

# Editors' CHOICE

## Montegrappa Brain Pen

MONTEGRAPPA (WWW.MONTEGRAPPA.COM) HAS BEEN PRODUCING QUALITY writing instruments with an Italian flair since 1912. Among the many soldiers that used Montegrappa pens (then known as Elmo) to write letters home during World War I were renowned American writers Ernest Hemingway and John Dos Passos. Montegrappa was acquired in 2000 by Richemont and was reacquired in June 2009 by the Aquila family, which operates under ELMO & MONTEGRAPPA S.p.A.

Recently, Montegrappa announced the launch of one of the most ambitious pens in its illustrious history. The result of an extensive collaboration with Dr. Restak – the author of more than 20 books on the subject – the Brain Pen represents the complexities of the very organ it celebrates. The link between the brain and the pen, with the act and art of writing serving as an extension of man's ability to express himself while exercising the brain itself, encouraged Montegrappa to illustrate this direct intellectual and physical connection. Emblematic of this is the contrast present in the pen's most basic structural elements: the top part of the pen is rich and elaborate, while the body is simple, acting as a parallel to a man's body, where all his riches are in the brain.

Adorning the top of the cap is a cross-section of the brain, based on an ancient illustration. The cap features an overlay made up of neurons with the pocket clip representing the spinal cord. The clip has a spring-loaded mechanism and its tip is lacquered in red or black to differentiate the fountain pen from the roller ball.

Etched into the nib is the image of a sea horse. This refers to the hippocampus, which is a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates.

The Brain Pen will be offered as a limited edition piece. Accompanying every Brain Pen is a copy of a book written especially for Montegrappa by Dr. Restak. ●

Brain Pen rollerball (left); fountain pen (right); and their unique presentation container (bottom)