



FAST TIMES

Now known for radical timekeepers made in collaboration with the experimental brand Maximilian Büsser & Friends, veteran clockmaker L'Epée 1839 enters its 180th year with a dream objet d'art to satisfy both the motoring enthusiast and the horophile. For this watch-loving scribe, who was once a model-car collector and is still in touch with his inner 14-year-old, the Time Fast D8 is a heart-stopper. You just want to clear your desk, nightstand or mantelpiece to give it pride of place.

Created by designer Georg Foster in collaboration with the revered ECAL (Ecole cantonale d'art de Lausanne) and L'Epée, this fully functioning mechanical clock recalls 1950s Grand Prix cars. One can imagine motoring aficionados debating whether it's a Cooper, a Ferrari, a Maserati, a BRM or another racer of the era; my money's on Lancia.

This is a toy – as well as an exceptional timepiece – that begs to be played with. All the design details are period-perfect, with a protruding nose,

prominent grille, large spoked wheels and 'pre-mid-engine-revolution' driving-seat position. This stunning form is wrapped around a clock (or 'motor') with a running time, when fully wound, of eight days. Its display of hours and minutes is positioned like a car's race number, on the side of the body. Ingeniously, the clock is wound like a pull-back car. Start your engines: the entertainment value of this – not to mention the aesthetic enjoyment – is limitless. *From £22,000, lepee1839.ch*