



ZURICH 1956



SWISS MECHANICAL WATCHES

OW, A SWISS BRAND FOUNDED IN 1956 DEDICATED TO MECHANICAL TOOL WATCHES, WAS INHERITED BY A PASSIONATE.

While it only takes a single flick of the wrist to wind up an OW watch and animate it, it took more than 10 years to convince Albert Wajs to pass on his brand. Patience and perseverance are virtues shared and prized by Swiss watchmakers. Only a true passionate collector of the brand could muster enough of both to win the historical founder's trust.

Albert Wajs can rest assured that his brand will remain in good hands.

The transmission comes as the fulfilment of a long journey. Already a car enthusiast at the age of 6, and taking apart his Jaeger alarm clock at 12, our young collector discovered early the wonders of mechanics and motors. Mesmerized by what he found, he spent the next 40 years assembling a collection that reached 300 timepieces, including many OWs. While he values the tranquility of a watchmaker's workshop, our collector has also a taste for the splendid roar of a V8 or a V12, and many beautiful engines joined this second collection. At a time when driving was synonymous with freedom, he toured his favourite pieces to horology and classic car events, a practice that he has been carrying on for the past 30 years.



Philippe Guegan : Designer at OW

MODERN CLASSIC

Last November, OW issued a limited-edition model. Assembled by hand, using authentic cases from the brand's historical stock, these watches brought OW's finest hours back to life. They were fitted with brand new ETA 2824, but in accordance with original OW designs. This release was a nod to the brand's own history. In 1978, Albert Wajs bought Willy Breitling's Navitimer components and machinery, to adapt them to his own assembly line, an early demonstration of upcycling.

In the spring of 2019, a new line co-designed by Philippe Guegan and assembled in the Swiss Jura has come to life. This atypical engineer, sculptor and watchmaker has an expertise that ranges from aeronautical engineering to the minute scale of model-making and mechanical watches. From the largest to the smallest, Guegan has assembled, designed and re-imagined a wide range of mechanical objects to improve their workings with the perfect amount of innovation.



HISTORY

1956

Peter Twiss sets a new world record aboard the **Fairy Delta 2**, zooming through the sky like a shooting star, at the staggering speed of 1,000 mph.

1957

The very first Porsche 718 RSK Spyder rolls out of the Stuttgart factory.

1960

John Surtees steps down from his **MV Agusta** and becomes the Motorcycle World Champion. 4 years later, he will be crowned Formula One World Champion. He is the only man to ever hold those titles on two and four wheels.

1962: Diver watch 200M



1964: Caribbean 1000M



Zurich: Albert Wajs and his friend Joseph Ollech form a partnership to open a watch shop. At first, they distribute timepieces from Breitling and Omega, but they also decide to establish their own brand: OWZ (Ollech & Wajs Zürich) was off to a great start.

Zurich, 55 StockerStrasse: on the ground floor of a beautiful classical building, only a few minutes away from the famous Baur au Lac Hotel, the first OWZ models are assembled by hand to the pace of Swiss excellence.

Albert Wajs quickly realises that OWZ should specialize in the assembly of reliable and accurate mechanical watches. He favours movements with the most solid reputation on the market, from ETA, Dubois Dépraz, and Valjoux. He also sources robust stainless-steel cases from Maison Étienne. Desiring strictly functional and legible dials, he will obtain his supply from the Frères Lender du Locle, while the Tritium needles are picked from Universo, nested in La Chaux-de-Fonds.

OW's catalogue grows but remains dedicated to mechanical sports and tool watches:

-**Mechanical Chronographs** with two or three counters powered by Valjoux movements, such as the **V72** and the **V92**. As the perfect tool to register a new records, they became very popular among sports practitioners.

-**Diving watches**, hand wound or equipped with automatic ETA movements, were immediately adopted by professional divers, such as Global Marine main competitor of COMEX. **The Caribbean 1000** remains one of the most emblematic models of the line, as it broke the 1964 world record for a production watch, beating Rolex and Omega to the deep-sea, with a patented monobloc case warranted to be water-resistant up to a depth of 3,300 feet. The Caribbean was also adopted by Alberto Novelli and Cesare Olgjai, the two diving world record holders, as well as by Roberto Dei, on his North Pole and Red Sea expeditions in 1966 and in 1967.

-**Military watches** were quite popular among the U.S. Armed Forces. Entire battalions of GIs relied on robust models like the **Early Bird** or the **M65** on the battlefields of Vietnam, including several Airborne and Assault units, for which special editions were edited.

- Finally, **pilot watches** like the **Selectron** series, their slide-rule makes them indispensable calculators for civil and military pilots. While astronauts were supplied with Omega Speedmasters, the OW **Selectron** and the **Astrochron** were adopted by several NASA scientific staff and executives.



1970

Quartz watches from Asia make their appearance. They will dominate the market by 1980.

1969: Selectron



2000

Joseph Ollech passes away.

1995: Chrono Mirage V7750



OW's reputation for not compromising on the quality of its components bears fruit in a matter of years. While Albert Wajs orders Valjoux movements by the tens of thousands (with a preference for the V72, a famous component of early Rolex Daytona), the satisfaction of his customers shows in the hundreds of letters Ollech and Wajs receive from soldiers, divers and pilots around the world.

1965. OW is heavily promoted through articles and advertising in the U.S. by military and professional publications. Through a network of dealers, military exchanges, and direct mail sales, Ollech & Wajs delivers up to 10,000 pieces a year.

In the early 1970s, new OW models make their appearance: 3 counters Chronos, a new Caribbean, and more. An English TV-show, The Professionals, greatly contributes to the brand's fame by featuring stars Martin Shaw and Lewis Collins sporting the OW Caribbean 1000. Production drops to 2,000 units a year. Despite the competition from cheaper Asian watches, and the slow decline of his sales, Albert Wajs continues to dedicate himself to the production of mechanical watches. To this day, OW remains one of the rare Swiss brands that never made a quartz powered watch.

1978. As Breitling is shutting down its operations, OW (along with Helmut Sinn) buys up stocks and equipment from the famous pilot watches brand. Albert Wajs then resumes the Navitimer's production, under the brand name Aviation, for over two decades. Just imagine Bristol taking over the production of an Aston Martin DBS...

As a living tribute to the memory of his partner, Albert Wajs designs and produces a new line of OW sports watches. Picking only the best components, he equips his new diver watches, the M series, with an ETA 2824 movement. It is followed by a line of chronographs, including a limited edition based on the Valjoux 7733 which proved to be a great success, along with the reputable OW Mirage equipped with a Valjoux 7750.

2017. After a lifetime of work and a declining sight, and after ten years of exchanges and relationship building, Albert Wajs passes on the OW brand to a trusted dedicated collector who shares the same values and long-term vision for the brand.

OUR MOVEMENTS

Joseph Ollech and Albert Wajs chose early on to use specially commissioned fine mechanical movements from ETA and Valjoux. This tradition lives on through our newly modified ETA 2824 movement.

After an initial quality control to ensure its accuracy, it is meticulously taken apart and its main plate is engraved with the OW logo. But most of all, this allows the addition of a new and exclusive rotor, machined and decorated in the Swiss Jura.

Each movement is then carefully adjusted to 3 or 5 positions, twice, to meet the standards of finest Swiss watchmaking.



THE PILOT WATCH HAS FINALLY TAKEN SHAPE



After multiple blueprints, tests and prototypes. Its robust 39.56 mm stainless steel case is stamped, machined and satin brushed in the Swiss Jura by expert hands.

Its screw-on crown and case-back guarantee water-resistance to 300M, and its sapphire crystal and ceramic bezel insert are scratch-proof.

It's the OW case.





OW P-101

Its name is a direct homage to the MC Donnell F-101, the very first fighter jet in service capable of exceeding 1,000 mph, setting a world-record in 1956. Inspired by military style watches, its design is both uncluttered and perfectly functional, paying tribute to the thousands of soldiers and officers who favoured an OW as a reliable tool for survival during their time in Vietnam. Resolutely faithful to the classical principles of the early OW models, it is crafted with well-balanced proportions, pronounced lugs, an extra size crown and semi-domed glass.

For its beating heart, we have chosen a robust mechanical movement, the ETA 2824-2 OW3, carefully regulated by hand and designed to withstand the test of time and passing fads. Handcrafted and assembled in the Swiss Jura, like all OW watches, it lives up to a tradition of authenticity. Water-resistant to a depth of 300M, it is equipped with a sapphire crystal, and Super-LumiNova® hands and indexes. Guaranteed 3 years against any manufacturing defect.

REFERENCE : OW P-101

YEAR : 2019

DIMENSIONS : 39.56 mm X 15 mm

CASE : brushed 316L stainless steel, screwed back, screw-down crown, rotating bezel 12H

GLASS : sapphire with anti-glare treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 300M/ 30ATM

MOVEMENT : automatic ETA 2824-2 OW3P, hours minutes seconds date

SWISSNESS : over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : natural leather and linen, origin Great Britain

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect



OW P-104

Inspired by the Lockheed F-104 Starfighter, the P-104 is a worthy heir to the Selectron line of aviator watches produced by Ollech & Wajs. Designed to help both military and commercial pilots in a pre-electronic era, its unobtrusive and sober circular slide rule enables them to measure speed and distances to calculate flight time or fuel consumption.

Based on a cockpit's control panels for maximum readability it associates oversized indexes with a stylish black and white minute hand. Regulated by hand in our factory, its robust ETA 2824-2 OW3 mechanical movement makes the P-104 an ideal navigation tool for high-flying pilots and mavericks alike. Like all OW watches, it is handcrafted and assembled in the Swiss Jura and lives up to its high standard.

Water-resistant to a depth of 300M, it is equipped with a sapphire crystal and Super-LumiNova® hands and indexes. It is guaranteed 3 years against any manufacturing defect.

REFERENCE : OW P-104

YEAR : 2019

DIMENSIONS : 39.56 mm X 15 mm

CASE : brushed 316L stainless steel, screwed back, screw-down crown, bezel with circular slide rule

GLASS : curved sapphire with anti-glare treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 300M/ 30ATM

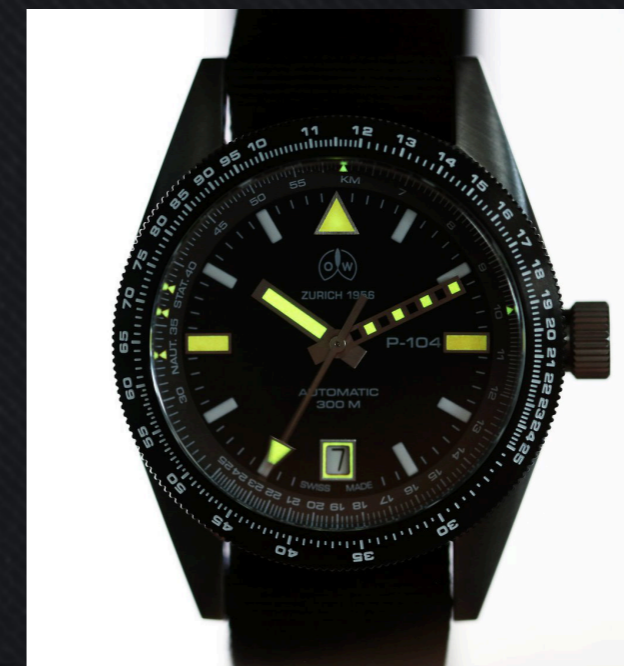
MOVEMENT : automatic ETA 2824-2 OW3P, hours minutes seconds date

SWISSNESS : over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : NATO extra strong nylon and leather, origin Great Britain

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect



OW C-1000



The OW C-1000 is the product of modern Swiss watchmaking. It is powered by the robust modified ETA 2824-2 OW5, which is equipped with an Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956 engraved main plate and OW machined rotor. The movement is housed in a 39.56mm, 316L stainless-steel, and 1000m water resistant case, which is stamped, machined, and brushed in Jura, Switzerland. The OW C-1000 is also equipped with a reinforced back case, an extra strong domed sapphire crystal and a special triple gaskets screw down crown. The watch has a stainless-steel rotating bezel with a ceramic insert to measure dive times, and Super-LumiNova® covered indexes and hands for extra readability when diving at great depths. The first 56 OW C-1000 will be numbered on the crown and delivered in the order of registrations to our waiting list.

REFERENCE : OW C-1000

YEAR : 2019

DIMENSIONS : 39.56 mm X 15.15 mm

CASE : brushed 316L stainless steel, reinforced screwed back, special triple gasket screw-down crown, unidirectional 60 min rotating bezel, manufactured in Jura, Switzerland.

GLASS : domed sapphire with anti-glare treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 1000m/ 100ATM

MOVEMENT : automatic ETA 2824-2 OW5P, 25 Jewels. 28,800 bph, with a power reserve of +/- 38 h. Mainplate engraved Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956, and OW machined rotor.

SWISSNESS : over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : 20mm wide, RAF nylon strap, origin Great Britain

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect



OW OCEAN GRAPH

The OW Ocean Graph is a tribute to the 1968 Ollech & Wajs Ocean-Graph and all the dive watches that formed the highly respected 'Precision' line. These watches were equipped with decompression bezels, an essential instrument for the safety of any diver venturing into deep water.

The OW Oceangraph is the product of modern Swiss watchmaking. It is powered by the robust ETA 2824-2 OW5, adjusted in five positions. The movement is modified with an engraved main plate Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956, and an OW rotor, machined with our care. The movement is housed in a 39.56 mm diameter 316L stainless steel case, stamped, machined and brushed in the Swiss Jura. The OW Ocean Graph is a compact diving watch, with a water resistance of 1000 meters, which is tested under a pressure of 120 atm. Its water tightness is ensured by a reinforced case back, a double-thickness case, a 5.6 mm thick, extra-strong, domed sapphire crystal, and a special screw-down crown with four gaskets. It is equipped with a decompression bezel allowing divers to calculate decompression times. Its indexes and hands are oversized and covered with orange Super-LumiNova®, for increased readability in low visibility conditions.

REFERENCE : OW OCEAN GRAPH

YEAR : 2020

DIMENSIONS : 39.56 mm X 15.8 mm

CASE : brushed 316L stainless steel, reinforced screwed back, special triple gasket screw-down crown, unidirectional Decompression bezel, manufactured in Jura, Switzerland.

GLASS : domed sapphire with anti-glare treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 1000m/ 100ATM

MOVEMENT : automatic ETA 2824-2 OW5P, 25 Jewels. 28,800 bph, with a power reserve of +/- 38 h. Mainplate engraved Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956, and OW machined rotor.

ORIGIN: over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : 20mm wide, Perlon nylon strap, origin Great Britain

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect





OW Navichron

Named after a long line of OW specialty chronographs, our new Navichron is well suited to the conditions facing professionals and sportsmen around the world. A Valjoux 7753 based two-counter chronograph with a 12-hour sliding bezel, enabling travelers to determine time across different zones. But it is also a professional diving watch, its specially reinforced case, extra-thick sapphire glass, and unique 4 gasket pushers capable of withstanding over 50 atm of pressure, as well as markings for diving times on its bezel. Its baton style markers and hands feature Super-LumiNova®, to ensure maximum visibility in all conditions.

The Navichron's movement pursues a long tradition of Valjoux chronographs, with historical references such as the V72, V92, V7730, V7733, and V7750. OW has devised its own PRECISION quality rating, which we start with a Valjoux 7753 with top quality "perlé" finish, which we then dismantle, after which we engrave the mainplate with our brand, before removing the hours counter. We then reassemble it, regulate it, and then test its precision in 5 positions, as well as its duration.

REFERENCE : OW Navichron

YEAR : 2020

DIMENSIONS : 39,56 mm X 168 mm

CASE: brushed 316L stainless steel, reinforced screwed back, special triple gasket screw-down crown, unidirectional 12h rotating bezel, manufactured in Jura, Switzerland.

GLASS : domed sapphire with anti-glare treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 500m/ 50ATM

MOVEMENT : modified automatic Valjoux 7753 OW PRECISION 5 position adjusted, 27 Jewels. 28,800 bph, with a power reserve of +/- 54 h. Mainplate engraved Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956, and OW machined rotor

SWISSNESS : over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : 20mm wide, natural leather and linen, origin Italy

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect



OW 350-CI

The name and design of the OW 350CI refer to the Condor 350 motorcycle and its inverted controls ("commandes inversées"). Its khaki dial has yellow indexes to respect military color codes. It features a 300m waterproof case to 300 m, a 12h rotating bezel in stainless steel, and a 2824-2 ETA movement adjusted in 5 positions. The OW 350CI is a tool watch that can be worn in any condition. It can be put on the left wrist to avoid damaging its oversized crown during a dive, a mission, or when practicing motorsports.

The OW 350CI is the result of our collaboration with the Atelier Zevaco, a vintage motorcycle restoration workshop based in Zürich. Of both Swiss and military heritage, the Condor 350 is an iconic motorcycle for military servicemen in Switzerland in the 1970s and 80s.

REFERENCE : OW 350CI

YEAR : 2021

DIMENSIONS: 39,56 mm X 12,5 mm

CASE: brushed 316L stainless steel, screwed bottom, screwed crown, rotating steel bezel 12h. Made in the Swiss Jura.

GLASS : sapphire with anti-reflective treatment

DIAL : hands and indexes in Super-LumiNova®

WATER RESISTANCE : 300m/ 30ATM

MOVEMENT : automatic ETA 2824-2 OW5P, 25 Jewels. 28,800 bph, with a power reserve of +/- 38 h. Mainplate engraved Ollech & Wajs Zurich 1956, and OW machined rotor.

ORIGIN: over 90% Swiss Made

BRACELET : 20mm wide, leather and natural linen, Italian origin

PACKAGING : leather origin Great Britain, Italian Kraft paper

WARRANTY : 3 years against any manufacturing defect





ZURICH 1956



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