Subject: Gruen Master deluxe
Posted by Jenneke on Fri, 31 Mar 2023 20:06:02 GMT
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Model name: Master deluxe (with metal strap a Supreme)
Type: wristwatch
Period/date: 1937
Gender: male

Case Maker: star watch case co
Case Material: 10kgfd bezel, guildite back
Case Serial: 576409
Case Style no: 296

Caliber: 501 fifteen 15 jewels 2 adjustments, unadjusted
Markings: gruen watch co
Movement Maker: gruen
Movement Serial: 2-104801:

Other info: probably original leather strap.

File Attachments

1) B2162453-5B5B-4C72-AA18-D4A21C106AC2.jpeg, downloaded 3764 times



2) BAEBB6A8-FAD3-4027-B011-EC36661F749C.jpeg, downloaded 3757 times



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4) 0E21B388-ECF0-4D78-9BBC-70884DC51BBF.jpeg, downloaded 3739 times



5) 99A279C8-42E9-4596-98CA-42EF6CC6278B.jpeg, downloaded 3889 times



Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Jenneke on Fri, 31 Mar 2023 20:08:02 GMT
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There is a very similar watch.. the Gruen master advertised in 1937.

https://www.hifi-archiv.info/Uhren-Werbung/Gruen/Gruen%20193 7%202.jpg

The left one is the master.

Case style number is the same…

File Attachments

1) 219C1DBB-6820-4669-BE8E-AEB5C529283A.jpeg, downloaded 3127 times



2) C5DBC9F9-8205-424C-8962-EDAB33E60E0E.jpeg, downloaded 3066 times



Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Barney Green on Sat, 01 Apr 2023 15:38:50 GMT
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Hi Jenneke,

very nice watches! This watch is the "Master Supreme", at $39.75 it sold for $10 more than the regular "Master". This price difference did not alone come from the decoration but mainly because of the metal band it came with. This also answers the question if the leather strap were original. Unfortunately not...

Here a 1937 ad showing the two together:

The (plastic) crystal is NOT SUC MU175 or GS MT377 as you might find advertised in the bay. This would be the crystal for the "Curvex Master"!

Barney

File Attachments

1) Gruen Master Supreme.JPG, downloaded 3020 times



MASTER . . . 15 jewels, yellow gold filled case, Guildite back $29.75

Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 01 Apr 2023 15:54:25 GMT
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Whoe, so it is indeed family! That is fun info.

Shame the strap is not original. Time correct though. Not that I would reuse it, it has some dna and cracks… :?

Now I have to look for a metal strap and a crystal. Poehee.

Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 02 Apr 2023 11:28:38 GMT
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After some measuring, the verdict is that it does need a MT377. Package curvex print is a mistake.

See https://vintagegruen.org/vgforum/index.php?t=msg&th=2487 &goto=18165&#msg_18165

Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Barney Green on Sun, 02 Apr 2023 19:57:54 GMT
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Jenneke,

more good news to come. But first the bad: you may have to rename the thread.
The good news:
You do not have to look for a new strap, because your watch might still have it's original band.
After more research I found a new model with your case and a leather strap: the Master Deluxe.
It seems to have been the "base model" of the decorated Master version while the Supreme was the more expensive one with the metal band. Here you go with the proof from a December 1937 advertisement:

Barney

File Attachments
1) Master Deluxe.JPG, downloaded 3102 times



Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 02 Apr 2023 22:11:29 GMT
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That is fantastic news! I've been looking for a bracelet but 13.5mm is an odd size.

Now I can recreate the leather strap using the oldie as a template. Unfortunately the buckle is missing.

And moreover, that advertisement is more fun! “very newest” and “curved to fit the wrist” 8)

The engraving costs 4 dollar extra. The metal strap 6 dollars (125 in todays money).

File Attachments

1) 99703182-6E6A-4AA4-8432-88D88E069F0C.jpeg, downloaded 2906 times



Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 14 May 2023 19:17:16 GMT
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With its new crystal and home made fish strap.

File Attachments

1) 36BFB324-D4F1-4D05-9C0A-B34B75CB9748.jpeg, downloaded 2901 times



Subject: Re: Gruen family from the master
Posted by JackW on Mon, 15 May 2023 00:55:42 GMT
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Nicely done!