***TF35: THE GREATEST RACING MACHINE OF ALL TIME***

L’Epée 1839 introduces the TF35 in a powerful new look: sleek matte black.

Drawing inspiration from iconic 1920s and 1930s race cars, the TF35 pays homage to a legendary racing machine that is perhaps considered the greatest race car of all time. With an unrivaled track record of success and thousands of motorsports victories to its name, this champion car is one of the most famous and influential racers in automotive history. It was renowned for its advanced engineering with a perfect harmony of lightness and power, achieving the fastest speeds of its era.

The TF35 is more than just a kinetic sculpture that tells time; it is the ultimate gentleman's accessory. With a simple activation of the handbrake, its V8-engine is released, revealing a beautifully hidden gas cigar torch within. In today's fast-paced world, L’Epée 1839 invites you to take a moment for yourself and appreciate the great moments and small luxuries in life.

The TF35 discreetly showcases hours and minutes on the side of its chassis. The driver sits in the cockpit beneath a glass dome, which highlights the escapement and showcases the artistic, whimsical timepiece within. The steering wheel features an original three-spoke design, typical of the racing cars from this era, and assembled like the original steering wheels, with a center rim and two outer rims held together by 12 rivets. To set the time, the steering wheel is turned counterclockwise. Turning the steering wheel clockwise recenters the wheel.

The mechanics of the TF35 consists of an in-house movement with an 8-day power reserve, which melds seamlessly to the curves of the aluminum bodywork. In a subtle nod to vintage toy cars of our childhood, winding the mechanical motor is done by turning the rear wheels, just like a pullback car.

The TF35 is the ideal, unconventional gentleman’s accessory and an entertaining, interactive discussion piece for an office or home setting. A favorite feature is the functional hand-break located on the side of the chassis, which is pulled to release the engine and reveal the hidden lighter.

The TF35 boasts numerous eye-catching details and engineering specifications, in ode to vintage race cars. These include a long protruding engine hood, the iconic 1930s race car radiator grill and large spoked wheels, a rear-positioned driving seat, and a sloping back section. Its race car aesthetic is further enhanced by sleek lines and state of the art finishes.

Just like a normal-sized car, the TF35 is formed of solid aluminum body parts, with the engine components and chassis made of stainless steel and palladium plated brass. Each component is individually finished by hand, with polished, satin finished or sand-blasted parts.

**The greatest champion**

The 1920s and 1930s were pivotal years in racing history, when one particular race car model held the greatest track record in vintage motorsports history. The TF35 combines design, technology, power and precision in ode to these memorable champion cars.

Race cars from that era were powered by inline 8-cylinder engines, which were celebrated for durability and reliability; properties which also resonate with L'Epée 1839's own timeless mechanical creations.  They also featured a lightweight chassis that was beautiful, powerful and fast, perfectly combining aesthetics with strength and agility.  The L’Epée 1839 TF35 makes a nostalgic play on this high performance by incorporating similar aesthetic details into a high-performance horological time piece with attitude.

**TF35 – a special name**

The name TF35 is short for Time Fast 35 and comes from the line of racing cars created by L’Epée 1839.  The TF35 is the 35th automotive project on which L'Epée 1839 has worked, with only 3 revealed to the public—further proof of L'Epée 1839’s rigorous product and design selection for launches.

**TF35 - a race car in a table clock design**

In creating TF35’s highly visible movement, L’Epée 1839 had to design a specific eight-day movement to perfectly blend the design and appearance of the car with the horological function of a clock.

In racing, the driver is key to maximizing car performance—the brains behind the operation. Inspired by driver ingenuity, the TF35 movement escapement was designed to be the brains of this racing inspired timepiece.  Its escapement is protected by hand blown glass, which was blown, cut and polished by master hands.  This glass sits on a gasket, which gives the subassembly the shape of a colonial helmet often used by vintage race car drivers to protect their head.

In front of the driver, within the cockpit, the steering wheel is used to set the time.  A counterclockwise move adjusts the time, while and clockwise movement repositions the steering wheel once the time is set.

 In a subtle nod to childhood memories, the mechanical motor is wound just like a pull-back car.

The TF35 wheel design is inspired by cast aluminum racing wheels with eight flat spokes. A revolutionary design for the time, they saved weight and cooled the brakes more efficiently.

TF35 tires contain a specially developed foam so that the sub-assembly replicates the same tire deformation where the tires contact the road, as observed with racing cars on a road track.

The hours and minutes are displayed on the side of the chassis via two engraved stainless steel disks, which are viewed through an aperture for maximum readability.

On the other side of the chassis, outside of the cockpit, is the parking brakes lever.  With a simple push of the handbrake, the V8-engine is released, revealing a cleverly hidden gas lighter—a delight for both car and cigar aficionados. The lighter can then removed from the car for use and returned by pushing it back its original position to lock it in place. Even the lighter was crafted with nostalgic details from this racing era. It can be easily refilled and has an aperture to view remaining lighter fuel levels.

**L’Epée 1839 - 185 years of continuous existence**

Since the start, L’Epée 1839 has been at the forefront of horology and clockmaking, perpetuating a quest to innovate and to challenge everything.  Founded in 1839 by Auguste L’Epée, L’Epée 1839 quickly established a reputation for excellence, with all parts meticulously crafted by hand.

The company strikes the perfect chord by blending its rich heritage and horological knowledge with creative designs.  By combining traditional craftsmanship with advanced engineering, L’Epée 1839, much like the legendary race cars that inspired this creation, is on an endless quest to push the boundaries of creativity and engineering.  Driven by its in-house expertise, L’Epée 1839 presents a diverse collection of extraordinary kinetic masterpieces.

From 1850 onwards, the company became a leading light in the production of ‘platform’ escapements, creating regulators especially for alarm clocks, table clocks and musical watches.

The company, well-known for their specialized knowledge and design vision, owns a large number of patents on special escapements and supplies many of the most celebrated watchmakers of the day.

L’Epée 1839 has won many gold awards at International Exhibitions for their timepiece creations.  Throughout the 20th century, L’Epée 1839 cemented its legacy with its carriage clocks. For many, L’Epée 1839 was the clock of the influential and powerful, supplying an elite clientele, from business leaders, governments to royal courts

***Technical Specifications***

**Technical properties of the car**

Dimensions : Length: 439.7 mm – Width : 180.5 mm – Height : 119 mm

Weight : 4.52 kg

**Functions**

Hour and minute display

Shift the handbrake to release the engine and reveal the lighter

Time set via counterclockwise rotation of the steering wheel

A clockwise rotation serves to reposition the steering wheel as desired.

The clock is wound using the rear wheels:

Pull Back the car to fill it up i.e. wind the barrel, supplying the clock mechanism with energy.

The car can move freely forwards

**Engine**

Tiered mechanical movement, L’Epée 1839 1855 MHD in-house caliber

Escapement: 18,000 vib/hour

26 jewels

Power reserve: 8 days

Materials: nickel- and palladium-plated brass, polished stainless steel, color with the use of automotive lacquer.

Incabloc protection system

**Lighter:**

Rechargeable gas lighter featuring a gas level indicator

Lighter with double flame specially design for Cigars.

**MATERIALS & FINISHING

Materials**:

Palladium-plated brass, stainless steel

Blown glass dome, machined and polished to simulate the driver’s helmet

Bodywork in aluminum

Rims in stainless steel

Tires in hard-wearing rubber with special embedded foam

**Finishes**

Polished and sand-blasted movement (plates and wheels) / Satin-finished / Polished and satin-finished rims / Lacquered bodywork

**L’EPEE 1839
SWITZERLAND'S LEADING CLOCK MANUFACTURE**

L’Epée 1839 has been a prominent clockmaking manufacture for 185 years. Today, it is the only manufacture in Switzerland to specialize in the production of high-end clocks. Founded in 1839 by Auguste L’Epée in Besançon, France, the company originally focused on producing music boxes and watch components. Even at this early stage, the brand was synonymous with entirely handmade pieces.

Starting in 1850, the manufacture became a leader in producing escapements and began to develop special regulators for alarm clocks, table clocks, and musical watches. It gained wide recognition and filed numerous patents for special escapements, particularly for use in its anti-knocking, auto-starting, and constant force systems. L’Epée 1839 became the principal supplier of several famous clockmakers and went on to win many gold medals at World Fairs.

During the 20th century, the firm owed its success largely to its remarkable travel clocks. Many associate the L’Epée 1839 brand with influential individuals and people in positions of power; members of the French government often gave clocks to their distinguished guests. When the Concorde supersonic airplane began its commercial flights in 1976, L’Epée 1839 fitted the cabins with wall clocks to give passengers the time. In 1994, the brand demonstrated its penchant for challenges by constructing the largest pendulum clock in the world, the “Giant Regulator”, which features in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Today, L’Epée 1839 is based in the Swiss Jura Mountains (Delémont), under the direction of CEO Arnaud Nicolas. The manufacture still upholds this incredible know-how in the passionate creation of unique horological sculptures manufactured entirely in-house.

The clocks’ technical prowess, combination of form and function, long power reserves, and remarkable finishes have become signature features of the brand.

In 2023, L’Epée 1839 wins the “Mechanical clock” award at the Grand Prix de L’Horlogerie de Genève (GPHG) with Time Fast II in chrome, a creative and technical challenge.

*L’Epée 1839 collections focus on three themes:*

Creative Art: artistic pieces first and foremost, sometimes developed in partnership with external designers as joint creations. These clocks surprise, inspire, and even shock the most seasoned collectors. They are for those consciously or unconsciously looking for exceptional objects.

Contemporary Timepieces: technical creations with a contemporary design (Le Duel, Duet, etc.) and minimalist, avant-garde models (La Tour) incorporating complications such as retrograde seconds, power reserve indicators, moon phases, tourbillons, chiming mechanisms, and perpetual calendars.

Carriage Clocks: also known as “officers’ clocks,” these historical pieces issued from the brand’s heritage also feature their fair share of complications: chiming mechanisms, minute repeaters, calendars, moon phases, tourbillons, and more.