

# Blue Bloods

*As buyers and collectors seek rare and aristocrat timepieces, horologists are responding with expectation-shattering designs*

Text by KEITH GORDON



On the open water, two things remain paramount: style and functionality. The Franck Muller Vanguard Yachting Tourbillon raises both of these traits to perfection. With a bold blue face and similarly hued strap, in addition to a fantastically-engineered tourbillon that's as aesthetically pleasing as it is accurate, this timepiece is capable of grabbing one's attention regardless of the opulent surroundings. Housed in a durable stainless steel case with a sapphire crystal caseback, the Vanguard Yachting Tourbillon is the perfect watch for a superyacht adventure, and ideally suited to an active lifestyle on the ocean where conditions may not always be perfect. While some Franck Muller timepieces can be found at lesser price points, this watch can be equated with the yacht on which it was meant to be worn: a functional investment that combines style, luxury, utility and world-class engineering. And at \$106,600, it represents the perfect Swiss horological pairing for any multimillion-dollar marina-based toy.

The MB&F LM Split Escapement Blue is one of the most stylish ways to spend \$79,000. With a limited run of only 18 units, the watch is crafted from 18k white gold with a striking blue frosted dial and a sapphire crystal, presented on a hand-stitched alligator strap. Far more than an interesting mechanical design, MB&F have created a three-dimensional sculpture using the textured blue background to accentuate the contrasting features that appear to float above the face. It begs to be observed from multiple angles in order to fully appreciate the complexity and balance between serious luxury and a more playful side expressed via the gorgeous blue dial.