



**La Brevia, a balmy southern wind, inspired Dupontreue to create the world's first mechanical watch that can forecast the weather.**

**A**t the tender age of 11, Vincent Dupontreue already knew he wanted to be his own boss. His entrepreneurial spirit led him to make and sell bracelets on a beach in Corsica. Today, 25 years later, the Frenchman is still hawking wrist accessories, but on a much bigger scale as the founder of independent watch brand Brevia.

The name of the brand came about during a weekend spent on Lake Como in northern Italy. La Brevia is the balmy southern wind that sweeps over the lake and gives the area its mild climate. It inspired Dupontreue to create the world's first mechanical watch that can forecast the weather.

Dupontreue got Jean-Francois Mojon, director of Chronode SA on board. Three years of research and development later, the Genie 01 was unveiled at Baselworld 2013.

The two main highlights of the timepiece – the anaerobic barometer and the altimeter – are located on a translucent sub-dial at two o'clock and in an arc along the top of the dial respectively. The barometer works by using airtight capsules that expand or contract with changing air pressure.

In the Genie 01, two capsules are stacked one above the other, with the one on top clearly visible at five o'clock on the dial. These capsules are constructed of a patented non-magnetic memory metal that is lighter and stronger than aluminium and twice as ductile as steel. When the height of the capsules changes in response to the changes in air pressure, the lever that rests



Below: the 65-hour power reserve indicator at four o'clock is easily recognisable thanks to the engraved compass rose.

above them transmits these changes to the barometer and altimeter.

To equalise air pressure within the watch – and thus reset the barometer – a crown at four o'clock unlocks a valve that lets air into the timepiece, so that the air pressure within is equalised with that of the surroundings. The crown at two o'clock sets the altimeter to match the user's current altitude, as well as the barometric pressure scale. The one at nine o'clock has the conventional functions of winding and setting time.

The open dial design and transparent back casing show off the intricate movement within this high complication timepiece. Only 55 pieces in white gold and 55 in 4N pink gold are available worldwide. Locally, Yafriro is the exclusive retailer for Brevia.

[www.brevia-watch.com](http://www.brevia-watch.com)

