitled. It encompasses the entire know-how and the unique facets that govern the development, production, and long-term maintenance of an exceptional timepiece.

Movement technical data



CALIBER:	R 27
DIAMETER:	28 MM
HEIGHT:	5.05 MM
NUMBER OF PARTS:	327
NUMBER OF JEWELS:	39
POWER RESERVE:	MIN. 43 HOURS - MAX. 48 HOURS
WINDING ROTOR:	GUILLOCHED 22K GOLD MINIROTOR, UNIDIRECTIONAL WINDING
BALANCE:	GYROMAX®
FREQUENCY:	21,600 SEMI-OSCILLATIONS PER HOUR (3 HZ)
BALANCE SPRING:	SPIROMAX®
HALLMARK:	PATEK PHILIPPE SEAL