



Tempograph Black: **An icon revisited**

The 20-Second Tempograph is one of the most emblematic timepieces by Ateliers Louis Moinet, and the only one to feature a fully-visible 20-second retrograde movement, endowing this historic piece by the Ateliers with technical beauty. Today, the Tempograph returns in a version combining black and rose gold – opening up a whole new perspective for the piece.

“Tempograph has been a clear statement of our style ethos virtually from the outset. It’s a timepiece that really made its mark in our early years, and it’s been a firm favourite with our collector clients. The new black & rose gold version is our way of asserting its contemporary side. It benefits from a number of discreet additions that we’ve never had before – including a plate, balance wheel bridge, and a black Fleur de Lys. All of our watchmaking art is summed up in the attention we pay to each and every detail. Put together as a whole, these details make up the identity of the new Tempograph Black.”

A powerful, modern composition

The compelling presence of the new Tempograph Black resides in the combination of black and rose gold. One absorbs the light; the other reflects it. One is intentionally modern; the other pays tribute to the noblest days of traditional fine watchmaking. Together, they produce a balanced timepiece that blends diverging styles.

To achieve this balance, Louis Moinet has used various touches of other colours, subtly lending their support to each style. Enhancing the traditional spirit, the gilded hands complement a flange engraved with a Clou de Paris pattern. For the finishing contemporary touch, meanwhile, the seconds are shown at 9 o’clock, in the form of a mobile display divided into three sectors (grey, red, and black).

An in-house caliber laid bare

Beneath this contrasting yet coherent assembly sits an all-black plate adorned with the skeletonised bridges of the in-house caliber, comprising 260 components. It’s been made all in one piece, with no additional module to house the complication: this integrated construction adds to the sense of technical coherence for the piece as a whole. At 8 o’clock, the subtle interplay of the cam and ruby-tipped rack is on display, together with a fully visible balance wheel – an amazing and unique spectacle.

To wind the movement, the Tempograph uses “Energie Plus”, an ingenious, automatic pawl winding system featuring an elegant spring with a ‘crab claw’ design. The final part of this system is a miniature ceramic ball bearing, mounted on the dual-material rotor. The key advantage of “Energie Plus” is that it allows the piece to be wound up in both directions, with a minimum of excess travel. This optimizes each movement of the rotor, harnessing its energy to the maximum, and winding the caliber more effectively.



The new Tempograph sports an hour dial at four o'clock, featuring the rose gold hands with "dewdrop" tips that have become one of the aesthetic hallmarks of Ateliers Louis Moinet, sweeping over Roman numerals and a minute rail designed in the purest watchmaking tradition. In the centre sits the retrograde large hand that has made the Tempograph famous. With a continuous twenty-second sweep, it brings the dial to life in a unique manner – a direct nod to the automatons from the Enlightenment era of watchmaking, when Louis Moinet himself was creating his finest timepieces and grandest clocks.

About Louis Moinet

*Ateliers Louis Moinet was founded in Saint-Blaise, Neuchâtel, in 2004. The fully-independent firm was established to honour the memory of Louis Moinet (1768-1853): master watchmaker, inventor of the chronograph in 1816 (certified by Guinness World Records™), and pioneer in the use of very high frequencies (216,000 vibrations per hour). Louis Moinet was a watchmaker, scholar, painter, sculptor, and teacher at the School of Fine Arts – as well as the author of *Traité d'Horlogerie*, a watchmaking treatise published in 1848 that remained a definitive work of reference for almost a century. Today, Ateliers Louis Moinet is perpetuating this legacy. The firm's timepieces, produced in limited editions only, have won some of the most coveted honours, including a Red Dot Design Award (Best of the Best category), gold and bronze medals in the Chronometry Competition, a Robb Report "Best of the Best" award, a "Chronograph of the year" distinction from *Begin* magazine, Japan, and a recent UNESCO Award of Merit. Louis Moinet creations often make use of unusual materials, such as fossils and meteorites, combined with bespoke fine watchmaking complications in a unique creative approach. The brand's core values are creativity, exclusivity, art and design.*