



ARNOLD & SON

SINCE 1764

Instrument Collection

Métiers d'Art TB Dragon Limited Edition

**A consummate expression of
traditional craftsmanship at its finest**

The latest addition to the Arnold & Son Instrument Collection combines the marine precision of the true-beat (TB) movement with aesthetic perfection. Featuring one of the instantly recognizable design cues of the Instrument Collection, the off-centre positioning of the time display at 9 o'clock leaves a generous open area and creates a perfect setting for the exquisite engraved and hand-painted depiction of a dragon. To underline its exclusivity, this fabulous example of high-precision technology and aesthetic perfection is available in a limited edition of just twenty-eight pieces.



TB Dragon

Manufacture Arnold & Son A&S6103 calibre, self-winding,
black dial, 22-karat solid rose gold engraved appliqué with hand-painted textures and shades,
18-karat rose gold case, diameter 44 mm

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In Chinese mythology the dragon is a divine creature signifying power and good fortune, and is the free spirit of the zodiac. The model comprising the Métiers d'Art TB Dragon Limited Edition from Arnold & Son was created to celebrate this divine creature. The dominant feature of this fine-quality wristwatch is a hand-engraved appliqué of a dragon executed by Arnold & Son's master engraver, which is then duplicated for the series. Hand engraving is a traditional art form that makes use of hardened steel tools called burins and other special implements. They create cuts, lines and texturing that build up entire images or, as in the case of the TB Dragon, a perfectly sculpted figure of a dragon in solid 22-karat rose gold. The breathtaking richness of detail is then duplicated in rose gold for the rest of the series. Once the appliqué is in place on the dial, the dragon's textures and shades are emphasized by hand-painting, a process that accentuates its three-dimensional nature. Hand engraving and miniature painting both call for infinite patience and expertise and take many years of concentrated practice to fully master.



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With its pure, timeless design, the Instrument Collection takes its inspiration from the chronometers produced by John Arnold's son, John Roger, in the latter part of his career. "These were specially designed to withstand the rigours of life on the high seas," explains Philippe Boven of Arnold & Son, "and to deliver the true-beat, down-to-the-second precision needed by marine navigators to determine longitude. The true beat is a rare complication these days, and combining it with an automatic winding system calls for enormous technical expertise."



A&S6103

Manufacture Arnold & Son calibre, self-winding,
diameter 30.40 mm, thickness 7.79 mm
© Arnold & Son

In the A&S6103, this was made possible by a patented system comprising a sophisticated double wheel, an oscillating pinion and a pallet mechanism. A solution of this complexity calls for microscopic precision (to tolerances of a micron, or one thousandth of a millimetre), and the key components are made using state-of-the-art LIGA manufacturing technology. LIGA, a German acronym, stands for Lithographie, Galvanoformung, Abformung – lithography, electroplating and moulding – and describes the sequence of processes used to produce metal parts made of nickel and nickel-phosphorus.

The case houses the rhodium-treated A&S6103 movement with *Haute Horlogerie* finishing. All the plates and bridges in the movement are hand-chamfered and decorated – a further indication of the traditional craftsmanship upheld by Arnold & Son.

The TB Dragon special edition is limited to just twenty-eight timepieces.



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Main technical characteristics:

Calibre:	A&S6103
	Arnold & Son manufacture movement, self-winding, ceramic ball bearing, 30 jewels, diameter 30.40 mm, thickness 7.79 mm, power reserve 45 h, 28,800 vibrations/h, stop second device
Functions:	Hours, minutes, true beat seconds
Movement decoration:	Rhodium treated with <i>Haute Horlogerie</i> finishing: hand-chamfered bridges with polished edges, fine circular graining and <i>Côtes de Genève rayonnantes</i> , brushed and skeletonised oscillating weight, blued screws with bevelled and mirror-polished heads
Dial:	Black, 22-karat solid rose gold engraved appliqué with hand-painted textures and shades
Case:	18-karat rose gold, diameter 44 mm, cambered sapphire with anti-reflective coating on both sides, see-through sapphire case back, water-resistant to 30 m
Strap:	Hand-stitched black or brown alligator leather
Limited edition:	28 timepieces
Reference:	1ARAP.B04A.C120P/121P

For **high resolution images** please find here the link:
<http://www.arnoldandson.com/home/news-events/press-corner.aspx>

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact us:

ARNOLD & SON SA
Boulevard des Eplatures 38
2304 La Chaux-de-Fonds
Switzerland
info@arnoldandson.com
www.arnoldandson.com