

“Disco”, an emblem of the Mario Botta style – 2002

“I want a watch case that reminds me of a granite fossil from Ticino” was the wish expressed by Mario Botta when sketching his new creation with Mondaines’ Ronnie Bernheim in front of Swiss television cameras.

“Disco”, as the new model is named, is the third joint watch project for Mondaine and Botta. The case does indeed resemble a broad, perfectly smooth and slightly domed steel disc. The overall line radiates absolute purity. The understated and readable dial is graced with hour, minute and second hands playing on contrasting shapes and colours. The unusual seconds hand covers the entire diameter of the dial. This watch is a kind of encapsulation of all the conceptual elements governing the architectural work of Mario Botta.

For his new watch creation, Botta has designed a satin-brushed case with a bracelet in cable-moulded steel wire. Nonetheless, for those who prefer leather, there is a variation with polished steel case and supple black leather strap. The packaging contains a fascinating leaflet retracing the various stages in the development of the watch and illustrating some of Botta’s great architectural achievements.

The new “Mondaine/Mario Botta” watch is made at the Mondaine production facility in Biberist, in the Canton of Solothurn.