



LOUIS MOINET
1806



MAYA ECLIPSE

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The MAYA ECLIPSE is a deeply symbolic timepiece that pays tribute to the charismatic Maya peoples and the rich history of Mexico. Created by Les Ateliers Louis Moinet, this unique and extraordinary piece will be presented for the first time at SIAR (Salón Internacional Alta Relojería) in Mexico, from 18th to 20th October 2022.

THE SPIRIT OF CREATION

The MAYA ECLIPSE embodies the beguiling cosmic phenomenon that is the eclipse, using technology to capture a poetic beauty. It plays out the spectacular encounter between the moon and the sun 18 times per hour, with the magical axis of the Kukulcán Pyramid serving as its centre point.

Mayan society and culture drew an important association between astronomy, the vision of the Cosmos, religion and politics. Brilliant mathematicians and architects, the Mayans were also fervent observers of the stars and other celestial phenomena. They used their observations to create various calendars, some of which were highly complex and extremely accurate. They used these to measure time, enabling them to determine the phases of the moon and the position of the sun during eclipses, solstices and equinoxes.

This unique creation combines striking elements of Mayan culture with the watchmaking expertise of Ateliers Louis Moinet. The concept was developed by the young jewellery artist, Nathanaël Schaller, national winner of the French Prix des Métiers d'Art in 2020.

WHEN THE STARS ALIGN

Pyramidal architecture features in the shape of the watch's mysterious and complex movement, whose stepped construction projects from the centre. This movement has two satellite tourbillons that rotate in opposite directions, with their counterweights representing a moon and a sun inspired by Mayan symbols. They cross and overlap 18 times per hour, i.e. 432 times per day, with each meeting producing a striking and poetic eclipse, from where the timepiece gets its legendary name: MAYA ECLIPSE.

At the top of the movement's mechanical axis sits a fragment of jade. Its position at the top of the pyramid is symbolic, since jade was considered more precious than gold by the Mayans, who used it to make various artefacts to feature in their rites and ceremonies.

CHICHÉN ITZÁ IN A NEW LIGHT

The back of the dial is made from coloured mother-of-pearl, an exquisite and ethereal material which reminds us that the Kukulcán Pyramid is built over a cenote. Cenotes are natural pits primarily found in North and Central America. Usually filled with fresh water (though sometimes with sea water), they were considered sacred by the Mayans. The transparent flange features hour-markers with Mayan numerals made up of lines and dots. These graphical elements make for easy time reading.

The pyramid is made from 18k 5N rose gold and is adorned with guilloché geometric patterns that play with light and shade to stunning effect. This recalls the phenomenon that occurs at the Kukulcán Pyramid itself during equinoxes: the sun strikes the north-west corner of the pyramid, creating the illusion that the serpent is descending the steps of the pyramid.

The MAYA ECLIPSE depicts the Kukulcán Pyramid seen from the above, with its nine levels and four staircases. This construction symbolises the cosmic axis that links the infraworld, the world of the living and the world of the gods. It is located at the site of Chichén Itzá in Mexico, and is dedicated to Kukulcán, the feathered serpent. Kukulcán was the all-powerful god of resurrection and reincarnation worshipped by the Mayans.

TECHNICAL DATA

WATCH	
Model	MAYA ECLIPSE
Limited edition	Unique piece
CASE	
Frame material	18K 5N rose gold, polished and satin-brushed
Container material	Glareproofed sapphire crystal
Glass	Glareproofed sapphire crystal
Diameter	43.5 mm
Thickness	18.3 mm
DIAL	
Base	Coloured mother-of-pearl
Applique	18K 5N rose gold, hand guilloché
FLYING SATELLITE DOUBLE TOURBILLON	
Tourbillons	Two tourbillons with reversed rotation direction 18 hourly crossings (every 3 minutes and 20 seconds)
Upper tourbillon	Hourly rotation 1 revolution in 5 minutes
Lower tourbillon	Anti-clockwise rotation 1 revolution in 10 minutes
MOVEMENT	
Manufacture	Louis Moinet
Calibre	LM105
Functions	Hours Minutes
Winding	Manual Function selector: Winding Time setting
Finishes on the upper side	Tourbillon bridges: steel, mirror-polished Balances: sandblasted, mirror-polished, diamond-polished "Moon" counterweight: polished, rhodium-plated "Sun" counterweight: polished, 3N gilded, diamond-planed rays Upper insert: Jade
Finishes on the underside	Steel parts: polished chamfers and straight graining Gear trains: circular satin-brushed Mainplate: vertical "Côtes de Genève" hobnail pattern, polished sinks, polished chamfers
Components	Two barrels Six ceramic ball bearings (44 balls)
Oscillations	21,600 vibrations/hour
Frequency	3 Hz
Jewels	56
Power reserve	48 hours
Diameter	38.5 mm
Height	13.6 mm
Components	471
STRAP	
Material	Louisiana alligator leather Alligator lining, hand-sewn
Clasp	Folding 18K 5N rose gold Curved "Fleur de Lys"



ABOUT LOUIS MOINET

Jean-Marie Schaller created Les Ateliers Louis Moinet in St-Blaise (NE) in 2004. The fully independent firm was established to honour the memory of Louis Moinet (1768-1853): master watchmaker, inventor of the chronograph and high frequency (216,000 vibrations per hour) (certified by two Guinness World Records™). Louis Moinet was a watchmaker, artist and astronomer. He is the author of the *Traité d'Horlogerie*, a watchmaking treatise published in 1848 that remained a definitive work of reference for a century.

Today, Les Ateliers Louis Moinet is perpetuating this legacy. The firm's mechanical timepieces are produced as one-of-a-kind models or limited editions only and comprise two categories: "Cosmic Art" and "Mechanical Wonders". Louis Moinet creations often make use of unusual and rare components, such as extraterrestrial meteorites or prehistorical materials. The brand's core values are creativity, exclusivity, art and design. This unique creative approach within the world of mechanical horology has enabled Louis Moinet to win over 50 of the world's most prestigious awards, including a UNESCO Award of Merit, six Red Dot Design Awards (including one Best of the Best Award), a Horological Creativity Contribution Award, gold and bronze medals in the International Chronometry Competition, ten Good Design Awards, five Middle East Watch of the Year Awards, two Robb Report "Best of the Best" Awards, three German Design Awards, a Moscow Grand Prix Award, and a "Chronograph of the year" distinction from Begin Magazine, Japan. Jean-Marie Schaller also personally received two illustrious distinctions: he was awarded the high-ranking title of "Darjah Seri Sirajuddin Perlis" corresponding to a knighthood; and was also honoured with the Prize for Horological Creativity Contribution Award for his "masterful overall contribution to watchmaking".