

Konstantin Chaykin Lunokhod “New Moon”

by [Massimo Scalese](#) - [Orologi di Classe](#)

Here's the **Lunokhod New Moon**: yesterday **Konstantin Chaykin** - AHCI independent watchmaker in St Petersburg - sent me an e-mail to inform me about a new limited series of its curious timepiece, a small copy of our satellite which I wrote the first time in a [Baselworld post preview](#).



Lunokhod “New Moon”

Chaykin knows what "special watch" phrase means: although very young, he's well known in the environment for creating unique complications, such as special representations of time and calendars (Moslem and Jewish), mounted in some of his clocks and pendulums.

Lunokhod was the wristwatch created to pay homage to the Moon: its aspect and its mystery inspired Konstantin. However, in Lunokhod New Moon, unlike the previous model in which the satellite was represented by a ball made of [wootz](#), the watchmaker used a large saltwater pearl.

"One of the special features of the pearls is that they have by nature a rounded shape" - Chaykin says - "so they don't require any additional process but, to find a perfectly spherical shape, is very difficult."

The watchmaker had to examine hundreds of pearls, before choosing those that could become "Moon". At the end, this Lunokhod will be produced in a limited edition of only eight copies.

Naturally, all the watch was designed and built in-house. The pearl makes this watch the only one in the world to use a raw material both as a functional element of the design.

In this edition the Moon phases' concept remain the same as the previous model: the 12 mm diameter pearl remains fixed - as the Moon itself relative to the Earth; the phases are marked by a silver half hemisphere that rotating around the ball symbolizes the shadow of the Moon.



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In fact, the Lunokhod is also the only watch that shows, instead then the traditional four faces corresponding the phases, the Moon on the wrist as it appears in the sky, in every instant of her cycle, which lasts exactly 29 days, 15 hours, 44 minutes and 2.8 seconds. The patented mechanical mechanism mounted moves the lid continuously over the pearl. Take a look of it in a video that I made at Baselworld [here](#).

In the new Lunokhod the minutes are indicated by a retrograde scale located at the bottom of the dial, the hours are still displayed in the 12 and 24 hour format. The transparent sapphire dial shows a plot formed underlying hundreds of mechanical elements. The case is made of 18 carat gold.

Last: do you want to see the "hidden face" of Chaykin's Moon? Simply turn over the watch! A sapphire crystal will unveil you how "the beat" of each element contributes to make this unique mechanism working incessantly.