

Romain Gauthier

THE EVOLUTION OF TRADITION

**C by Romain Gauthier  
Titanium Edition Six**

**A timepiece unveiling the aesthetic technique of a finely hand-decorated movement.**

For the final titanium 41mm, three-hands limited edition with rubber strap, Romain Gauthier presents a timepiece with a partially open dial, unveiling a portion of the entirely hand-decorated movement.

C by Romain Gauthier Titanium Editions are modern timepieces with a sporty design that encloses a titanium movement whose hand-finishing prowess can be admired on the case-back. This time Romain wanted the stunning features of this movement to be easily visible just by looking at the watch, even when worn. By opening the dial, he reveals the beauty of the mechanism inside, bringing a technical aesthetic to this timepiece, which until now has featured a full dial.

This partially open dial is particularly reminiscent of the history of the brand's very first timepiece, the Prestige HM, which evolved to reveal the seconds-hand mechanism on its sister caliber, the Prestige HMS.

Unveiled in 2021, the C by Romain Gauthier caliber was the result of more than 16 years of know-how acquired through the brand's development and its manufacture, while reflecting Romain's creative freedom with a modern and youthful design.

Technical in nature, casual in style and free in spirit, the Freedom collection has enabled the creation of this contemporary caliber. The significance of C by Romain Gauthier lies in its creative approach to reinforce the notions of continuity with its concept and design, in reference to the Continuum. Reflecting a vision of the future for a timepiece which is part of Romain Gauthier's philosophy, and which opens the door to new horizons.

During its creation, it was clear to Romain that the case had to harmonize with the movement. It had to be contemporary and uncluttered. But not only that – comfort, ergonomics and the choice of materials also contributed to the design of this timepiece with the decision to use Grade 5 titanium. The dial, in sapphire for this edition, adds to the consistency of the piece and evokes a sense of continuity, as no circle completes the time indication.

Inspired by the finger bridges style, the design of the movement follows the watchmaking history of the Vallée de Joux but with a modern approach, reflecting Romain's vision of the evolution of tradition.

Romain Gauthier presents the sixth edition of the caliber in titanium in a limited edition of 88-pieces and engraved "1 of 88" on the back of each movement.

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## C BY ROMAIN GAUTHIER TITANIUM EDITION SIX IN DETAIL

### A partially openwork dial

The C by Romain Gauthier Titanium Edition Six features a sapphire dial that is partially open to the seconds mechanism and escapement.

The seconds wheel is the main feature of this opening. In addition to its mechanical aspect, this wheel is an aesthetic symbol unique to the brand. Its shape and openings are typical of Romain Gauthier wheels - the decorative circling and polished angles attest the care devoted to the finishing of each component.

The partial opening of the dial also reveals the escapement assembly with the escapement wheel, balance and pallet fork. A decorative bridge on the lower part of the dial has been added - thanks to a special hand engraving technique, the specialists at Manufacture have reproduced the *boucharder* texture found inside the bridges on the movement.

By opening the dial at the front and leaving the movement visible at the back, Romain Gauthier highlights heart of this caliber. Thanks to the decoration of each component, this timepiece takes on a new visual dimension - contrasts and plays of light bring this Grade 5 titanium movement to life.

The dial of the C by Romain Gauthier, a symbol of modernity and continuity both in terms of architecture and design, features off-center hour-minute hands and slightly tapered hour markers of varying lengths. The 5-second intervals of the small seconds at 7 o'clock are also marked by tapering orange lines of differing lengths.

Romain explains this purposeful play on perspective, saying: *“Rather than a series of enclosed circles, as we often see in watchmaking, I wanted an open, airy dial on which full or part orthogonal lines form vanishing points with the axes of the hands, reinforcing the notion of continuity.”*

The tapering, three-dimensional hands and index are made from 18k white gold and filled with Super-LumiNova for enhanced legibility, as are the numerals and applied hour markers, each of which has been produced from a single piece of white gold and features bevelled edges to give a punchy presence.

### Eye-catching case and strap high on details

Framing the dial is a titanium bezel whose eye-catching, geometric profile is unlike anything previously seen on a Romain Gauthier timepiece. The bezel is first machined into a round shape featuring a circular bevel before six straight sides are cut into it to create 6 facets. While these facets, which have been polished, reflect the light and bring the bezel to life, the rest of the bezel absorbs light thanks to its satin-finishing. The same faceted design is replicated around the sapphire crystal on the back of the watch.

In between the bezel and caseback, the one-piece caseband and lugs are geometrically sculpted, with satin and polished finishes as well as aesthetic grooves cleverly deployed to draw out the resulting shapes. Meanwhile, the rubber strap with titanium pin buckle follows the form of the angular lugs and rounded caseband so it appears as a continuous, organic extension of the case.

And not for the first time in his work, Romain has placed the crown for winding and time-setting at 2 o'clock, freeing up space for wrist movement. A rubber ring around the crown makes it easier to manipulate, as well as adding a dash of colour to the timepiece.

### Clever stop-seconds mechanism that uses a snail cam

Romain has endowed C by Romain Gauthier with a stop-seconds – or hacking seconds – mechanism, allowing the wearer to set the time exactly according to a reference time.

Like many stop-seconds mechanisms, a brake is placed on C by Romain Gauthier's balance wheel when the crown is pulled out. But instead of using a straight or L-shaped balance stop lever to halt the balance, Romain has opted to employ a snail cam that performs a double function: It touches and stops the balance wheel when the crown is pulled out and, when the crown is pushed back in, the snail cam makes a turn, with its increasingly wide form giving the balance an impulse to help it start beating again.

Those familiar with the brand will know Romain has used the snail cam's unique shape in his past creations: It appears on the watchmaker's acclaimed Logical One.

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## **In-house movement where design and decoration meet modernity**

The themes of modernity and continuity carry over to the manual-winding, in-house movement, which is gloriously on show through the display back.

Taking centre stage are a number of finger bridges – historically typical of the Vallée de Joux, Romain's birthplace – but reinterpreted here in a contemporary way. For starters, these bridges are horizontally configured and feature a 'stepped' shape – previously seen on some of Logical One's bridges – that not only provides volume and depth, but also gives the sense that the bridges are literally flowing over the gears and balance wheel, with no clear end to them.

Like the case components, the bridges are made from lightweight, natural Grade 5 titanium and they boast contrasting tones and textures thanks to a variety of finishes. The outer edges of each bridge all feature a double bevel, while the flat bridge surfaces and rubies are each framed by a raised border that has been straight-grained. Within these borders, the hand-finishing specialists at Manufacture Romain Gauthier have used a special hand-engraving technique to create a highly original dimpled texture. The movement mainplate beneath has been hand-frosted.

The impressive decoration doesn't stop with the bridges and mainplate: Romain's trademark gears and ratchet wheel featuring circular, bevelled spokes have been circular-grained, while the click, snail cam and screws with S-slot heads – another signature of Romain – have been highly polished. Finally, the lid of the mainspring barrel has been embellished with a superb snailing decoration.

C by Romain Gauthier's regulator features the Romain Gauthier balance wheel with curved arms and calibrated eccentric weights, plus hand-assembled pallet lever that is triangular for maximum rigidity.

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## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

### Edition

88-piece limited edition in natural Grade 5 titanium, engraved “1 of 88” on the back of the movement

### Features and indications

Off-centred hours and minutes  
Small seconds at 7 o'clock  
Natural Grade 5 titanium case, dial, movement bridges and mainplate  
In-house movement featuring stop-seconds mechanism  
Sporty rubber strap

### Dial and hands

Sapphire dial  
Off-centred hours and minutes  
Small seconds at 7 o'clock with 5-second intervals marked by tapering orange lines.  
Super-LumiNova-filled 18k white gold hands and applied numerals and hour markers

### Movement and finishing

In-house, hand-wound movement  
Dimensions: 32.10 mm x 5.50 mm  
Power reserve: 60 hours  
Number of jewels: 24  
Number of components: 158  
Balance frequency: 28,800 vph / 4Hz  
Components made from: Titanium, steel, stainless steel and German silver  
Finishing: *Superlative* decoration by hand  
Treatment: Natural titanium bridges and rhodium-treated gears.

### Case

Material: Natural Grade 5 titanium  
Dimensions: 41mm x 9.55mm, lugs to lugs: 49.5 mm  
Water resistance: 50m/5atm/160ft  
Crown for winding and time-setting featuring coloured rubber ring, at 2 o'clock  
Watch supplied with a rubber crown ring in burgundy.  
Sapphire crystal with interior anti-reflection coating, front and display back

### Strap and buckle

Supplied with grey rubber strap with specially developed, satin-finished and polished natural Grade 5 titanium pin buckle.

**Total weight of the watch:** 55g, including rubber strap and pin buckle

**Retail price:** CHF 48,000 without taxes