The notable, the collectible, and the just plain cool....



While the name begs for nostalgia—"eight" translates to buit in French, an allusion to Breitling's WWI Huit Aviation Department—the execution here is unsentimental. The latest Navitimer has no slide rule, no winged "B" logo, both breaks from long-standing tradition. (It was also unveiled on Instagram and launched in Shanghai, a decidedly progressive approach for one of Switzerland's oldest marques.) The familiar in-house automatic chronometer movement does carry over. But consider the Bo1, the first new watch under Georges Kern, who departed IWC to take over Breitling last year, a harbinger of change for the brand.

\$7,600; breitling.com





Ralph Lauren 867

Enlarged to 35 mm this year, the geometric case of Ralph Lauren's flagship watch screams art deco, harking back to the architectural splendor of 1930s New York. The dial injects Jazz Age swing, playfully mixing Arabic and Roman numerals with Breguet-style hands. It's like Benny Goodman standing in a Raymond Hood lobby, sitting on your wrist. The self-winding mechanicals might be Swiss, but make no mistake: This one's an American classic.

\$4,600; ralphlauren.com



NOMOS Glashütte at Work Metro Roségold

For a no-nonsense take on the modern office watch, consider going German. The NOMOS At Work line (seriously, nonsense is verboten) puts the company's thinnest, lightest automatic caliber into a larger 38.5 mm case, then adds a super-sleek, mega-minimal face. The collection encompasses more than a dozen pieces, all of them exceptionally sharp. Even in that company, the Metro, now available in brilliant rose gold, is a standout.

\$9,700; nomos-glashuette.com



Montblanc Timewalker Rally Timer 100 Limited Edition

The standout piece from Montblanc's Timewalker collection defies categorization. Fundamentally, it's a dashboard lap timer. But it's designed to detach from the mounting bezel, effectively becoming a monopusher stopwatch. There's also a deployable leather wrist strap, so you can wear it as an oversized chronograph. The kicker? Two legs fold out from the caseback, transforming the Rally Timer 100 into a handsome desk clock.

\$33,600; montblanc.com



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