

*Angular Momentum
of Switzerland*



BRONZE

The New Gold

A Tribute to the Golden Age of Swiss Watchmaking

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Hand-crafted, the Charm of Unique Imperfections

Another hallmark of the 1960s–70s watchmaking was the high degree of handcrafting involved. Unlike the automated, CNC-driven processes of today, most steps in manufacturing and assembly then were done by hand or on analog machines guided by human touch.

This imparted a certain soul to the final product – along with tiny quirks and variations that modern mass production tends to eliminate.

Collectors often remark that no two vintage watches are exactly alike. This isn't an exaggeration: the combination of artisanal production and decades of aging means each piece develops its own personality. Even the cases, which were polished and finished by hand, could have subtle differences in edge beveling or lug profile from one watch to the next. These "imperfections" are part of the intentional charm – they speak to a human touch in the creation process.

Modern watch manufacturing emphasizes absolute consistency and tight tolerances, which is excellent for technical performance, but often that perfection can feel somehow sterile. By contrast, the vintage pieces have what is called inspired imperfection.

The slight variance in a printed dial logo or a hairline difference in case shape gives the item character. As one recent article noted, the patina that develops on an old watch adds unique character to each piece, making no two vintage watches exactly alike and these subtle flaws or changes over time give the watch a distinctive charm that modern pieces lack.

Picking up a 1960s Swiss watch, you sense it was built by hand – the crisp graining on a dial, the clean but not overly sterile look of the movement plates, the way the crown feels when winding. There's often a warmth and nostalgia imbued in these details.

Crucially, these handcrafted elements did not come at the expense of quality – on the contrary, quality control in the 60s was extremely rigorous for top brands. The watches were built to last as evidenced by so many still keeping excellent time 50+ years later, but they were not built to be identical clones. This is incredibly appealing. Each vintage watch tells its own story through its unique aging and tiny characteristics.

The emphasis back then was on individual craftsmanship rather than industrial perfection. In an age where most products are clones, a vintage timepiece stands out as a one-of-a-kind artifact, bearing the subtle signatures of the artisans who made it.

Angular Momentum's "AERIS" Bronze Collection

The "AERIS" (Bronze) Collection is a tribute to the Golden Age of Swiss watchmaking. All components, watch cases, backs and dials are - as in the 1960s–70s - completely made by Hand and hand-operated traditional machines in my Atelier.

The movement used is a robust and reliable historical hand-winding movement, Caliber FHF 96 with a 48 hour power reserve, manufactured in the 1960s by the most influential and oldest Ébauche manufacture "Fabrique d'Horlogerie Fontainemelon" founded in 1793.









The Making of a Bronze Dress Watch

The contours are milled by an Alexander Pantograph built in 1960s

The shape is turned on a Schäublin 102 Lathe built in the 1980s

Finissage and Polissage is completely done by hand

The dial is milled on the Pantograph and polished by Hand











