

# LM Split Escapement Eddy Jaquet

MB&F





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### 1. The adventure continues



#### The LM Split Escapement hosts a new series of 8 Pièces Uniques, engraved by Master Engraver Eddy Jaquet

When Eddy Jaquet started engraving for MB&F in 2011, he was tasked with inscribing the names Kari Voutilainen and Jean-François Mojon on the bridges of the first Legacy Machine calibres. Even if the flowing letters and words were perfectly executed, they didn't even begin to reveal the talent of this Neuchâtel-based engraver. As MB&F founder Maximilian Büsser explained: "We had been working with him for years, but getting Eddy Jaquet to engrave names on movements was like playing 'Für Elise' on a Stradivarius violin – you couldn't imagine a more modest use of such an amazing gift."

All this was to change in 2021 when Jaquet shared with MB&F that he would like to do more. An initial conversation led to a brainstorming session that turned into the creation of a series of eight unique pieces illustrating the novels and short stories of 19th-century French author Jules Verne. The timepiece that was chosen was the Legacy Machine Split Escapement as it had the largest surface available for engraving and exploring Jules Verne's literary works.

In his preliminary research for the series, Jaquet devoured close to 60 novels and short stories, selecting some of Jules Verne's best-loved works such as *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* but also some of the lesser-known stories such as *The Adventures of Captain Hatteras*. The resulting eight LM Split Escapement 'Eddy Jaquet' pieces were snapped up in a heartbeat, with the 'Around the World in Eighty Days' edition winning the GPHG's Artistic Crafts Award in 2021. The last piece in the series was delivered to its owner in 2022, which naturally raised the question "What next?"

#### Eight new literary inspired creations

MB&F decided to continue with the literary inspiration for a second series and presented Eddy with a list of 15 famous novels in the young fiction category, of which he was to choose eight works. Rediscovering the pages of each story over the following weeks and months, he finally made his selection, as follows:

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe  
 The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas  
 The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper  
 The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling  
 The Call of the Wild by Jack London  
 Moby Dick by Herman Melville  
 Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson  
 Robin Hood (anonymous)

Like the first Jules Verne series, none of the illustrations imagined by Jaquet are drawn from existing works of art. They are entirely conceived by the artist after reading the source books and viewing other creative works, such as films and comic books.

Each engraving is an intricate tableau of scenes and key moments from the stories, synthesised in the imagination of Jaquet and expressly designed to be interpreted through the medium of the LM SE movement. Beyond the list of 15 initial novels for consideration, MB&F has always given Jaquet complete freedom in his creative process.

Not only did Jaquet have to exercise his creativity and engraving skill to the utmost, he was also obliged to practise his craft within the requirements and limitations set by the LM SE engine. The designated engraving space is the dial, which is in fact the base-plate of the movement; it presents a flat upper surface but is actually of variable thickness on its reverse side in order to accommodate the different movement components. Engraving the dial plate as if it was uniformly thick throughout was not possible – careful consideration had to be made as to where the thinner areas were, so as not to inadvertently puncture the artistic canvas if a particular section required deep-relief engraving.

From the production side, several adjustments were made to the original LM Split Escapement as well, so as to maximise the available engraving space and allow Jaquet to exhibit his savoir-faire to the fullest. New, openworked date and power-reserve subdials were created, along with wider dial plates. The bezel was redesigned to be slimmer, and the case dimensions reworked, in order to make space for the wider dial plate. Because the bezel and case dimensions were changed, a new dial crystal had to be produced, with a less pronounced curve to the dome, since its diameter was now increased.

The timepieces in this second series come in stainless steel cases that have been paired with black subdials on a white gold base plate, framing Jaquet's intricate engravings and bringing these treasured literary classics to life. Each timepiece is also presented with an original drawing signed by Jaquet, together with a Loupe System X6 macro lens, allowing each new owner to enter a whole new level of discovery.



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### 1. The adventure continues



#### About the engravings

For each unique piece, Eddy Jaquet has chosen novels that brought back memories from his own childhood. After rediscovering them anew, he created his own original sketches on templates of the dial plate, each one telling a story, sometimes from a whole chapter and other times from a simple paragraph. In *The Jungle Book*, Jaquet has created a scene with all the main characters, centred around Mowgli curled up in Rama's paws and Raksha, Bagheera, Baloo and Shere Khan keeping guard. In *Treasure Island*, however, the scene of Jim jumping from the boat and escaping from the pirates was based on just two sentences from the novel.

Even if the size of the final work can be measured in a diameter of only about 40mm, this doesn't take away any of the detail from the story. Each picture has been created in the exact same way as an artist would paint a scene on a large canvas, the only difference being that the paintbrush has been replaced by the engraver's chisel.

Jaquet has approached this new series slightly differently from the Jules Verne editions by making the heroes of each novel the focus of each illustration. The characters are often depicted sitting or kneeling down in the foreground of the dial at six o'clock so that the rest of the scene can be developed above them. Some of the figures are so small that Jaquet needed to include as much detail as possible to bring them to life. In *The Three Musketeers*, the scene reveals 10 young men in a sword fight with two tiny figures on the balcony in the most intricate detail. Another example can be discovered in *The Last of the Mohicans*, where three minuscule figures sit around a campfire.

These details cannot be perceived with the naked eye but reveal themselves to the viewer under a loupe, creating a whole other level of appreciation. In *Robinson Crusoe*, for example, the owner will discover daily tally marks on a wooden cross, which is impossible to see without magnification. Each timepiece comes with the artist's initial drawing so that the watch's owner can truly appreciate the complexity of transferring ideas from a large, two-dimensional piece of paper onto a watch's dial in three-dimensional relief.

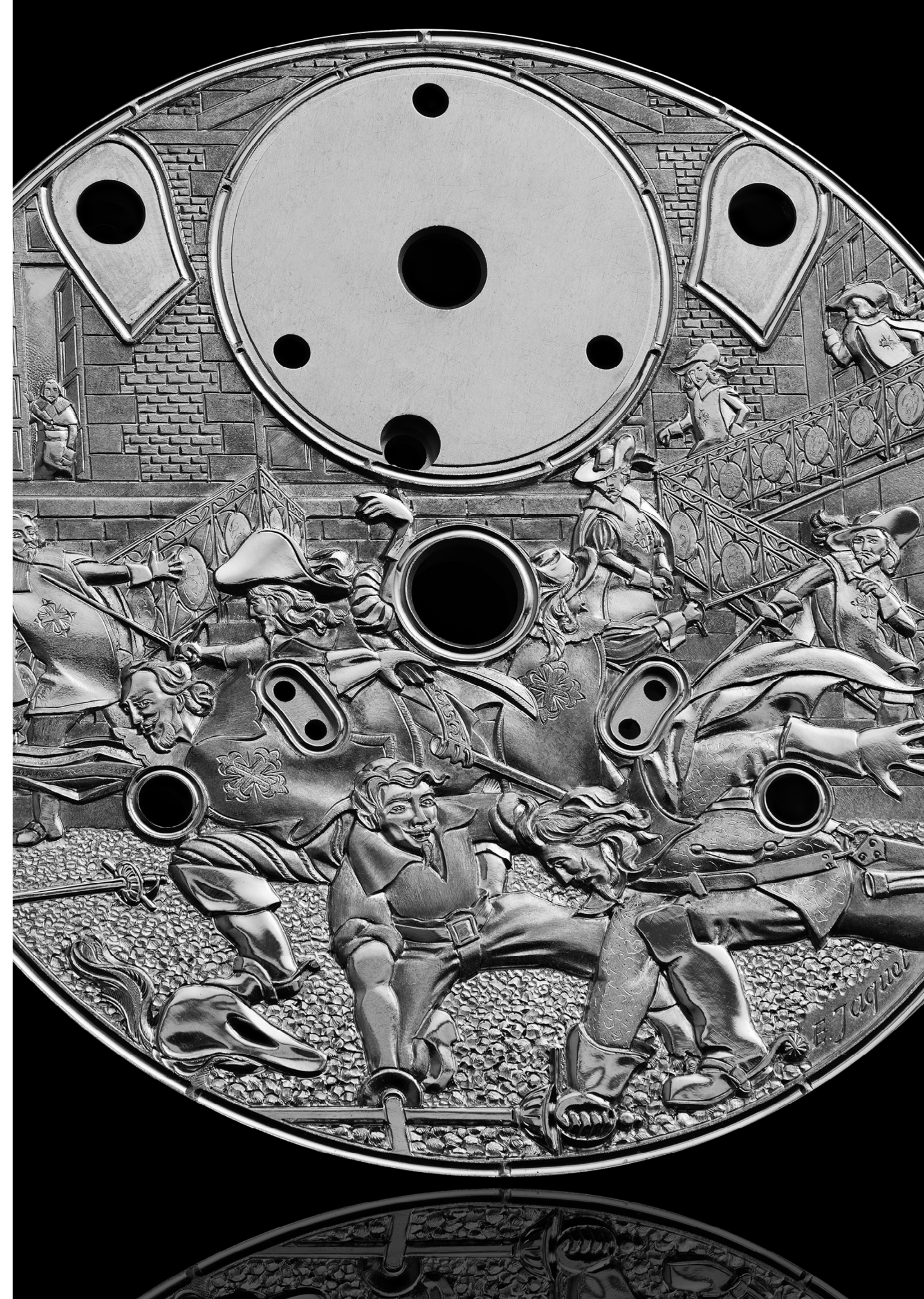
This difference can also be discovered in the ways Jaquet treats the metal to create a maximum of contrasts. Even the direction in which he works his tools will create a difference in colour and play on the light that brings texture to each picture. He also works the metal with matt and polished surfaces to reinforce the

action. Moving the timepiece around also changes the scene as the light hits these meticulously worked surfaces in different ways, increasing the appreciation of Jaquet's mastery of engraving.

Not all the challenges can be perceived, however. In certain parts, the dial plate had a thickness of 1.15mm, which allowed Jaquet ample space to engrave even in deep relief. In three particularly vulnerable areas, the dial plate measured only 0.35mm thick, requiring him to work with an extremely light touch in those places while making sure that the overall aesthetic of the engraving, which is intricately detailed, was not compromised.

The composition of each adventure also required deep reflection as the parts of the scene that would be hidden by different elements of the watch, such as the sub dials, bridges and hairspring would not disrupt the understanding of the illustration. In certain instances, these restrictions have been used to enhance the scene. In *Robinson Crusoe*, one of the subdials has been used to show the view through a telescope as our main character and his companion Friday observe a ship out at sea.

This second LM Split Escapement 'Eddy Jaquet' series has so many levels of appreciation. Viewed from across a crowded room, the timepieces can be admired for their exterior lines and unique design, and yet while on the wrist, the outline of each scene will start to appear. But it is only when the owner plunges into the details through a magnifying glass that the magic of the adventure really starts to unfold. When you think about it, it is a little like discovering these novels themselves. It starts with the book's cover, then continues with the blurb on the back, ending with total immersion in the pages of the story.



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## LM Split Escapement Eddy Jaquet



### 2. About Eddy Jaquet



Watchmaking has its fair share of rock stars, names that immediately evoke admiration and respect when associated with a timepiece. Watchmaking aficionados have long been familiar with the work of movement makers such as Jean-François Mojon, Kari Voutilainen, Jean-Marc Wiederrecht, Stepan Sarpaneva, Eric Coudray and Stephen McDonnell. Designers such as Eric Giroud and Alain Silberstein inspire cult-like devotion in their most dedicated followers. But only a tiny handful of connoisseurs would know the name Eddy Jaquet, one of the most gifted artists of his generation and the best storyteller working through the medium of dial engraving.

Eddy Jaquet was born in 1965, in a small village on the outskirts of Neuchâtel. Having learned his trade at the École d'Arts Appliqués in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Jaquet went straight on to pursue his lifelong vocation of engraver after graduation, in a career that has continued uninterrupted from 1987 to this day. Since 1994 he has enjoyed complete professional independence, which has allowed him to create some of the most exquisite works of art ever to grace a watch dial.

His work is often based on existing stories and cultural narratives, but nevertheless possesses a rich vein of mythopoeia. This was amply demonstrated by Eddy Jaquet's first series of Legacy Machine Split Escapement pieces: a series of eight unique hand-engraved pieces based on the novels of Jules Verne, which were interpreted anew through Jaquet's imagination. Eddy Jaquet has been a Friend of MB&F since 2011, when the first Legacy Machine featured his skills in the names of Kari Voutilainen and Jean-François Mojon, beautifully engraved on a movement bridge.



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### 3. Technical Specifications

**Eight unique pieces, with dial plates engraved by Eddy Jaquet, inspired by 8 classic young fiction novels:**

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe  
The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas  
The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper  
The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling  
The Call of the Wild by Jack London  
Moby Dick by Herman Melville  
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson  
Robin Hood (anonymous)

#### Engine

LM Split Escapement movement developed for MB&F by Stephen McDonnell.

Split escapement with the balance wheel suspended above the dial and the anchor and escapement wheel under the movement.

Manual winding with double mainspring barrels.

Power reserve: 72 hours

Bespoke 14mm balance wheel with traditional regulating screws visible on top of the movement.

Superlative hand finishing throughout respecting 19th-century style; bevelled internal angles highlighting hand craft; polished bevels; Geneva waves; hand-made engravings.

Balance frequency: 2.5Hz / 18,000bph

Number of components: 296

Number of jewels: 35

#### Functions & indications

Hours, minutes, date and power-reserve indicators.

Push-button next to the date dial for quick adjustment of the date.

#### Case

Material: Stainless steel

Dimensions: 44.5 mm x 18.2 mm

Number of components: 50

Water resistance: 30m / 100ft / 3ATM

#### Sapphire crystals

Sapphire crystals on top and display back treated with anti-reflective coating on both faces.

#### Strap & buckle

Dark navy hand-stitched alligator strap with stainless steel folding buckle matching the case.



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### Concept

Maximilian Büsser / MB&F

### Product design

Eric Giroud

### Technical and production management

Serge Kriknoff / MB&F

### Hand engraving of the 8 unique dial plates

Eddy Jaquet

### Movement design and finish specifications

Stephen McDonnell and MB&F

Movement development: Stephen McDonnell,

### MB&F R&D

Robin Cotrel / MB&F

### Methods and laboratory

Maël Mendel, Anthony Mugnier and Yannick Journoud / MB&F

### Wheels, bridges, pinions and axis

Jean-François Mojon / Chronode, Paul-André Tendon

/ Bandi, Daniel Gumy / Decobar Swiss, Rodrigue

Baume / HorloFab, Benjamin Signoud / AMECAP, Marc

Bolis / 2B8, Le Temps Retrouvé, D-Cojoux and

Roud'Hor SA

### Balance wheel

Sébastien Jeanneret / Atokalpa

### Springs and jumpers

Alain Pellet / Elefil Swiss

### Barrel

Stefan Schwab / Schwab-Feller

### Rubies

Pierhor / Crelier

### Hand-engraving of movement

Glypto

### FlexRing

Laser Automation

### Hand-finishing of movement components

Liza Bassetti Rochat and Denis Garcia / C-L Rochat,

Florent Bolis / DSMI Electronics SA, CV Décor, MBG

Watch Décor, Stéphane et Alexis Greco / Rhodior SA

### PVD/CVD-treatment

Pierre-Albert Steinmann / Positive Coating

### Movement assembly

Didier Dumas, Georges Veisy, Anne Guiter, Emmanuel

Maitre, Henri Porteboeuf, Mathieu Lecoultre, Amandine

Bascoul and Loïc Robert-Nicoud / MB&F

### Case and movements components

Alain Lemarchand, Jean-Baptiste Prétot, Yoann

Joyard, Stéphanie Cavalho and Arsène Phouthone/

MB&F

## 4. Friends



### After-sales service

Antony Moreno / MB&F

### Quality control

Cyril Fallet, Jennifer Longuepez and Adeline Kundig / MB&F

### Case decoration

Termin'Hor / FIFAJ ERGIN (FIFAJ HORLOGERIE)

### Dial and Super-LumiNova on the dials

Billight SA

### Buckle

G&F Chatelain

Crown and correctors: Boninchi

### Hands

Waeber HMS

### Sapphire crystals

Novocrystal

### Anti-reflection treatment for sapphire crystals

Anthony Schwab / Econorm

### Strap

Multicuir

### Presentation box

Olivier Berthon / Soixanteetonz

### Production logistics

Ashley Moussier, Thibaut Joannard, David Gavotte,

Jean-Luc Ruel, Caroline Ouvrard, Etienne Marcadet,

Baptiste Rosenfeld, Maryline Leveque and Emilie

Burnier / MB&F

### Marketing & Communication

Charris Yadigaroglou, Vanessa André, Arnaud Légeret,

Paul Gay and Talya Lakin / MB&F

### Graphic design

Benoît Rochat / MB&F

### M.A.D. Gallery

Hervé Estienne and Margaux Dionisio Cera / MB&F

### Sales

Thibault Verdonckt, Virginie Marchon, Cédric Roussel,

Jean-Marc Bories, Baptiste Uhl, Augustin Chivot,

Mathis Brun, Victoria de Saint Anthost / MB&F

### Texts

Sophie Furley / Worldtempus

### Product photography

Laurent-Xavier Moulin and Eric Rossier

### Film

Marc-André Deschoux / MAD LUX and Eric Rossier /

MB&F

### Portrait photography

Eric Rossier / MB&F



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#### 5. Genesis of a concept laboratory

Founded in 2005, MB&F is the world's first-ever horological concept laboratory. With over 20 remarkable calibres forming the base of the critically acclaimed Horological and Legacy Machines, MB&F is continuing to follow Founder and Creative Director Maximilian Büsser's vision of creating 3-D kinetic art by deconstructing traditional watchmaking.

After 15 years managing prestigious watch brands, Maximilian Büsser resigned from his Managing Director position at Harry Winston in 2005 to create MB&F – Maximilian Büsser & Friends. MB&F is an artistic and micro-engineering laboratory dedicated to designing and crafting small series of radical concept watches by bringing together talented horological professionals that Büsser both respects and enjoys working with.

In 2007, MB&F unveiled its first Horological Machine, HMI. HMI's sculptured, three-dimensional case and beautifully finished engine (movement) set the standard for the idiosyncratic Horological Machines that have followed – all Machines that tell the time, rather than Machines to tell the time. The fiercely unconventional Horological Machines have explored themes as diverse as space and science fiction, aviation, supercars, the animal kingdom and architecture.

In 2011, MB&F launched its round-cased Legacy Machine collection. These more classical pieces – classical for MB&F, that is – pay tribute to nineteenth-century watchmaking excellence by reinterpreting complications from the great horological innovators of yesteryear to create contemporary objets d'art. Certain Legacy Machines have also given birth to EVO editions, featuring increased water and shock resistance compatible with collectors' active lifestyles. MB&F generally alternates between launching contemporary, resolutely unconventional Horological Machines and historically inspired Legacy Machines.

As the F stands for Friends, it was only natural for MB&F to develop collaborations with artists, watchmakers, designers and manufacturers they admire.

This brought about two new categories: Performance Art and Co-creations. While Performance Art pieces are MB&F machines revisited by external creative talent, Co-creations are not wristwatches but other types of machines, engineered and crafted by unique Swiss Manufactures from MB&F ideas and designs. Many of these Co-creations, such as the clocks created with L'Épée 1839, tell the time while collaborations with Reuge and Caran d'Ache generated other forms of mechanical art.

To give all these machines an appropriate platform, Büsser had the idea of placing them in an art gallery alongside various forms of mechanical art created by other artists, rather than in a traditional storefront. This brought about the creation of the first MB&F M.A.D. Gallery (M.A.D. stands for Mechanical Art Devices) in Geneva, which would later be joined by the M.A.D. Gallery in Dubai – along with MB&F Labs, which showcase a more compact selection of artists in locations like Singapore, Taipei, Paris and Beverly Hills.

There have been distinguished accolades reminding us of the innovative nature of MB&F's journey so far. To name a few, there have been no less than 9 awards from the famous Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève, including the ultimate prize: the "Aiguille d'Or", which rewards the best watch of the year. In 2022, the LM Sequential EVO was awarded the Aiguille d'Or, while the M.A.D.1 RED won the 'Challenge' category. In 2021, LMX won the Best Men's Complication and the LM SE Eddy Jaquet 'Around The World in Eighty Days' was awarded in the 'Artistic Crafts' category. In 2019, the prize for Best Ladies Complication went to the LM Flying T; in 2016, LM Perpetual won the Best Calendar Watch award; in 2012, Legacy Machine No.1 was awarded both the Public Prize (voted for by horology fans) and the Best Men's Watch Prize (voted for by the professional jury). In 2010, MB&F won Best Concept and Design Watch for the HM4 Thunderbolt. In 2015 MB&F received a Red Dot: Best of the Best award – the top prize at the international Red Dot Awards – for the HM6 Space Pirate.

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