

April 25, 2013

The Ananta '100th Anniversary' Chronograph

Ananta brings together two rich traditions. Honed over 100 years, Seiko's watchmaking skills are fused with the cultural history of Japan to create a collection that is both unmistakably Seiko and uniquely Japanese. For 2013, a new chronograph is added to Ananta with a design that evokes the age of the Samurai.



SRQ017

The new Ananta chronograph has a hand-painted lacquer dial in a deep blue, a color never previously achieved with lacquer.

Masamune Date. The ultimate daimyo

Even among the many remarkable daimyo's, or regional barons, of the early 17th century, Masamune Date's is an outstanding story. He fought his first campaign at the age of 14, he succeeded his father as daimyo at 17, he founded Sendai, one of Japan's great cities, and he was the driving force behind a sea-borne diplomatic mission that reached as far as the Philippines, Spain and even the Vatican City in Rome. As a warrior, he was as merciless as he was successful and he was renowned for the distinctiveness of his armour. His Samurai helmet was topped with a large crescent moon emblem and it is with this most distinctive look that history remembers him today. Masamune Date's crescent moon helmet is the inspiration for the new Ananta chronograph.



The crescent moon on the watch dial is inspired by the helmet worn by Masamune Date, the 17th century daimyo.

The refinement of lacquer. The innovation of a new color.

The dial of this new chronograph is a perfect expression of Seiko's dedication to ultimate refinement and innovation. Each dial is painted by hand by Isshu Tamura, a noted artist and expert in the Kaga Makie style of lacquer, but it is the colors that make this watch unique. The dial itself is a deep blue, a color never before achieved with lacquer and it evokes the richness of the night sky, against which the crescent moon, also painted in lacquer, shines brightly. The effect is stunning; a combination of power and serenity that is the perfect visual metaphor for the richly varied life of Masamune Date.

The state-of-the-art 8R chronograph

Inside this new Ananta creation beats Seiko's finest mechanical chronograph caliber 8R28. It, of course, has a column wheel and vertical clutch system for precise operation and also incorporates Seiko's unique three-pointed hammer which ensures the perfect synchronisation of the hands' fly-back. The beauty of the color on the dial is perfectly visible, thanks to Seiko's proprietary anti-reflective coating which eliminates 99% of light reflection, even in bright sunlight.

This new Ananta chronograph is offered in a limited edition of 300, each with its own serial number engraved on the case back. It is part of the Seiko 100th anniversary collection, which celebrates the centenary of Seiko's very first wrist watch, the Laurel, created in 1913.

Specifications: SRQ017

- Caliber 8R28
Automatic Chronograph up to 12 hours, Column wheel and vertical clutch
Vibrations: 28,800 vibrations per hour
Power reserve: over 45 hours
Jewels: 34 jewels
- Case
Diameter 42.8 mm, Thickness: 14.2mm
Stainless steel with blue hard coating
Water resistance 10 Bar, Magnetic resistance 4,800 A/m
- Band
Stainless steel with three-fold clasp with push button release
- Glass
Sapphire crystal with Super-clear Coating

Remarks

- Approximate recommended retail price range in Europe: Euro 4,300
- Limited edition: 300 pieces