

# A contemporary twist reinterpreting "Schönstes deutsches Handwerk" – to celebrate the 13-year anniversary of the manufactory Moritz Grossmann launches the hand-engraved TREMBLAGE

*A historic engraving technique is being given a new lease of life to mark the manufactory's anniversary on 11 November 2021. Finished using the eponymous tremblage engraving technique, the TREMBLAGE anniversary model elegantly combines vintage style with the finest mechanics. The timepiece is available in rose gold and stainless steel*

- Here you can see the TREMBLAGE in close-up in the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uje5mBZ9xqk>

- Images and Video for download:

<https://my.hidrive.com/share/285fsd3a-b>

An up-close look at an engraver's workbench is fascinating. To decorate metal, he uses a variety of different tools and burins. Cutting or carving motifs or patterns into metal surfaces requires an expert hand and the engraver makes it appear effortless.

Decorating surfaces by means of engraving is an ancient art that has been cultivated for several thousand years. It is a skill that was also practised by ancient civilisations. The traditional technique has been continuously refined over the centuries and also gave rise to the special form of tremblage.

Authors Paul Hanff and Robert Neubert refer to it as "Tambulieren" in their book "Anleitung zur Erlernung der Gravierkunst" (Instructions for learning the art of engraving) - a book that is more than one hundred years old. This term, along with "Tramblieren" and "Trambulieren", was also common in the past (cf. Anleitung zur Gravierkunst - Fachbibliothek des Edelmetallgewerbes - P. Hanff, R. Neubert; Leipzig, 1921).

According to Paul Hanff and Robert Neubert, the engraver had to set one corner of the burin into the metal and constantly move it "back and forth, from right to left, from one corner to the other". It was this movement that gave the technique its name - the French word "tremblant" simply means "to tremble". A modern art encyclopaedia describes tremblage as "letting the engraving tremble".

Depending on the movement, the tremblage stroke could be executed finely or coarsely, the historical booklet by Paul Haff and Robert Neubert tells us. But, the authors caution: "It takes a great deal of practice to be able to execute them uniformly."

For it is only uniformity that creates the desired look - **an impressive, rough and matt surface**, as can be admired on the dial of Moritz Grossmann's anniversary watch. Fashioned from German silver, the new model was finished by hand using a range of burins - entirely in keeping with a tradition that has been handed down from generation to generation.

### **Hand engraving in German silver: fascinating charm**

Material and surface form a fascinating liaison. German silver is an alloy of copper, nickel and zinc, among others, which is frequently used in historical watches and movements. Thanks to the surface treatment, this alloy produces a silver-like hue with an aesthetic vintage look. The three-dimensional appearance of the dial underscores the effect: The numerals of the hours and circular small seconds rise above the surface, as does the historic "M. Grossmann" logo from 1875, which goes back to Moritz Grossmann, the famous watchmaking pioneer who gave his name to the Glasshütte manufactory.

These are not mounted appliqués. On the contrary, the base of the dial has been cut out and removed so that the logo, numerals and seconds circle remain. A task that also requires meticulous care to create clean edges. The top of the numerals, logo and seconds circle were also given a flat polish finish.

Only then did the dial undergo the painstaking tremblage process in Glashütte, a method that takes numerous hours. A single dial can take an engraver several days to complete. The whole is complemented by the meticulous craftsmanship of the finishers.

The result is exquisite - a uniquely crafted work of art with an even, fine grain that softens the effect of incident light and lends a wonderfully matt appearance to the tremblage surface. The lavishly flat polished raised elements create a lustrous contrast.

### **Innovation in the tradition of Moritz Grossmann**

Such elaborate work - as well as the revival of the historic technique - is in keeping with Moritz Grossmann's philosophy. The manufactory has been attracting attention with its exquisite movements and sophisticated features ever since it was re-founded 13 years ago. The anniversary watch continues this trend and boasts a number of unique details. For example, handcrafted hands annealed to a brown-violet hue using traditional temperature treatment circle above the dial in the rose gold version and blued steel hands in the stainless steel model.

Christine Hutter, founder and CEO of the young manufacture, states: "The TREMBLAGE is yet another outstanding innovation in our BENU Heritage collection line. We have revived the historic engraving technique of tremblage in our anniversary model and are delighted to have an engraver with exceptionally long experience and an artistic sensibility to craft a unique work of art from each of our dials. Once again, we are following our brand mission statement of "Schönstes deutsches Handwerk", which makes each of our watches a rarity."

### **The finest mechanics from the manufactory**

The finest mechanics are at work beneath the dial. Turning the TREMBLAGE model over reveals the manually wound calibre 100.1 through the glass case back. Designed entirely in the spirit of the old master, this movement also reflects his dedication to innovation and progress. The calibre incorporates innovative new developments from the manufactory, such as a newly configured oscillator. Optimised for artisanal manufacturing techniques, the ingenious design of the Grossmann balance improves the adjustability of inertia and achieves high kinetic energy combined with minimised air resistance and the smallest possible mass.

The sophisticated design of the pillar movement, which, like the dial, is made of untreated German silver, is mesmerising, as is the elaborate hand finishing of all components. The German silver train bridge was endowed with a granular surface using an elaborate artisan process, resulting in a smooth finish. The all-round edges are bevelled by hand. Their polished surfaces lend them a certain, lustrous

appeal. Moritz Grossmann's signature is hand-engraved in a historic cursive script - a homage to the master's vintage pocket watches. The individual movement number is similarly engraved here in a cursive script. Both the balance and escape-wheel cock are also hand-engraved with a floral pattern. Traditional finishes have also been applied to other surfaces. The ratchet wheel, for example, boasts three-band snailing. White sapphires as bearings, held by gold chatons and fastened by brown-violet screws, contribute to the unique look of the watch.

### **Case in rose gold or stainless steel**

A 750/000 rose gold case, worn with a dark brown bracelet made of hand-stitched alligator leather, provides a fitting accompaniment for the elaborate manufactory movement of the anniversary model. The TREMBLAGE is also optionally available with a stainless steel case and a matching dark blue alligator strap.

### **The TREMBLAGE in the online boutique:**

The new model and the entire collection are now available in the new Moritz Grossmann Online Boutique.

<https://boutique.grossmann-uhren.com/product/tremblage/>

### **TREMBLAGE rose gold version**

Reference: MG-003290

Case: Rose gold

Dial: German silver, tremblage

Hands: Manually crafted, annealed to a brown-violet hue

### **TREMBLAGE stainless steel version**

Reference: MG-003327

Case: Stainless steel

Dial: German silver, tremblage

Hands: Manually crafted, annealed to a blue hue

### **Technical data TREMBLAGE**

Movement	Manufactory calibre 100.1, manual winding, regulated in five positions
No. of parts	198
Jewels	20 jewels, of which 3 in screwed gold chatons
Escapement	Lever escapement

Oscillator	Shock-resistant Grossmann balance with 4 inertia screws and 2 poising screws, Nivarox 1 balance spring with No. 80 Breguet terminal curve, Gustav Gerstenberger geometry
Balance	Diameter: 14.2 mm, frequency: 18,000 semi-oscillations/hour
Power reserve	42 hours when fully wound
Functions	Hours and minutes, subsidiary seconds with stop second, Grossmann manual winder with pusher
Operating elements	Crown in 750/000 gold/stainless steel to wind the watch and set the time, pusher in 750/000 gold/stainless steel to start the movement
Case dimensions	Diameter: 41.0 mm, height: 11.35 mm
Movement dimensions	Diameter: 36.4 mm, height: 5.0 mm
Case	Three-part, precious metal/stainless steel
Dial	German silver, tremblage
Hands	Manually crafted, steel, annealed to a brown-violet or blue hue
Crystal/display back	Sapphire crystal, anti-reflective coating on one side
Strap	Hand-stitched alligator leather with prong buckle in precious metal/stainless steel
Special features	Dial tremblage, Grossmann balance; hand setting override and start of movement with lateral pusher; space-saving modified Glashütte stopwork with backlash; adjustment with Grossmann micrometer screw on cantilevered balance cock; movement with 2/3 plate and pillars made of untreated German silver; 2/3 plate, balance cock and escape-wheel cock hand-engraved; grained train bridge; 3-band snailing on the ratchet wheel; raised gold chatons with pan-head screws; separately removable clutch winding mechanism; stop seconds for hand setting

**Moritz Grossmann Uhren:**

*Moritz Grossmann, born 1826 in Dresden, was regarded as a visionary among the great German horologists. In 1854, his friend Ferdinand Adolph Lange persuaded the young, highly talented watchmaker to establish his own mechanical workshop in Glashütte. Apart from building a respected watchmaking business, Grossmann was committed to political and social causes. He established the German School of Watchmaking in 1878. Moritz Grossmann passed away unexpectedly in 1885, after which his manufacture was liquidated.*

*The spirit of Moritz Grossmann's horological traditions sprang back to life in 2008 when trained watchmaker Christine Hutter discovered the venerable Glashütte brand and had it re-registered. She developed concepts and was inspired by the vision of reviving Grossmann's legacy more than*

*120 years later with a particularly exquisite wristwatch. And she convinced private watch enthusiasts to support her in making this dream come true. On 11 November 2008, she founded Grossmann Uhren GmbH in Glashütte. Today, Grossmann's watchmakers preserve traditions without copying historical pieces. With innovation, superb craftsmanship, a combination of traditional and contemporary manufacturing methods as well as precious materials, they are celebrating "Schönstes deutsches Handwerk" in their watches.*

Information, image and video material for download:

<https://my.hidrive.com/share/285fsd3a-b>

<https://my.hidrive.com/share/8p0kgeshxo>

Grossmann Uhren GmbH:

<https://en.grossmann-uhren.com/>

Grossmann Uhren Online Boutique:

<https://boutique.grossmann-uhren.com/>

For further information and high-resolution images, please contact:

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TREMBLAGE in Rose Gold





TREMBLAGE Rose Gold, Calibre 100.1





TREMBLAGE in Stainless Steel



TREMBLAGE Stainless Steel, calibre 100.1