



PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE

Press Release

Patek Philippe, Geneva
“Rare Handcrafts 2022” exhibition in Paris
May 2022

Patek Philippe is presenting its new “Rare Handcrafts 2022” exhibition in Paris for the first time, showcasing three exclusive pieces created explicitly for this event.

From May 14 to 22, 2022, on Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré 85, the manufacture is exhibiting some sixty Rare Handcrafts objects that salute artisanship at its finest. In addition to one-of-a-kind pieces and limited editions that meld technical expertise with true inspiration, the public will also see three pocket watches with hand-engraved case backs that pay tribute to the Expositions Universelles in Paris.

The very extensive “Antique Collection” of the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva which last year celebrated its 20th anniversary allows visitors to admire the evolution of mechanical timepieces since the early 16th century. They can also pursue the upswing of decorative artistry with which timekeeping instruments have been graced for nearly 500 years. Before watches established themselves as dependable and precise timepieces, they were mainly lavishly adorned works of art. Thus, many different ornamental techniques were embraced in Geneva, especially by the famous “Fabrique” where all of the crafts associated with watchmaking artistry were practiced.

Passion for the ultimate in craftsmanship

As the legatee and guardian of grand Genevan traditions since it was founded in 1839, Patek Philippe always placed great emphasis on craftsmanship. This is impressively documented by the Museum’s “Patek Philippe Collection”. While the demand for artisanally decorated watches all but vanished from 1970 to 1980, the manufacture was passionately committed to safeguarding this precious know-how on the brink of extinction, especially miniature painting on enamel. Today, Patek Philippe is determined to protect these skills, to offer a future for the requisite competencies, and in close collaboration with the artisans to further evolve and expand their virtuosity.

To illustrate the beauty of these artisanal techniques and promote the knowledge of this important facet of watchmaking traditions, Patek Philippe presents an annual collection of one-of-a-kind pieces and limited editions of artistically decorated watches that can be admired by the public in Patek Philippe’s Salons in Geneva. For the first time, the manufacture is exhibiting this collection in Paris at a gallery on Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré that was totally remodeled for the event.

A broad palette of skills

For the “Rare Handcrafts 2022” collection (a total of 59 creations including 15 dome table clocks, 9 miniature dome table clocks, 10 pocket watches, and 25 wristwatches as well as three exclusive objects crafted explicitly for the event in Paris) it was again necessary to mobilize a suite of artisanal skills that call for virtuosity, many years of experience, and genuine artistic flair.

PATEK PHILIPPE SA GENEVA

Chemin du Pont-du-Centenaire 141 – 1228 Plan-les-Ouates
P.O. Box 2654 – CH – 1211 Geneva 2 – Switzerland
Tel. + 41 22 884 20 20 – Fax + 41 22 884 25 47 – www.patek.com



Manual engraving is the oldest decorative art for adorning timepieces. It embellishes the case backs of pocket watches as well as their bezels, bows, and hands.

Grand feu cloisonné enamel has also long been used in watchmaking to create motifs with luminous and enduring colors. First, the artist shapes the contours of the motif with fine flat gold wire and then fills the resulting “cloisons” (cells) with translucent, opaque, semi-opaque, or opalescent enamel paints.

Since the 17th century, **miniature painting on enamel** has ranked among the grand Genevan specialties; at this exhibition, it has a strong presence. The tiny motifs are created dot by dot with a minuscule brush and with colors mixed from enamel powder and lavender oil.

For the tradition-steeped technique of **paillonné enamel**, small gold- or silver-leaf paillons (punched spangles) are covered with translucent enamel in which they appear to float.

In **hand-guilloching**, antique, manually controlled machines are used to cut geometric patterns in a metal surface on which light seems to dance. When this interplay of reflections is coated with translucent enamel, it is referred to as **flinqué enamel**.

Wood micromarquetry is an extremely elaborate technique introduced by Patek Philippe several years ago to decorate the dials of wristwatches or the case backs of pocket watches. It is used to produce small pictures composed of several hundred tiny mosaic pieces of different wood species, colors, and graining.

Gemsetting with diamonds adorns the bezels of Calatrava wristwatches with irresistible sparkle. The fully handcrafted pocket watch stands in 18K gold are also set with different gems in nuanced colors.

Patek Philippe showcases its creativity and artisanal expertise on numerous objects with the so-called **mixed technique** that combines different competencies such as grand feu cloisonné enamel and manual guilloching or the refinement of grand feu cloisonné enamel with miniature painting on enamel.

Always receptive to outstanding traditions, the manufacture also works with two exotic techniques that were developed in France – **grisaille enamel with Limoges white (blanc de Limoges)** and **Longwy enamel on faïence** with black framed motifs.

To fully experience the fascination of these handcraft techniques, exhibition visitors can observe the live demonstrations of individual specialists at work on their creations.

A broad spectrum of inspirations

Following the role model of previous years, the “Rare Handcrafts 2022” collection is again a veritable fireworks of creativity from which designers and artists took their inspiration and allowed their imagination to roam freely.

The three signature pocket watches with hand-engraved case backs crafted explicitly for this event pay tribute to important attractions from the history of the Expositions Universelles in Paris: the Giffard captive balloon in 1878 (992/154G-001), the head of the famous Statue of Liberty, also in 1878 (992/156G-001), and the Eiffel Tower in 1889 (992/155G-001). The three unique pieces were inspired



by illustrations from the epoch, for which the artisan leveraged his skill in relief engraving to create a three-dimensional effect despite their slender silhouette.

Complementing the many other topics of this year, there is a showcase that exhibits several objects directly related to Geneva, where Patek Philippe has its roots. One of them is the dome table clock 20118M “Bol d’Or” in cloisonné and paillonné enamel as a reminder of the seven trophies that the manufacture’s honorary president Philippe Stern won at this famous regatta on the Lake of Geneva. A perfect mixed-technique example is the dome table clock 20116M “View of Geneva in the style of Ananbô” (one-of-a-kind piece). The lush vegetation scenery was rendered in cloisonné enamel with 41.2 meters of flat gold wire and 41 mostly translucent enamel paints. It is combined with a miniature painting on enamel inspired by an old image of the fresco of Geneva.

A further showcase brings to life the magic of a tropical rainforest, especially with the very vivid portrayals of chameleons in cloisonné enamel (5177G-026 and 5177G-027 Calatrava wristwatches). In the limited 6-watch edition of the 5089G-109 Calatrava wristwatch, the gold dial is first guilloché by hand with various motifs tracing the veins of the leaves, then decorated with cloisonné enamel that allows the relief patterns to shine through. One leaf shows the hand-engraved shadow of a gecko as if backlit.

Wild creatures that live in faraway lands play an important role in the collection, for example on case backs in wood micromarquetry or cloisonné enamel as well as on the dials of Calatrava or Golden Ellipse wristwatches in cloisonné enamel with depictions of several savannah animals (greater kudu, oryx antelopes, zebras, lions, rhinoceroses, buffaloes, white Namibian elephants and leopards). For the 995/128J-001 “Cheetah” pocket watch (a one-of-a-kind piece), the artist crafted 610 incredibly tiny parts and 50 inlays from 16 different wood species to depict the cat sprinting at full speed.

Inspired by the naturalistic illustrations of the early 19th century, four limited editions, each consisting of six Golden Ellipse wristwatches that all feature depictions of some of the most extraordinary monkey species on our planet. Their habitat is cloisonné enamel dials complemented with miniature paintings on enamel – one example is the 5738/50G-019 Golden Ellipse and its mischievous American callithrix.

Other wonders of nature, also in the realm of plants, inspired motifs in luminous colors such as on the 20142M “Dog Rose” dome table clock in cloisonné enamel or on the 20104M “Convolvulus” dome table clock in Longwy enamel on faience.

The voyage of humanity is depicted on a dome table clock and three Calatrava wristwatches with cloisonné enamel commemorating the first flights across the English Channel, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean. The 5089G-089 Calatrava has a dial in cloisonné enamel enriched with a miniature painting on enamel showing Louis Blériot aboard his Blériot XI monoplane overflying a coastal landscape and a beach with delicately drawn beach huts.

The cultures of our world also inspired other very different objects, including a small dome table clock, the 10003M-001 “Dragon Kites” in cloisonné enamel with their traditional Chinese kites. Another one is the 995/121J-001 “Azulejos” pocket watch and its delicate trompe-l’oeil miniature painting on enamel in a hand-engraved frame.

An ensemble consisting of dome table clocks, pocket watches, and Calatrava wristwatches in cloisonné enamel succumbs to the charms of Cuba – like the 992/162G-001 in cloisonné enamel on a



hand-guilloched background with manual engravings on the periphery of the case back, the bezel, and the bow.

They are joined by further amazing creations such as the dome table clock 20114M “Circus” in cloisonné enamel enhanced with silver leaf and miniature painting on enamel; the dome is adorned with a tip that resembles a finial.

A unique opportunity

The “Rare Handcrafts 2022” exhibition is open to the public from May 14 to 22, 2022, on Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré 85 from 11 am to 6 pm on weekdays and from 10 am to 6 pm on weekends. Visitors are requested to pre-register on our website at patek.com.

The exhibition offers the last opportunity to admire all of these extraordinary creations before they are forwarded to private collectors around the world.





992/154G-001 “Exposition Universelle in Paris 1878 – The Giffard captive balloon” / Pocket watch with hand-engraved case back

Inspired by a contemporary illustration, this unique piece in white gold salutes one of the main attractions of the 1878 Exposition Universelle in Paris: the Giffard captive balloon that lifted several hundred passengers a day to a height of 500 meters above the capital and then pulled them back down to safe ground on a rope with a steam engine.

This motif was created with the traditional technique of relief engraving to create a spatial effect despite the slender silhouette. To amplify the contrast, the entire scene was then oxidized with black rhodium and reworked with the burin.

The white-gold dial is coated with white enamel. The periphery of the case back, the bezel, the bow and the leaf-shaped hands are manually engraved with a decorative motif. The crown is set with a faceted blue sapphire cabochon (0.33 ct).

This watch comes with a 50 cm long white-gold chain and a medallion manually engraved with the inscription “Exposition universelle 1878” and the Calatrava cross, Patek Philippe’s emblem.

Manually wound caliber 17” LEP PS with subsidiary seconds.

992/155G-001 “Exposition Universelle in Paris 1889 – The Eiffel Tower” / Pocket watch with hand-engraved case back

This unique piece in white gold recalls the intrepid construction of the Eiffel Tower. As the highlight of the 1889 Exposition Universelle in Paris, it also stood for the centennial celebration of the French Revolution and with a height of 312 meters would remain the world’s tallest structure for the next forty years.

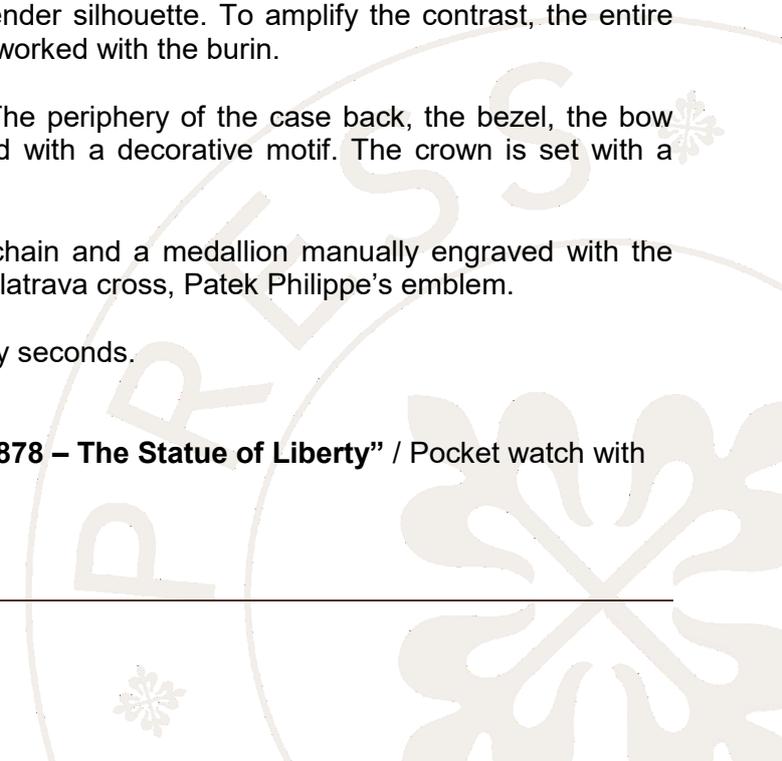
Inspired by a contemporary illustration, the motif was created with the traditional technique of relief engraving to create a spatial effect despite the slender silhouette. To amplify the contrast, the entire scene was then oxidized with black rhodium and reworked with the burin.

The white-gold dial is coated with white enamel. The periphery of the case back, the bezel, the bow and the leaf-shaped hands are manually engraved with a decorative motif. The crown is set with a faceted blue sapphire cabochon (0.33 ct).

This watch comes with a 50 cm long white-gold chain and a medallion manually engraved with the inscription “Exposition universelle 1889” and the Calatrava cross, Patek Philippe’s emblem.

Manually wound caliber 17” LEP PS with subsidiary seconds.

992/156G-001 “Exposition Universelle in Paris 1878 – The Statue of Liberty” / Pocket watch with hand-engraved case back





This unique piece pays tribute to the 1878 Exposition Universelle in Paris where the head of the famous Statue of Liberty was on display before it embarked on its voyage to America.

A contemporary illustration showing Bartholdi's masterpiece inspired the motif on the case back. It was created with the traditional technique of relief engraving to create a spatial effect despite the slender silhouette. To amplify the contrast, the entire scene was then oxidized with black rhodium and reworked with the burin.

The white-gold dial is coated with white enamel. The periphery of the case back, the bezel, the bow and the leaf-shaped hands are manually engraved with a decorative motif. The crown is set with a faceted blue sapphire cabochon (0.33 ct).

This watch comes with a 50 cm long white-gold chain and a medallion manually engraved with the inscription "Exposition universelle 1878" and the Calatrava cross, Patek Philippe's emblem.

Manually wound caliber 17" LEP PS with subsidiary seconds.

