**Gold Sun Clock – Baccarat & L’EPEE**

The Sun clock, an impressive wall clock designed in 1948 by Georges Chevalier for Baccarat, re-issued in 2014 for the legendary manufacture 250th anniversary is seeing the light again today with its beams painted in 20K gold and with a L’Epée 1839 movement.

A solid crystal sunburst, whose sixteen pointed beams provide eye-catching effects of majesty and beauty, was inspired by the symbol of the Sun king, Louis XIV, and used on the gates of his palace at Versailles. A timeless piece perfect to light up every modern interior.

The dimensions of the clock are impressive: one meter of diameter (38 inches) and around 40 kgs (90 lbs) in weight. The highly visible, superlatively finished in-house movement boasts a power reserve of 25 days. Hours and minutes are indicated on the central skeleton movement by hand-manufactured and polished hands. Behind that, a full rotating gear wheels train allow the clock to keep track of time.

The regulator, which is deliberately placed on top for all to admire, and, as a king, to dominate everything, controls the precision of time. Every component (except for the 25 jewels) of the superlatively finished palladium-treated brass movement and housing is designed and manufactured at L’Epée’s Swiss atelier. The gears and mainspring barrels are on full display thanks to a skeletonised main plate.

In its original version, the clock was displayed in the window of Baccarat first boutique in New York where it caught the eye of Arthur Miller who chose it to decorate the Manhattan apartment he shared with his wife, Marilyn Monroe.

**Limited and numbered edition of 50 pieces**

Even next to contemporary clocks, the Sun clock stands out like a comet. No such design has ever been made by the collaboration of two of the most well-known and respected players in their respective field, working to the same goal to reach perfection.

The Sun clock is an ultra-exclusive clock, featuring essentially the same mechanisms as a wristwatch, only larger: gear train, mainspring barrel (three in series), balance wheel, escape wheel and anchor. L’Epée’s regulator also features an Incabloc shock protection system, something generally only seen in wristwatches, which minimises the risk of damage when the clock is being transported.

When conceiving the Sun clock, the two teams set out a new reference in clock and crystal design. L’Epée CEO Arnaud Nicolas says: “Baccarat’s idea to rethink the Sun Clock as a tribute to their heritage blew my mind. The technical challenge inspired us and the outcome the Baccarat’s team got on the gold flames, its colour and feeling of warmness impressed me so much. Both teams have been really inspired by this masterpiece, and we think others will be too.”

The Gold Sun clock takes us on an emotional journey between light and excellence, an invitation to discover the legend of crystal.

**The Sun clock: Technical Specifications**

**The Sun clock is limited to 5o pieces in this exceptional configuration.**

**Display**

Hours and minutes: Hand-made and hand-polished hands

**Main structure**

Diameter: approx. 1 meter diameter

Thickness: 7.5 cm

The sixteen crystal pointed beams are cut by the The Best French Craftsmen, “Meilleurs Ouvriers de France”. Recognized worldwide, the title is awarded to an elite of artisans capable of shaping exceptional works of art.

Baccarat handmade crystal trimmed with 20-carat gold (800/1000e) on the back of each of the sixteen beams. The gold plate is hand-applied by one of Baccarat’s most talented and experienced “doreuse”.

**Movement**

L’Epée 1839 in-house designed and manufactured movement

Balance frequency: 18,000 vph / 2.5Hz

Barrels: 3 in series

Power reserve: 25 days

Jewels: 25

Incabloc shock protection system

Mechanism and main plate in palladium-treated brass

Polished palladium-plated brass dial

Manual-winding: Double-ended key to set time and wind movement from the front.

Movement is protected by a mineral glass door.

**BACCARAT**

Baccarat is the oldest and greatest crystal manufacture in the world. Created in 1764 by permission of King Louis XV to this day it keeps its entire production in the same village in Lorraine where it first started. For over 250 years it has been the symbol of superb craftsmanship and of French “art de vivre”. The refined precision, the timeless elegance of its production, the continuous service to the royal houses and to the greats of the world have given Baccarat the status of a legend in its own right. In addition to seducing the celebrities of the world, Baccarat’s designs immortalise the excellence of its savoir faire. This know-how is at the forefront of progress, handed down over the centuries by elite craftsmen and the ultimate emblem of an incomparable heritage. Ranging from iconic lighting to unique tableware and decorative objects, fine jewellery and tailor-made flacons, the brand’s products and tradition of excellence are recognised around the globe.

www.baccarat.com

**Georges Chevalier (1894 -1987)**

A journey and a life made of light.

A graduate of the École Nationale des Arts Décoratifs, in Paris, Georges Chevalier began working with Baccarat in 1916 ending his career there in the early ‘70s.

His designs earned Baccarat a place at the forefront of the history of the decorative arts.

Georges Chevalier ensured that the Baccarat name would forever be associated

with modernity and beyond thanks to his stylistic vocabulary and clean shapes and

proportions. He used his remarkable artistry to create an animated vision of Baccarat,

whose spirit he grasped instantly and instinctively. His close collaboration with the

craftsmen enabled him to overcome any technical constraints, he grasped

the full complexity of crystal. He mastered the creation of both form and decoration and

focused on setting up a constructive dialogue between artist and craftsmen. Geoges Chevalier delved eagerly into the archives of the manufactory to reinterpret the Maison heritage and codes and invent new designs drawing on the expertise of the master glassmakers, glass blowers, cutters and engravers.

**L’Epée 1839 – the premier clock manufacture in Switzerland**

For over 175 years, L'Epée has been at the forefront of watch and clock making. Today, it is the only specialised manufacture in Switzerland dedicated to making high-end clocks. L'Epée was founded in 1839, initially to make music box and watch components, by Auguste L’Epée who set up the business near Besançon, France. The L’Epée hallmark was that all parts were made entirely by hand.

From 1850 onwards, the manufacture became a leading light in the production of ‘platform’ escapements, creating regulators especially for alarm clocks, table clocks and musical watches. By 1877, it was making 24,000 platform escapements annually. The manufacture became a well-known specialist owning a large number of patents on special escapements such as anti-knocking, auto-starting and constant-force escapements and the chief supplier of escapements to several celebrated watchmakers of the day. L'Epée has won a number of gold awards at International Exhibitions.

During the 20th century, L'Epée owed much of its reputation to its superlative carriage clocks and, for many, L'Epée was the clock of the influential and powerful; it was also the gift of choice by French government officials to elite guests. In 1976 when the Concorde supersonic aircraft entered commercial service, L'Epée wall clocks were chosen to furnish the cabins, providing passengers with visual feedback of the time. In 1994, L'Epée showed its thirst for a challenge when it built the world's biggest clock with compensated pendulum, the Giant Regulator. At 2.2m high, it weighs 1.2 tons – the mechanical movement alone weighs 120kg – and required 2,800 man-hours of work.

L'Epée is now based in Delémont in the Swiss Jura Mountains. Under the guidance of CEO Arnaud Nicolas, L’Epée 1839 has developed an exceptional table clock collection, encompassing a range of sophisticated classic Carriage Clocks, Contemporary Design Clocks (Le Duel, La Tour,…) and avant-garde horological sculptures (Sherman, Starfleet Machine, Arachnophobia…). This last collection, named the “Art line” collection, was launched for its 175th Anniversary, is intended to shock, evoke and inspire people, not to toe the line. L’Epée clocks feature complications including retrograde seconds, power reserve indicators, perpetual calendars, tourbillons and striking mechanisms – all designed and manufactured in-house. Ultra-long power reserves have become a signature of the brand as well as superlative fine finishing