



HIGH-FLYING MACHINE

Girard-Perregaux and Aston Martin launch their collaboration with a luxury, cutting-edge timepiece that honours each brand's heritage and aesthetic

WORDS Charlotte McManus

Following the exciting news earlier this spring that Girard-Perregaux had been appointed as the official new watch partner of Aston Martin, the time has come for the collaboration's inaugural limited-edition watch design to be revealed. The Tourbillon with Three Flying Bridges — Aston Martin Edition offers an elegantly contemporary revision of the Swiss watchmaker's historic Three Bridges pocket watch, first crafted in the 19th century.

The perfect fusion of each brand's signature design aesthetic, refined craftsmanship and savoir-faire, the haute horlogerie timepiece balances dark sophistication with fine-tuned precision. The strap, for example, inspired by Aston Martin's racing cars of years past, is a world first. It combines black calf leather with an original Girard-Perregaux Rubber Alloy,



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a rubber insert injected with white gold. Other luxury touches include the white-gold micro-rotor and polished sapphire crystal panes that give the movement the appearance of floating, or “flying”, as the name suggests. As well as showing sight of movement components typically obscured in horological design, this approach also neatly sidesteps the need for a conventional mainplate.

The renowned Girard-Perregaux signature three bridges motif decorates the dial, executed in titanium with polished angles and a black PVD finish, while the 44mm Grade 5 titanium case is a nod to Aston Martin’s design — the marque’s team often uses the hypoallergenic alloy for its strong yet lightweight properties. The Aston Martin name, engraved on the vertical flank of the micro-rotor, glows blue in dim light due to its luminescent treatment, which also details the hands and indexes. Impressively advanced yet distinctly stylish, it’s a remarkable progression of a design so highly regarded in watchmaking history.

“We entrusted the Aston Martin team with arguably our most iconic timepiece — rarely do we work with others to interpret the Three Bridges,” says Patrick Pruniaux, Girard-Perregaux’s CEO. “However, on this occasion, mindful of Aston Martin’s prowess for design, we have made an exception. The result is a fresh perspective on haute horlogerie.”

Those hoping to obtain a Tourbillon with Three Flying Bridges — Aston Martin Edition will have to be quick off the mark, as, in the spirit of creating a highly covetable collector’s item, only 18 have been crafted. The watches are available to purchase worldwide at authorised Girard-Perregaux boutiques.

And just what can watch aficionados expect from the future of this auspicious partnership? Only time will tell.

girard-perregaux.com

PREVIOUS PAGE:
the Tourbillon with Three Flying Bridges — Aston Martin Edition offers a fresh perspective on haute horlogerie.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:
the three bridges are formed from titanium and black PVD; both logos are synonymous with luxury; the timepiece perfectly balances each brand’s aesthetic and craftsmanship