



JAEGER-LECOULTRE ANNOUNCES A NEW ARTISTIC COLLABORATION WITH LETTERING ARTIST ALEX TROCHUT

Continually expanding its creative and cultural universe, Jaeger-LeCoultre announces a new collaboration with the renowned lettering artist, Alex Trochut, as the latest instalment in its 'Made of Makers' programme.

Through 'Made of Makers' – a series of collaborations with artists, designers and craftsmen from disciplines outside watchmaking – Jaeger-LeCoultre is exploring and extending the dialogue that exists between horology and art. Honouring the core principles that define the Manufacture, La Grande Maison is choosing partnerships with leading creators who share its fundamental values of creativity, expertise and precision. The collaborations focus on international creators whose work explores new forms of expression through different and often unexpected materials and media.

A native of Barcelona and based in New York for the past decade, Alex Trochut has become celebrated for his experimental approach to typography. Like the artisans who construct watch movements and those who decorate the dials and cases, Alex creates emotionally resonant work that combines deep complexity with apparent simplicity. He harnesses the visual potential of language, pushing letters and words to new limits so that seeing and reading become the same action; text and image become a single, unified expression.

For Jaeger-LeCoultre, Alex has created a meaningful representation of La Grande Maison's values through a new and boldly contemporary alphabet style, the *1931 Alphabet*. As a stylistic springboard, he turned to Art Deco – a style that remains very evident to this day in the visual landscape of his adopted home, New York, and one of great importance to Jaeger-LeCoultre as the origin of the Reverso. More than simply a style, Art Deco expressed the extraordinary spirit of modernity that swept the world in the 1920s and '30s – progressive, optimistic and forward thinking, with a fascination for technology, and tremendous creative energy – values that will always remain relevant for the Manufacture.

"We are delighted to work with Alex Trochut," says Catherine Rénier, Chief Executive Officer of Jaeger-LeCoultre. "His creative work is avant-garde and like our Maison, he uses his heritage as a foundation, harnessing that legacy in order to express the present and future in new creative ways."



The new *1931 Alphabet* that Alex has created for Jaeger-LeCoultre is a strongly modern addition to the Maison's visual identity. In a sharp and contemporary take on Art Deco, each letter has a boldly sculptural quality and strong sense of visual depth, while also conveying a sense of dynamism and movement. It is equally expressive in both two-dimensional form and as three-dimensional objects.

“As I started creating the designs, a concept emerged that would unify Art Deco and Jaeger-LeCoultre's craft of watchmaking,” says Alex. “The letters evoked some sort of mechanism, full of different modular parts that work together to create a whole. I wanted these letters to feel physical and expose their intricate parts equally as functional and decorative, giving the sense of a moving machine.

Alex sees a natural affinity between his work and that of Jaeger-LeCoultre's watchmakers and artistic craftsmen: “I think craft and technical skills are at the heart of both typography and watchmaking,” he says. “Letters are a mix of emotional and rational decisions, with a big internal logic that ties all the decisions into one alphabet or lettering form, like a puzzle. While I consider watchmaking to be another level of complexity, both disciplines embody a devotion to the little things, which need to work in harmony inside a system.”

Immediately engaging on both a visual and emotional level, Alex's work has redefined traditional ideas of what typography can be. “Letter design is the non-verbal communication of the written medium,” he says. He attributes his special connection with typography to his grandfather Joan Trochut, who invented a revolutionary modular typographic and ornament system in the 1940s and is recognised as a major contributor to the history of typography.

Destined to become an additional signature of La Grande Maison, the *1931 Alphabet* will be offered as a new style of personalisation for engraving on a Reverso case-back and will be seen in a wide variety of other initiatives in the future.

About Alex Trochut

Spanish typographer, illustrator and artist Alex Trochut has become internationally celebrated for his experimental approach to typography. Drawing inspiration from past and present pop culture, street culture, fashion and music, he focuses on the potential of language as a visual medium, pushing words to their limits so that text and image become one unified expression. Published in 2011, his monograph, *More Is More*, explores his working methodologies and influences. Born in Barcelona, Alex studied graphic design at Elisava (Barcelona School of Design & Engineering) and worked in Berlin for two years before returning to Barcelona. Working independently since 2007, his clients have ranged from major consumer brands to The Rolling Stones and Katy Perry. Alex has lived and worked in New York since 2012.



About Made of Makers

Inaugurated in 2022, the Made of Makers programme brings together a community of artists, designers and craftsmen from a variety of disciplines outside watchmaking. Expanding the dialogue that exists between horology and art, the programme is founded on the core principles that have always defined La Grande Maison: creativity, expertise and precision. It focuses on international artists who share the Maison's values and whose work explores new forms of expression through different and often unexpected materials and media. Each year, new works commissioned through the programme animate the exhibitions that Jaeger-LeCoultre stages around the world, amplifying the chosen theme and creating new opportunities for audiences to engage and to become part of the wider conversation about art, craft and design.

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