

BERNHARD LEDERER  
MASTER WATCHMAKER.

FOUR DECADES OF RESEARCH IN  
CONTEMPORARY CHRONOMETRY.

LEDERER



## A WATCHMAKER LED BY ONE QUESTION

For more than forty years, Bernhard Lederer has approached watchmaking not as a matter of style, but as a matter of understanding.

His work begins with one demanding question:

## HOW CAN A MECHANICAL WATCH MEASURE TIME MORE FAITHFULLY?

That question has shaped his entire career. From early experimental constructions to his most celebrated chronometers, his work reflects the same uncompromising resolve: to go back to first principles, challenge accepted solutions and create mechanisms that bring genuine horological progress.



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Four Decades of Research in  
Contemporary Chronometry.

## WHERE THE JOURNEY BEGAN...



## A WATCHMAKER DRIVEN BY UNDERSTANDING

Born in 1958 near Stuttgart, Bernhard Lederer grew up in an environment where mechanics were part of daily life. From an early age, he was less interested in what objects displayed than in how they worked. His grandfather's pocket watches became his first territories of exploration. It was not yet about becoming a watchmaker. It was about understanding.

His training at the Wuppertal Clock and Watch Museum gave that curiosity a clearer direction. Confronted with historical mechanisms, he discovered that what fascinated him was not decoration or complication alone, but invisible architecture: the way energy circulates, transforms, and stabilises within a system.

At Pforzheim, this intuition became method. After qualifying as a Master Watchmaker, independence became a necessity rather than a career option: the condition required to pursue a more demanding line of research.

In 1986, his admission to the Académie Horlogère des Créateurs Indépendants marked an early recognition not only of technical mastery, but also of a singular approach. From that point onward, his work would develop not as a succession of collections, but as a coherent body of research in contemporary chronometry.

## THE ORIGINS OF AN INDEPENDENT MIND



### CHRONOMETRY AS A DISCIPLINE

From the very beginning, Bernhard Lederer was drawn not only to the beauty of watches, but to the principles that made them work. What fascinated him was the hidden logic of mechanics: the way energy is transmitted, regulated and preserved with precision through a finely balanced system. That early curiosity gradually became a discipline of thought, leading him to approach watchmaking not simply as a craft, but as a field of inquiry.

This mindset would define the course of his career. Rather than accepting traditional solutions as fixed, he developed the habit of questioning them, studying their strengths and limitations, and searching for more coherent mechanical answers.

In this approach, chronometry became more than a goal; it became the framework through which every construction, every technical choice, and every innovation had to justify itself.

For Bernhard Lederer, precision has never been reduced to performance alone. It begins with understanding. It requires respect for history, but also the independence to look beyond it. This is where his singular path begins: with the conviction that true watchmaking advances not by repetition, but by deeper insight.

**BERNHARD LEDERER  
KEY MILESTONES**

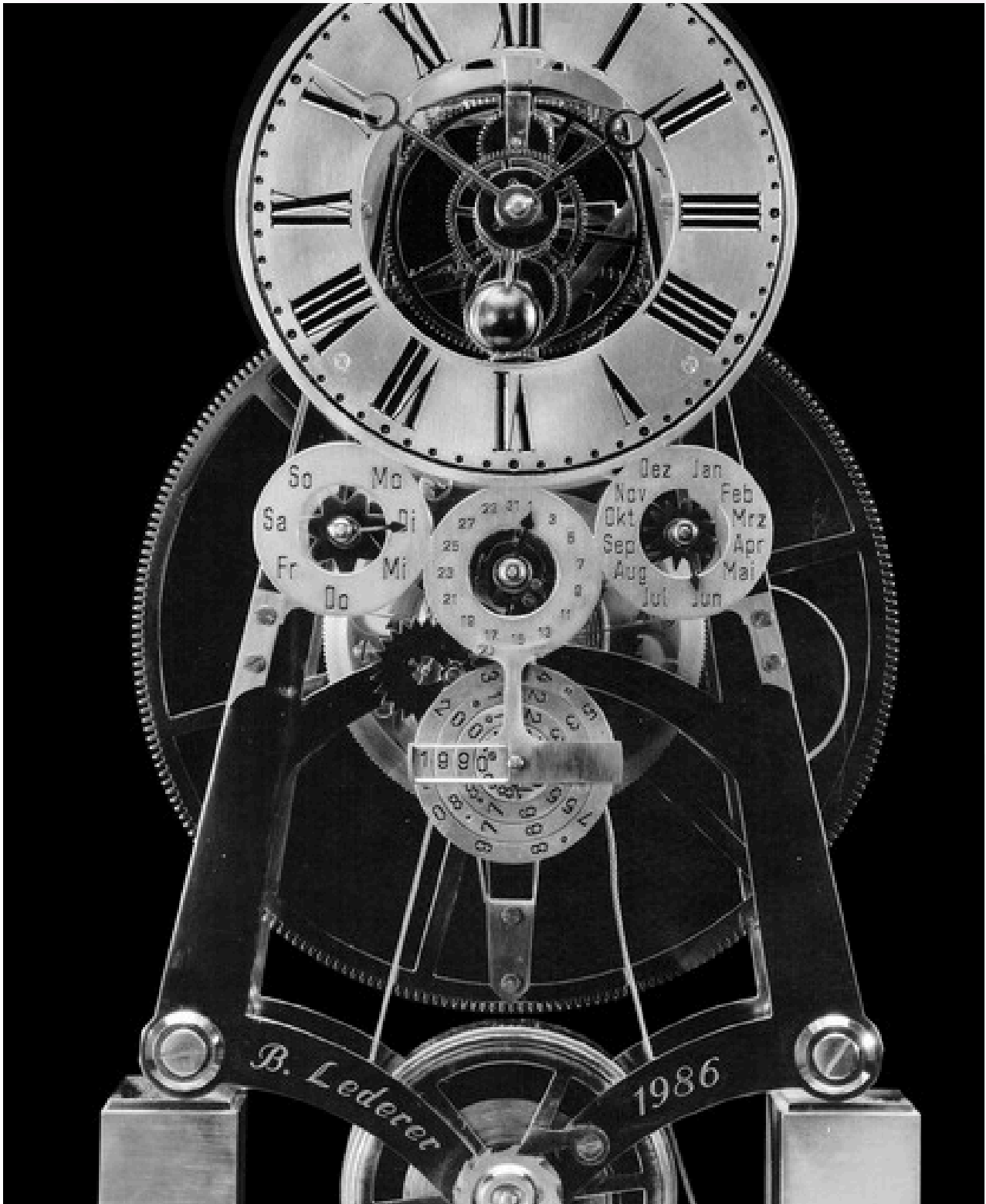
## MILESTONES IN RESEARCH AND PRECISION

Over more than four decades, Bernhard Lederer has built a body of work defined by technical exploration, independent thinking, and a lasting commitment to chronometry. From early experimental constructions to his most accomplished contemporary watches, each milestone reflects the same ambition: to advance mechanical timekeeping with rigor, clarity, and purpose.

### KEY MILESTONES:

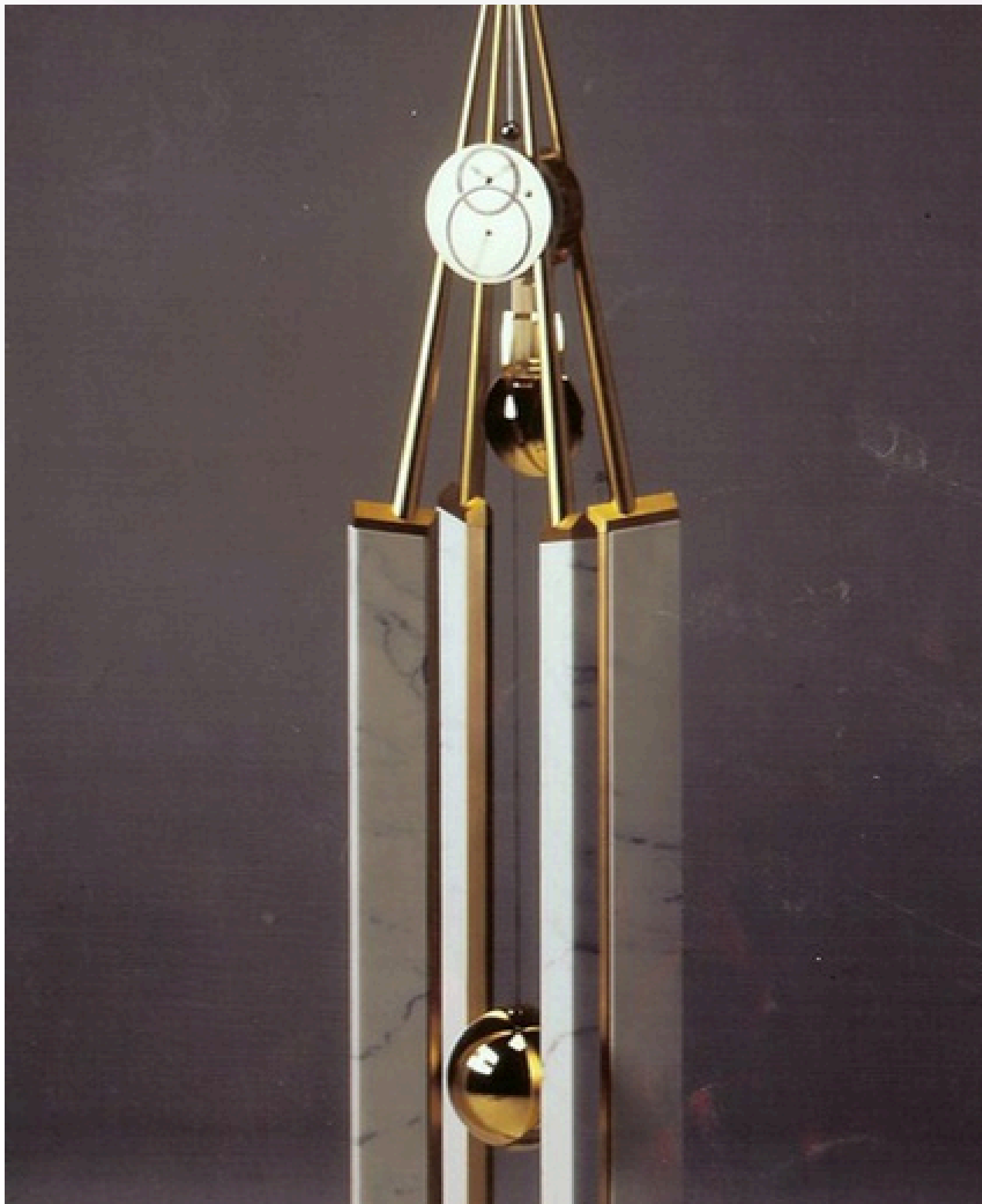
- Mastering magnetic resistance in pursuit of greater reliability
- Reimagining the escapement for the modern wristwatch
- Improving the consistency of force through remontoirs d'égalité
- Revisiting the tourbillon with a spirit of refinement and progress
- Developing original escapement architectures
- Continuing the great historical inquiry into chronometry
- Confirming performance through independent certification
- Transmitting advanced watchmaking knowledge within his own manufacture

Each milestone marks a step in a lifelong search for greater mechanical truth.



## 1986 DIPLOMA MASTERPIECE

Created as his diploma masterpiece, this table clock already revealed Bernhard Lederer's fascination with precision and long-term mechanical thinking. It combined a gravity escapement with a complete millennial calendar, including a moon-phase indication requiring correction only after 800 years. More than an academic achievement, it marked the beginning of a career shaped by technical depth and horological ambition.



## 1990 GRAVITY ESCAPEMENT

With the Gravity Escapement, Bernhard Lederer revisited a historical principle first developed by Charles Bond and brought it into a contemporary, fully functional construction. The project reflects his early determination to explore unresolved horological ideas rather than simply repeat established solutions. It confirmed a direction that would define his career: giving new life to forgotten mechanical concepts through research, experimentation, and precision engineering.



## 1991 TROJKA

A self-supporting horological sculpture that challenged traditional codes of display and construction. Hours and minutes were shown through a bold, unconventional architecture that made the piece both experimental and highly distinctive. More than a design statement, it expresses his ability to unite mechanical rigor with a strong spirit of invention.



## 1996 TIME DIMENSION

A radically different way of displaying time through orbital discs developed in collaboration with Zeiss. The watch stood out for its bold visual language and its alignment with unconventional design codes. Awarded German Watch of the Year, it confirms his ability to combine technical originality with a strong and unmistakable identity.



## 2006 MAJESTY TOURBILLON

The MT3 Majesty Tourbillon was the first watch entirely developed and produced in-house around a movement of Bernhard Lederer's own conception. Bringing together three tourbillons in a highly ambitious construction, it demonstrates both technical mastery and bold creative vision. More than a spectacular achievement, it marked a decisive moment in his career: the full expression of his independent mechanical language.



## 2011 50 YEARS OF GAGARIN'S SPACE TRIP

Created as a tribute to the first human spaceflight, this remarkable watch reimagined the tourbillon as an orbiting satellite around the dial. Completing its path in 108 minutes, it echoed the exact duration of Yuri Gagarin's historic journey around the Earth. The piece captures Bernhard Lederer's ability to unite mechanical invention with narrative imagination in a singular and memorable way.



## 2016 100,000 GAUSS PARAMAGNETIC

Developed for the German Navy, this watch was conceived to maintain precision in extreme magnetic environments. Resistant to magnetic fields of up to 100,000 Gauss, it showed Bernhard Lederer's ability to apply chronometric research to real operational demands. It shows that technical rigor, in his work, is never theoretical alone.



## 2021 CENTRAL IMPULSE CHRONOMETER

With the Central Impulse Chronometer, Bernhard Lederer brought years of research into direct impulse escapements and constant force to a remarkable point of maturity. Combining a central direct impulse escapement with two remontoirs d'égalité, the watch embodied both historical depth and contemporary invention. Awarded the GPHG Innovation Prize, it stands as one of the clearest expressions of his lifelong pursuit of chronometric progress.



## 2024 3X CERTIFIED OBSERVATORY CHRONOMETER

This watch marked a rare and powerful return to chronometry proven through independent observation and certification. Certified by three observatories and awarded the GPHG Chronometry Prize, it reflects Bernhard Lederer's belief that performance must be demonstrated, not simply claimed. It brings his philosophy to its purest expression: precision grounded in rigor, measurement and mechanical truth.

EXTENDING HOROLOGICAL MASTERY  
RATHER THAN REPEATING HISTORY

## HISTORY AS A STARTING POINT



## NOT A LEGACY TO REPEAT BUT A FOUNDATION TO CARRY FURTHER.

Bernhard Lederer's work belongs to a lineage of watchmakers who approached timekeeping first as a scientific challenge and only then as an object. From Harrison to Breguet and later George Daniels, chronometry has advanced through the search for more faithful transmission of energy and more stable precision.

Bernhard Lederer continues that inquiry with contemporary means. His work does not recreate the past; it extends it by addressing the questions history left unresolved.

## EXTENDING RESEARCH RATHER THAN REPEATING HISTORY



### A LEGACY OF PRECISION

The great principles of horology remain a foundation, but never a final answer. Bernhard Lederer approaches them as living ideas, to be studied, challenged and reinterpreted through the demands of modern chronometry. In his work, tradition becomes a point of departure for further mechanical refinement.

## EXTENDING RESEARCH RATHER THAN REPEATING HISTORY



### RETHINKING THE MECHANICS

Some of the most important advances in watchmaking come not from abandoning traditional principles, but from understanding them more deeply. By rethinking the remontoire d'égalité and its behavior in real conditions, Bernhard Lederer continues a long horological conversation, one in which innovation emerges through rigor, not imitation.

## FROM REFLECTION TO REALISATION

What sets Bernhard Lederer apart is his ability to turn reflection into reality. In his work, ideas do not remain theoretical: they must take shape in a movement, prove their coherence in construction, and demonstrate their value through performance.

This demanding process defines his contribution to contemporary horology. It is through this continuity, from historical insight to mechanical proof, that Bernhard Lederer has built a body of work of rare depth, integrity, and lasting relevance.

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