





# **About Christopher Ward**

Christopher Ward, founded in 2004, was the world's first online premium watch brand.

For us, watchmaking is the ultimate expression of art, science and engineering.

Every Christopher Ward watch brings English design together with Swiss watchmaking expertise.



# **Christopher Ward milestones**



### 2005

Our first watch, the C5 Malvern Automatic is released. It's described by a reviewer as "the best value mechanical watch in the world".



## 2011

#### The JJ Calibres.

We launch the C9 Jumping Hour, the first collaboration with Synergies Horlogères' master watchmaker, Johannes Jahnke. His bespoke creations will become known as the 'JJ calibres'



## 2019

#### Trident 3.

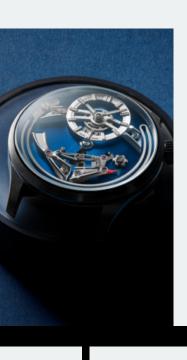
The third version of the Trident arrives, bringing the highest level of timekeeping, finishing and design to as broad an audience as possible



## 2021

#### Concept.

We create our first-ever fully skeletonised watch to celebrate seven years of our movement, Calibre SH21.



## 2004

#### The beginning.

Christopher Ward
is founded by Mike
France, Peter Ellis and
Chris Ward as the first
internet-only watch
company. Chris's
name is chosen for the
brand as it's "the most
quintessentially
English" name



## 2008

#### The Swiss connection.

We begin working with boutique Swiss watchmaking company, Synergies Horlogères. Its owner Jörg Bader shares our belief that the Swiss watch industry is due a shakeup



### 2014

## SH21: our own movement

A merger with Synergies
Horlogères bears fruit with
Calibre SH21, our five-day
chronometer movement.
It's the first commercially
viable mechanical
movement from a
UK watch brand
in over 50 years.



## 2020

#### C60 Sapphire.

In the year of Covid-19, Christopher Ward makes its first TV advert to support the phenomenally successful C60 Sapphire.



### 2022

#### **Bel Canto**

The watch that became a worldwide phenomenon. Described by Watchfinder & Co as a masterpiece.





## Story behind the Bel Canto Phoenix

The Bel Canto Phoenix is a bespoke, extremely limited 99-piece edition of the astonishing industry disruptor C1 Bel Canto.

The Bel Canto is a sonnerie au passage timepiece, with stunning aesthetics showcasing the sonnerie movement on the dial side, featuring impressive hand finishing and a deeply three-dimensional dial side movement.

Bel Canto offers Swiss haute horlogerie, with leading Swiss manufactures supplying key components. Armin Strom, maker of high end open worked Swiss watches made the platine. Viquo Deco made the special wheels. Chronode made the bridges, hammer, and gong. High-end hand finishing is prominently on display under the domed sapphire crystal.

The original Azzurro blue Bel Canto caught my eye when it was announced, and I immediately bought one. It's now well known that the 300 blue dial Bel Canto sold out in around 7 hours, and the follow up green dial was brought ahead for release, but all 300 of those sold

out in around 2 hours. It's such a beautiful timepiece and easily Christopher Ward's best watch to date, so this didn't surprise me in the least. And that's before you even factor in that it's a rare sonnerie au passage-it chimes on the hour (at a crystal clear 78 decibels).

I could only imagine how stunning the Bel Canto would look in different colours, and imagined one in vibrant Orange.

Having seen what Christopher Ward achieved with the limited 675LT and 765LT Owners Edition watches, I dreamt of a Bel Canto inspired by my car, MSO 1 - a 765 Longtail. However, although a supercar would serve as the inspiration for it, it was important that this watch stood on its own and was not linked to any particular model of car.

My concept was therefore that this timepiece should be extremely limited and rare, with a Volcano Orange dial, and have some black elements representing carbon fibre.





## Story behind the Bel Canto Phoenix, (continued)

...Form naturally needed to follow function, so I wanted to make the Volcano Orange watch more legible than the beautiful Azzurro Bel Canto.

This is how the concept of the limited edition Volcano Orange Bel Canto came into being.

When I first saw a Bel Canto, the longtail "bird" that forms the hammer mechanism for the chime had struck me as the key feature of the dial, so I named the Volcano Orange watch the Phoenix Edition. Phoenix representing the bird, the volcano colour, and the fiery appearance of the dial.

Phoenix also related perfectly to the firespitting titanium exhausts on its supercar inspiration. The Bel Canto Phoenix is also very lightweight on the wrist, being made from titanium.

Then began the work of getting the dial colour and the modifiable elements looking right and working together in visual harmony. Silver, blue, black, red, and green hands and beaks were rendered to try out. It became apparent that black worked perfectly as a contrast to the vibrant dial, and also worked perfectly with the lume on the hands and indices. The dial was sunray brushed to enhance its fiery colour in direct light. After 3 months' work, the final design was the clear winning combination of elements.

The case back was designed with a circular Phoenix motif representing the identity of this unique limited timepiece. The final piece of the design was the matching bespoke black Vacona leather strap with Volcano Orange stitching and Alcantara lining - exactly like the cabin of its supercar inspiration.

Thus, was born the Bel Canto Phoenix.





# **Bel Canto**

## **Phoenix Limited Edition**

Case Diameter Ø 41.00 mm

Case Height 13.10 mm

Lug to lug 48.00 mm

Weight 53 gr

Strap width 22.00 mm

Material/Finish Grade 5 Titanium

**Bezel** Fixed

Crystal Domed sapphire

ATM 3 ATM

**Crown** Push-in

Case back Screw-down

**Movement** Sellita SW200-1/FS01 chiming module

**Movement type** Automatic

**Function** Hour, minute, hour chiming

**Power reserve** 38 hours

**Tolerance** + 20/-20 seconds per day



View the Bel Canto here

Both options come with two bespoke Vacona leather straps.



















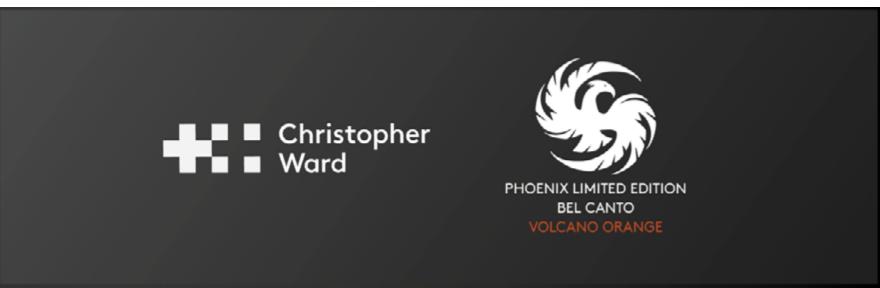


















To register your interest in the Bel Canto Phoenix watch in partnership with Christopher Ward, please contact Jas Hayre

Please feel free to contact <u>Peter France</u> Bespoke Manager at Christopher Ward, if you have any queries.

