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全港獨家 勞力士新機芯廠
第一手直擊



DANIELS

為往聖繼絕學
Succeeding Master

■ 梁春明 Timothy Leung

CO-AXIAL ESCAPEMENT



Roger Smith製造的George Daniels同軸擒縱35週年紀念錶，搭配了經他改良的單齒同軸擒縱系統。
Produced by Roger Smith, the George Daniels Coaxial Escapement 35th Anniversary Watch features a revised co-axial escapement with single escape wheel created by Smith.



Roger Smith與他的製錶啟蒙：恩師George Daniels的經典鉅著《Watchmaking》。
Mr Roger Smith and his mentor George Daniels' masterpiece *Watchmaking*.

小時喜歡貓，因為沒尾巴的曼島貓，早便聽聞這個在英國本島旁邊的皇家屬地。大時喜歡錶，注意力改投往曼島上的製錶雙傑。但隨着George Daniels的離世，現在只剩下Roger W. Smith和他的四人小隊守護大英帝國這最後的一片製錶樂土。

George Daniels和Roger Smith都不是曼島的原住民。老人家是倫敦人，今年40出頭的Smith則成長於曼徹斯特。George Daniels的生平已有參考文獻無數，免費。但Smith的，且讓我說說。按他口述，自幼便不是讀書材料，但天生一對巧手，製造模型尤其到家。既讀書不成，便聽老爸的話學藝去也。他在16歲那年報讀Manchester School of Horology，可惜這教出大師傅的學府長年收生不足，現已遭殺校！他入學才一年，便碰上了一位將徹底改變他生命的人物。George Daniels不是學院的老師，只是某次講座嘉賓。他的一席話，卻讓Smith認識造錶的世界天外有天，同時煽旺了他心內的一團火。本來Smith只是想畢業後打好一份工，現在他矢志要成為光復英國製錶傳統的鐘錶全才。Smith知道要造最



For the tailless Manx, I have long since heard of the Isle of Man. Now a watch person, my attention has shifted to the two master watchmakers on the island. But Dr George Daniels died last year. Roger W. Smith and his team of 4 are the last men defending the high watchmaking legacy of the United Kingdom.

Now in his early 40s, Roger Smith was born in Manchester. He told me he was not a bright kid but was good with his hands, especially in making models. Listening to his father's advice he enrolled into the Manchester School of Horology at 16. A year later a guest lecturer

好的錶，先要掌握32種專門技能，包括造殼的10種、造面的5種、造針的3種和造機芯的14種。可是母校教不了這許多。像武俠小說裡的主角，他得到了一本名為《Watchmaking》的秘笈，著者並非別人，就是Dr Daniels。按着秘笈的圖文套路，Smith夙夜憂勤，兩年後造出一隻detent escapement陀飛輪懷錶。他興沖沖把錶交給“紙上”老師Dr. Daniels品評。絕世高手話不多，只贈他一句：It looked too handmade, not enough created。這話怎樣理解，我不好說，Smith就肯定心領神會。他回家閉關5年重新造另一隻陀飛輪，這次還加上萬年曆，再拿給Dr Daniels看時，高人終於頷首稱善，還聘請他遠赴曼島加入他的工作坊，成為入室弟子。

Dr Daniels是車痴，因要找個夠大的地方擺放藏品和練車，從首都搬到這人口才八萬多的小島。Smith在1997年遷往曼島，2001

changed his life. If not for the inspiring speech of Dr Daniels, Smith might well become a watchmaker at a watch store instead of the master of handmade watches. Of course it was easier said than done. He must first master 32 specialist skills: 10 on case making, 5 on dial making, 3 on hands making and 14 on movement. His school could not teach him that many but soon he acquired a book by Dr Daniels called *Watchmaking*. Armed by the wealth of knowledge therein, he spent two years to make his first piece, a pocket watch tourbillon with detent escapement, by hand. Eagerly he showed his watch to Dr Daniels, "It looked too hand-made, not enough created" was the master's comment. Smith was not frustrated, he went back to make a better one instead. 5 years later he showed Dr Daniels his second tourbillon with perpetual calendar. This time the master was pleased. What's more, he extended Smith an invitation to work at his workshop on the Isle of Man, thus began Smith's apprenticeship with Daniels. It was 1997.

In 2001 Smith opened his own workshop but decided to remain on the Isle to be close to his master and for the sake of the tranquil



Series 1





Series 2開面小三針動力貯存及大日曆陀飛輪。
Two variations of Series 2: open-dial with subsidiary seconds & big date tourbillon.

年學成下山開設自己的工作坊仍選擇留居當地，一方面是不忘本，另一方面是愛上了島國的清幽。跟老師一樣，他一開始便為收藏家度身製作懷錶和手錶。不過，他同步製作了古典樸實的長方形 Series 1 腕錶。由2001-2004年間，這款錶才造了9隻，見過實物的人因此很少。我有幸認識一位物主，所以還試戴過它。它看似一塊的錶面，其實由幾個細心修飾的實銀部件完美無痕地組成。機芯像古董懷錶，鍍金製作加霧面修飾，整體性情很英國人的低調。這種種，都是日後Roger Smith產品的風格。Series 2的初稿在04年完成，付運已是07年。Series 2有錶面正中雕花的，有浮動陀飛輪加大日期的，還有最令我着迷的開面設計。它讓傳統的英式打磨盡入眼簾不止，更賦與指針凌空懸浮的迷人視覺效果。雖然原版錶面是由7片有如藝術雕刻的部件天衣無縫合成，我卻寧可不耍臉，直接親親它的芳骨。我們常聽說的人手做錶，一般情況下極其量只是人手加工，像Smith由原材料開始剪裁、琢磨、車削的，是幾近失傳的藝術了！他謙虛的表示，總有些東西自行製作太費周章了，諸如紅寶石、游絲和錶鏡便是。但Smith兄，誰會見怪？

今年Roger Smith剛正式開始Series 3的籌劃，而早於

environment. While doing commissioned unique items for connoisseurs he at the same time started to produce Series 1, a nostalgic rectangular watch of understated English elegance. Its dial was composed of finely decorated silver pieces seamlessly joined together. Its gilt movement had a touch of refined frost. Those would be the essential elements for future Smiths. Series 2 was announced in 2004 but first delivery was in 2007. Series 3 had just been announced, and in between we have seen beautiful variations of Series 2, some with engraved floral centre, some with big calendar and flying tourbillon but my personal favourite is an openworked dial which the English finishing is at its most direct and all indicators looked as if floating dreamily in mid-air. Smith's are genuinely handmade pieces as he starts off with the raw materials manually instead of using automated machine. Sapphire crystal, ruby and hairspring were some of the stuff Smith said he had to buy from others. But who cares?

Back in 1998, Smith had collaborated with Dr Daniels on the legendary Daniels Millennium. The 35th Anniversary Coaxial

1998年，當Dr Daniels創作在收藏家圈子中早成傳奇的Daniels Millennium限量版自動錶時，Smith已是他的合作夥伴。2010年宣佈的同軸擒縱35週年紀念作，是Smith跟恩師的最後一次合作。機芯由Daniels設計，Smith負責細節及執行，完全在曼島上製作。2011年底，Daniels才批核了所有設計及施工細節三星期，便與世長辭。他素來喜愛的偏心圓，箭頭時針及雕花錶面都共冶一爐在這35週年紀念作上。如果構圖似曾相識，因為靈感來自Dr Daniels一隻創作於1994年，他自己很喜歡的人手上鍊陀飛輪計時懷錶（見“名錶推介”第66-68頁）。倒懸的動力貯存指

Escapement watch is his last collaboration with his master. Dr Daniels announced the piece in 2010. While he designed the movement, Smith would complete its details. The happy sad thing was Dr Daniels managed to approve all designs 3 weeks before his death. The face of the watch echoed the chronograph tourbillon pocket watch created in 1994 (see “Showcase” section P.66-68). At 12, the overhanging power reserve indicator remained, so is the seconds at 4:30. Instead of concentric hands for seconds and minutes registers, at 8:30 is now a pointer date. Underneath and between the gold rings of dates and



示。4:30仍是小秒針，8:30的同軸計分計秒雙盤，變成指針式日期。兩個金環刻度下方的中間，有“DANIELS”的金牌署名。機芯猶如英國高級老懷錶的金澄漂亮，連螺絲的湛藍色澤都有異采。雖是同軸擒縱的35週年誌慶，但不斷求進的Dr Daniels接受Smith建議，不用自己原本雙擒縱輪的設計，而採用Smith改良後的單輪系統。好處在於一體化不用顧及兩個分開的擒縱輪在中軸及橫軸上要完美並列，運行時更穩定精準。不能不佩服Smith的妙着，將一大一小兩個擒縱輪內外水平接連，然後把小擒縱輪的齒突增高，從而達到原本上下擒縱輪的相同效果。除了實銀錶面的雕花交給英倫碩果僅存的鐘錶雕刻師Charles Starr代勞，整隻錶都是Smith的手藝。18K紅金的40毫米錶殼上有GD鑄刻，限量35枚。

有些人覺得Smith的錶功能不多，要求的卻是天價。假若你曾近距離欣賞過、把玩過這些純手工打造，渾然天成的珍品，印象定會大大改變。現在想訂一隻，雖然可能要排好幾年的隊，但實實的東西，從來便是要用時間來換取。 ■

seconds is a gold plaque signed “DANIELS”. Sure it is. Eccentric circles, arrow-headed hours and guilloché dial, all details that Dr Daniels loved are present. The clear back unveiled a frosted gilt movement that echoes the best in vintage English pocket watches. Even the flashes from the blued-screw carry a refined hue. Though it is made to celebrate his historical invention, the good doctor agreed to have his escapement replaced by Smith’s single wheel version. The one-piece coaxial escape wheel rids the trouble of aligning two escape wheels concentrically and radially, hence securing stable performance painlessly. In an individual number edition of 35, the 40mm watch in 18K pink gold is entirely crafted in Smith’s workshop. The only exception is the decoration on the dial made by the last remaining English horological engraver, Charles Starr. ■



同軸擒縱35週年紀念錶與它的錶面設計原型：
George Daniels 1994年創作的計時懷錶。
The dial of the Coaxial Escapement 35th
Anniversary Watch is inspired by a pocket
chronograph George Daniels created in 1994.

