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SARPANEVA KORONA K3 BLACK MOON

For many centuries, the multifaceted personality of the Black Moon has inspired, confounded and even terrified. To divine its properties, one must touch upon the worlds of astronomy and astrology, legend and belief. Should you by chance immerse yourself within its darkness, it remains doubtful that you will return able to fully understand the mysterious black depths of this Moon's face without further questions, doubts or even trepidation as to what truly lies beneath its surface.

Exactly how the figure of Lilith bonded together with the image of the Black Moon is clouded in uncertainty; yet we do know that the first mention of Lilith occurs in Sumerian texts dating from approximately 3000 BC, where she is described as the handmaiden of Inanna, connected to the ritual participation in sacred sexual customs. In later texts, she appears in a transformed role as the first wife of Adam, born of dirt and dust – finally ending up rejecting him, especially in the act of fornication, since she refuses to lie beneath him. In this alternative mythology, Lilith is consequently banished, Eve created, and Lilith further transmogrified into a monster of the night, a succubus traveling in the form of a bird footed night demon or a screech owl, tempting men to have sex under the shadows of dreams and devouring children in rage for having lost her own. For feminists, she is often used as a representation of the depth and power of the untamed feminine nature. When we mention the Black Moon, Lilith is always there, hiding just behind its face.

In astrology, the Dark Moon represents the darker, negative side of our nature, with hidden depths that we know to exist yet we prefer not to acknowledge. Subtle on the surface, yet profound beneath, it is the foundation of our personality, holding the shocking truth that we often deny and project onto others instead. It is this deeper truth that we are forever in search of within ourselves. The astrological Black Moon represents the negative traits of guilt, shame, hatred, envy, and vengefulness, often brought about by personal wounds and hurts, the true dark side of things we try to hide. In astronomy, the Black Moon was a phantom second moon, supposedly seen by various stargazers, amateur and professional alike. Nonetheless like many mysteries, it was a satellite that was never quite possible to photograph, document or capture in some fashion despite numerous sightings.

In horology, the Black Moon returns to an essence: it is in every incarnation a New Moon that in some situations returns more than once in a 30 day period. It is always empty, always devoid of light. Yet therein lies the key to its true nature. Since a Black Moon can never wane, only wax, it ultimately represents an emptiness that suggests great potential – which like an empty cup, can only be filled.

Whichever aspect one desires to see, one thing is clear about the KORONA K3 BLACK MOON: it is the first watch created that indicates the New Moon, whereas all other moonphase watches show the Full Moon. Inspired by the darkest days of the Finnish winter, the KORONA K3 BLACK MOON shows that only darkness can lead to light.

The KORONA K3 BLACK MOON is a special edition, created in a limited series of 20 pieces worldwide. Each watch is also accompanied by a limited edition book “Black is the Moon” available only with each of the 20 watches produced. The book – signed and numbered by Stepan Sarpaneva – is a poem based on the legendary story of the Black Moon and Lilith, animated with the addition of 8 striking black and white illustrations, printed on exclusive uncoated white paper in a French style folded binding, the whole forseen with a black leather hardcover and a dust jacket. This bibliophile limited edition was printed and hand-bound by candlelight during the darkness of the Finnish winter months.

Both the limited edition wristwatch and illustrations were presented in Helsinki on the 30th of January 2009 at a happening attended by a small and select group of horological writers, watch journalists and friends in a woodland on the island of Suomenlinna. Finland has never been the same since.

The KORONA K3 BLACK MOON, as well as other Sarpaneva Watches creations are available directly from the workshop in Helsinki.

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Sarpaneva Watches is Finland's only mechanical watchmaking company, solely dedicated to the design and production of mechanical wristwatches. Located in the country's capital Helsinki, the workshop was started in 2003 by Stepan Sarpaneva after years of training in both Finland and Switzerland that covered watchmaking in all its varieties, including hands on experience at several of Switzerland's major houses with highly specialized work on complications. The Sarpaneva workshop's philosophy towards watchmaking is firmly anchored within Stepan Sarpaneva's deep desire to express himself in more ways than solely through the purely mechanical side of watchmaking. For this reason his firm's foundation is to unite a long-term and timeless visual design concept together with that of high quality mechanical watchmaking. Unlike the majority of brands on the market today, this is a fundamental aspect that sets Sarpaneva Watches apart from the rest; here is one man with the ability to create novel wristwatch designs as well as unite them with the mechanical know-how of a master watchmaker.



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