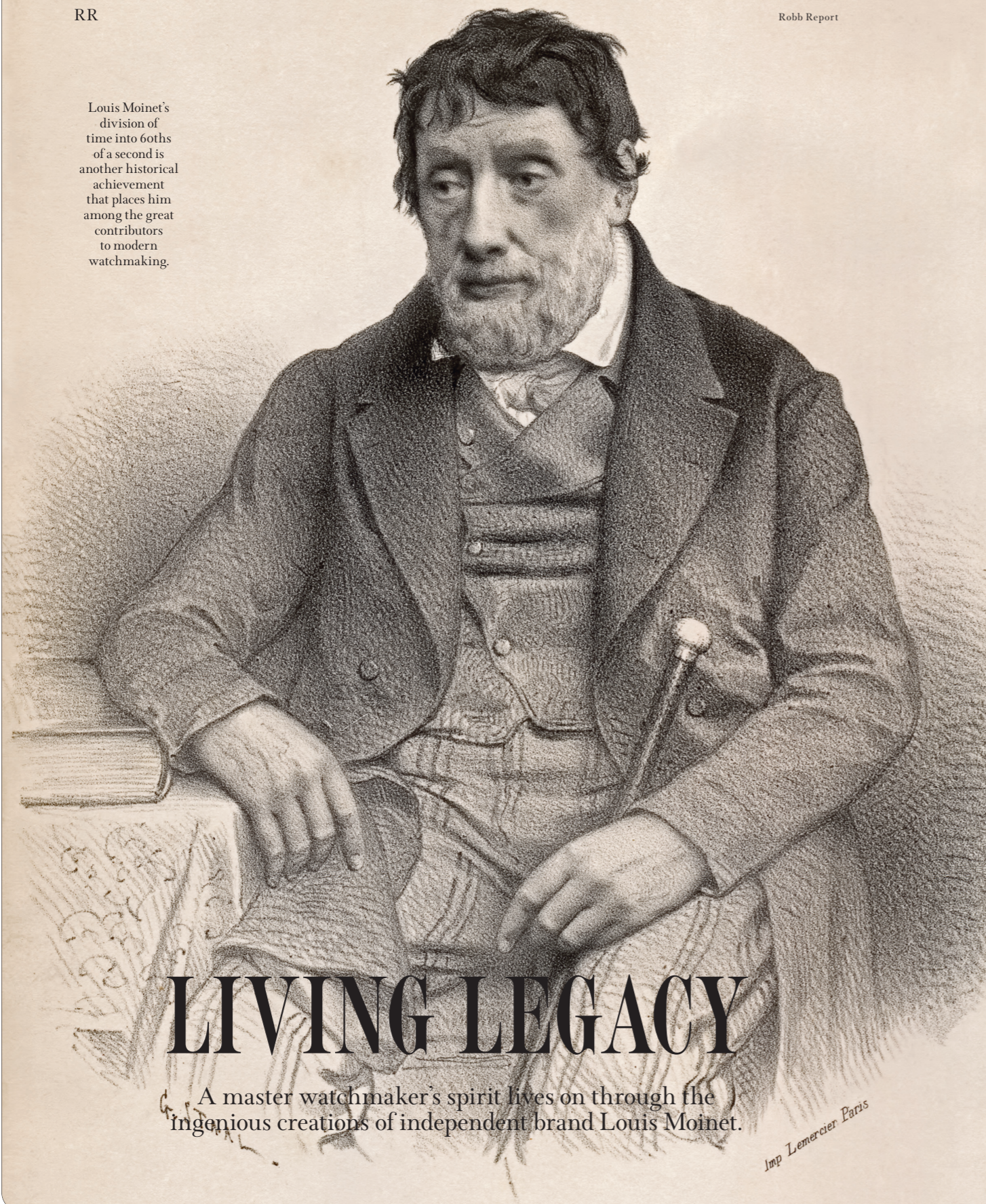


Louis Moinet's division of time into 60ths of a second is another historical achievement that places him among the great contributors to modern watchmaking.



LIVING LEGACY

A master watchmaker's spirit lives on through the ingenious creations of independent brand Louis Moinet.



By HO YUN KUAN



Widely considered one of horology's most important names, Louis Moinet was a well-read man of several interests. He was a passionate artist, architect and watchmaker, but it was the latter occupation that became his life's undertaking from the beginning of the 1800s. Moinet invented the chronograph, played personal adviser to Abraham-Louis Breguet and headed the Chronometry Society of Paris.

Upon his passing in 1853, he left a legacy of outstanding works now displayed in major museums in Europe, including the Louvre and Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, and Palazzo Pitti in Florence.

Today, Moinet's spirit lives on through the Louis Moinet brand, which is based in Saint-Blaise, Switzerland. Its creations, designed with a certain experimental flair reminiscent of Moinet's inventiveness, are unique or limited-edition pieces.

MEMORIS

In 1816, Moinet unveiled the chronograph, putting his name on the map with horology's greatest. This year, the brand celebrates the 200th anniversary of the complication with a limited-edition version of its Memoris timepiece.

The new Memoris is housed in a 46mm rose gold case comprising 52 parts in alternating polished and brushed finishings, held together by six screws on the bezel. Within the



The new hour dial is made in enamel for the first time in history of the Memoris.

distinguish it from the Memoris launched last year in celebration of the brand's 10th anniversary, this bicentennial edition sports an exclusive decoration. On the midnight blue chronograph plate are hand-engraved stars, each crafted using an innovative combination of the *guillocheuse* (traditionally used to create the guilloche patterns on dials) and the handheld graver for an unprecedented shine.

SIDERALIS

One tourbillon's good, but two's better. With Sideralis, it's double the fun for the wearer with two large tourbillons at four and eight o'clock. With cages measuring 14.9mm each, these miniature whirlwinds are one and a half times bigger than the average and, according to Louis Moinet, the largest for a timepiece

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case, the chronograph and the mechanism that powers it are displayed on the dial side. With a click of the pusher, the column wheel springs to life, setting in motion the graceful dance of gears and wheels that work the chronograph counters. To ensure that this performance can be admired fully, the chronograph counters are wholly transparent.

Because this watch is all about the chronograph, the time mechanism has been relegated to the back of the automatic movement, beneath the plate, and can be admired through the transparent caseback.

Only 20 pieces of this limited-edition timepiece is available worldwide. To



Sideralis does not have any equivalent anywhere in the world of watchmaking, and is protected by two patent applications.



This year, the timepiece makes a comeback with a new version featuring open-worked, black PVD-coated bridges.

on the miniature Mars, moon dust on the miniature Moon, and chips from the 4.5-billion-year-old Rosetta Stone on the painted Mercury.

BLACK GOLD DERRICK

When it was launched three years ago, the innovative mechanism of Louis Moinet's Derrick Tourbillon captured the imaginations of collectors and made it an instant success.

This year, the timepiece makes a comeback with a new version featuring open-worked, black PVD-coated bridges that call to mind the liquid black gold that is oil. The movement plate has also seen changes and now gives an aerial view of the spring.

The rest of the watch stays true to the original spirit of Derrick Tourbillon, with the movement still mimicking the oil drilling process. Running vertically from four to two o'clock is the drive shaft, which powers the articulated arm that lies horizontally between 10 and two o'clock. When activated, it moves up and down to represent the walking beam of an oil pump. The whole circuit of movements ends with the barrel at nine o'clock. Made to resemble an oil barrel, it carries a red-engraved seconds track on its lowest segment. www.louismoinet.com

with two tourbillons. As if this doesn't make them visible enough, they are placed above the movement – the cages are even slightly raised above the dial.

All this showmanship is not without purpose. The two tourbillons power the third complication, which is also the time display subdial, at 12 o'clock. The subdial comprises two rotating discs, one laid atop the other. Both discs complete a rotation every 60 seconds but in opposite directions: the top one turns in an anti-clockwise direction, while the bottom disc turns clockwise.

Through an aperture in the top disc, the miniature paintings on the lower disc depicting three planets – Mars, the moon and Mercury – can be admired. These planets contain another secret – they carry small amounts of dust from the celestial bodies they represent. There's a fragment of Mars

Black Gold Derrick boasts a skeleton movement, haute horlogerie finishings, a three-day power reserve and an all-new seconds display.