

Memoris by Louis Moinet: nominated for the Grand Prix d’Horlogerie of Geneva

The nomination of a timepiece for the Grand Prix d’Horlogerie of Geneva is anything but a fluke – it’s the tangible fruit of combined wisdom: that of a group of renowned experts. Each will have had their own, private reasons, but at the end of the day the objective qualities of Memoris commanded a majority of votes. Here are six keys to understanding this unashamedly different watch.

Memoris: a genuine horological invention

Memoris is not just the latest reinterpretation of a chronograph – an exercise that has been done to death. Memoris is the first ‘chronograph watch’ in history: a timepiece that has been developed entirely with the ‘chronograph’ complication uppermost in mind, especially designed for the piece and in full view on the dial. In an unprecedented move, the time display thereby becomes secondary, offset here to six o’clock.



Memoris: the quintessence of technology

The Memoris LM54 caliber, is wholly exclusive to the piece. With a rhythm of 28,800 vibrations per hour (4Hz), it boasts 302 components – and a 48-hour power reserve. Over sixty parts have been designed and manufactured to allow the chronograph to be presented atop a dedicated movement plate, separating it from the automatic movement beneath.

The chronograph: king of complications



Watchmakers often consider the chronograph to be the finest of watch complications. Comprising a total of over 300 parts, Memoris is perhaps the most spectacular chronograph made to date: its entire function – over 60 parts – is fully visible on the dial side. The three functions of the column wheel, operated by its monopusher, can be seen. The assembly includes two separate hammers, another rare feature. And the swivel of the yoke is

aligned along the same axis as the second wheel, further ensuring quality.

Energie Plus: the future of automatic winding

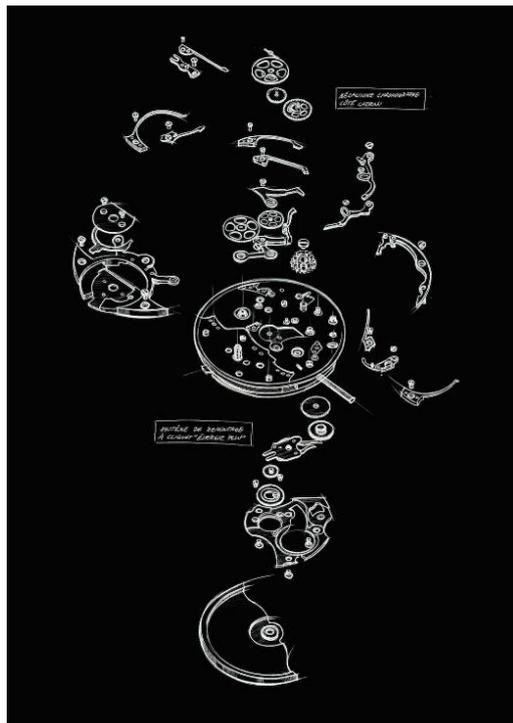
For the past few years, Louis Moinet has been developing and perfecting a completely new winding system, named Energie Plus – and Memoris benefits from the most advanced version. The process relies on a pawl system, featuring a spring with a ‘crab claw’ design, along with a ceramic ball bearing mounted on the dual-material rotor.

The 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, recovering its energy, and winding the movement more effectively. This particular invention has already earned the Mekanograph a prize in the Chronometry Competition.



Memoris: the crowning glory of Louis Moinet’s first decade

In just ten years, between 2004 and 2014, Ateliers Louis Moinet has created its identity and fine-tuned its positioning, developing coherent, innovative and exclusive haute horlogerie collections. First unveiled in March 2015, Memoris is the epitome of the brand’s first decade – highly creative, and proudly, fully independent from the very beginning.



Memoris: a vibrant tribute to one man's genius

Mr Louis Moinet invented the chronograph in 1816. Memoris pays tribute to the man who laid the foundations for modern watchmaking in his Treatise on the subject (1848). As the first chronograph-watch in history, Memoris is opening up a new path, just as Mr Moinet did two centuries earlier – making a landmark contribution to restoring Mr Louis Moinet's name to the pantheon of watchmakers.



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, certified inventor of the chronograph (1816), 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 and a work of reference throughout the rest of the nineteenth century. Ateliers Louis Moinet is perpetuating this legacy. The firm's timepieces, produced in limited editions only, have won some of the most coveted awards, including a Red Dot Design Award (Best of the Best category), a prize in the International Chronometry Competition, and a recent UNESCO Award of Merit. Louis Moinet creations often make use of unusual materials, such as fossils and meteorites, in a unique creative approach combined with bespoke fine watchmaking complications. The brand's core values are creativity, exclusivity, art and design.*