

Telegraph

TIME

WATCH REVIEW

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says "women increasingly want mechanical watches, which tend to be larger up to 39mm, and some men prefer 36mm, so sizes are becoming interchangeable."

IWC has always claimed not to design women's watches, yet its diamond-bezelled Portofino, which launched in 2014, was shown only on tuxedo-clad women, making its intention clear, but the model is selling well to men in the Far East.

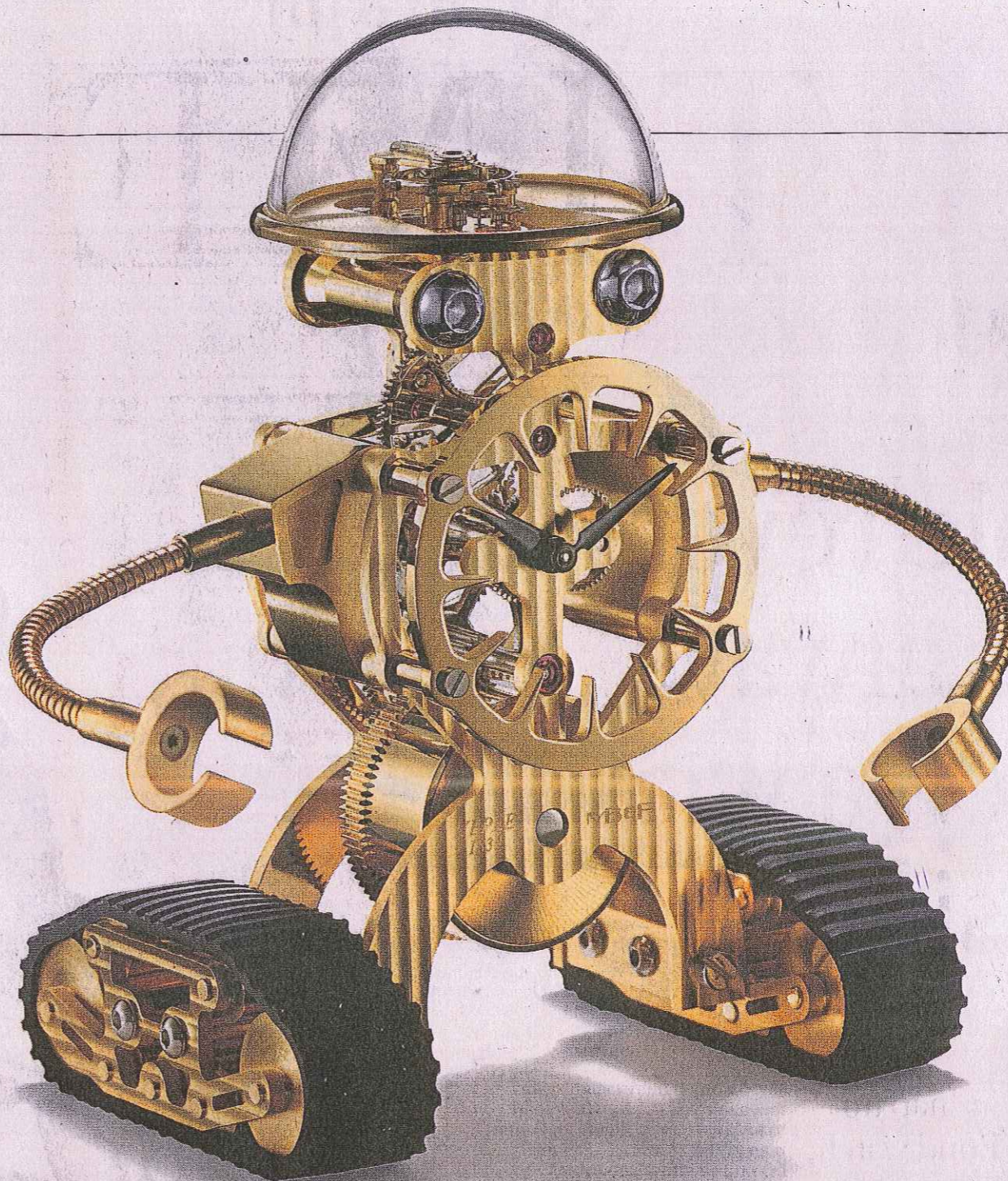
Spotlight

Meet madcap Max's new time machine

The Willy Wonka of watchmaking is back with the best desk toy yet: Sherman. "He doesn't walk, talk, weld cars, or roam Mars. He doesn't try to kill Sarah Connor or help Luke Skywalker," the boffins at MB&F explain. Like every crazy timepiece concocted by watch designer Max Büsser - a comic book fanatic and mechanics-obsessed entrepreneur - Sherman was primarily created to tell the time, albeit in a typically wonky way. The clock on his chest is powered via a movement created with Swiss clock manufacture L'Epée 1839. The glass dome on Sherman's head reveals how his mind works (or, the regulator controlling his precision time). Other joyous touches are the winding key used to power him up, and the caterpillar tracks which allow Sherman to trundle around.

We really want one, so we hope Mr Büsser has tucked lucky golden tickets in chocolate bar wrappers.
Caragh McKay

Price on application; 020 7290 6500; marcuswatches.com



Q&A Jonathan Darracott head of watches, Bonhams UK



The expert view: starting a vintage watch collection

Q Is online bidding a good way for budding collectors to enter the auction arena?

A Yes. This year, Bonhams is introducing online-only auctions. The first one is scheduled for spring

and interest in the other marques. Quite rightly too; some have qualities that have been under-appreciated. Only a few years ago you could buy the British Military-issue Omega Seamaster for £1,000; its current