

# BOVET

1822

## RÉCITAL 26 BRAINSTORM® CHAPTER ONE

Sapphire «writing slope» case, flying tourbillon,  
three-dimensional moon phase, big date,  
10 days' power reserve

PRESS RELEASE



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In 2016, BOVET 1822 unveiled the Shooting Star tourbillon, the first timepiece in an exclusive collection dedicated to astronomy. The Astérium and Grand Récital tourbillons then followed in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Each of the three timepieces boasted groundbreaking technical specificities and explored new ways of measuring time, and each was also housed in a characteristic inclined case, inspired by and shaped like a sloped writing desk. Designed by BOVET 1822 Owner, Mr. Raffy, the "writing slope" case features a bezel inclined at 6 o'clock. This ingenious idea makes it possible to diversify and organize the types of displays by using domes, rollers, discs, and three-dimensional hands to enhance intuitiveness, ergonomics, and elegance. The three-dimensional design prioritizes information for improved readability and brings the collector's eye to the heart of the movement to discover the excellence found in each detail.

As seen by the numerous awards bestowed on the trilogy's timepieces, notably including the Aiguille d'Or Grand Prix which honored Grand Récital at the Grand Prix d'Horlogerie de Genève in 2018, collectors and experts commend the stylistic revolution of the "writing slope" case. Mr. Raffy's inspired "writing slope" case design meets and once again exceeds collectors' expectations in the Maison's latest timepiece, the Récital 23, by simultaneously introducing four complications developed specifically to be housed within the "writing slope" case.

Unveiled at SIHH 2019, the Récital 26 Brainstorm® Chapter One presents a host of innovations and gives a glimpse of the scope of the unprecedented possibilities for interpreting timekeeping offered by the «writing slope» case. For this first Brainstorm® chapter, Mr. Raffy wanted a sapphire model. Chosen for its crystalline transparency, sapphire is also the second hardest material known after diamond. The lightness of sapphire is also unsurpassed, and in fact weighs less than titanium. This novel choice represented a major challenge for Maison BOVET's technicians. While sapphire cases have been in use for almost forty years, their designs have, up to present, remained relatively simple, due to the machining and polishing constraints posed by this extremely hard material. The asymmetric profile of the middle, bezel, and glass of the «writing slope» case confronted engineers and technicians with hitherto unresolved difficulties.





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The middle and glass ultimately form a single element that conscientiously respects the original design of the collection's inclined cases. The back consists of a bezel and four horns that have been machine-cut from grade 5 titanium. It goes without saying that this bezel features a sapphire glass that opens generously onto the back of a movement and reveals a wealth of secrets. In order to optimize transparency and ergonomics, BOVET 1822's watchmakers decided to fasten the movement in the back rather than inside the middle as is usually the case. They had already successfully experimented with this choice in the construction of the Tourbillon Ottantasei in 2016.



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The movement chosen to occupy this three-dimensional panoramic showcase is regulated by the patented double face flying tourbillon, which appeared in BOVET's 2015 collections. Four years later, the movement has evolved and today features a variable inertia balance for even greater chronometry through the use of a traditional hairspring. Mastery of hairspring production sets BOVET apart, a rarified science mastered by very few watchmakers. This new caliber draws its energy from a single barrel that guarantees 10 days' power reserve despite numerous animated complications. BOVET 1822 watchmakers' long-standing expertise in long power reserves — for which they hold the absolute record, with a pocket watch manufactured in 1900 that offers 370 days' power reserve — is explained by their constant concern to minimize friction at the heart of the movement. The use of artisanal methods and the care taken with each detail represent the main reasons for this energy control. They summarize the philosophy that drives the Manufacture's technical office, based on the idea of saving energy rather than adding it, so as to increase the power reserve. The solution to the problem caused by the winding time is provided by the doubly patented spherical differential winding system that halves the number of turns of the crown required to wind the timepiece completely.

On the strength of this exemplary chronometric performance, Brainstorm® displays the hours and minutes offset at 12 o'clock. As it is the highest section under the case's pronounced dome, the watchmakers have manufactured a special high hand-fitting. An index screwed onto the carriage wheel along with two of the carriage bridge's arms follow one another 120° apart, crossing the graduated seconds sector in a main dial milling. The gilded titanium carriage bridge alone requires two days' work by a single artisan solely for its decoration.



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To accentuate the transparency of the case, the power reserve is displayed via a printed cam that shows the energy available through a «crescent-shaped» indicator placed at 4 o'clock.

Positioned symmetrically at 8 o'clock, a big date almost mysteriously appears in a circular aperture. The entire mechanism is revealed to the collector's eye, who will be able to appreciate its finest details through the use of the sapphire units disk that provides the necessary transparency.

At 12 o'clock, nestled in the volume of the hours and minutes dial, arises a three-dimensional moon phase, whose dome's camber masterfully counters the curves of the dial. For heightened realism, the lunar dome's surface is engraved, and the lower sections filled with Superluminova®. The sky is represented here in its finest expression. BOVET 1822's dial-makers have achieved an impressive feat by setting two circular aventurine glass plates in the pronounced curve of the hemispherical moon phase indicator. The moon phases are thus read with a striking realism through the two circular apertures that overlook the dome.





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Collectors may choose between two types of dials. One is a pronounced blue quartz dome whose transparency allows the collector's eye to roam unencumbered over the movement's different layers. In the second dial offered, the beholder will discover transparency in the space between each of the blades of the concave helix. This dial has been machined from an aluminum block before being decorated by the expert hands of the dial artisans. If so desired, the dial may be decorated with a hand-crafted engraving by the decorative workshop's engravers. This requires the utmost skill as the blades are narrow and their concave shape pronounced. Several dial colors will be offered for the collector to choose from. They will also be able to customize their timepiece by selecting a specific helix shape inspired, for example, by the wheel rims of their favorite car.

Although the complications and their unprecedented configuration are particularly dazzling and fully justify the use of sapphire for this case, the latter must be pivoted to observe the movement from the side and appreciate its greatest secret. From this perspective, we immediately note the movement's atypical construction. The movement, entirely developed and manufactured in BOVET 1822's offices and workshops, reveals a stepped architecture whose succession of inclined planes carries all the movement's mobiles and components. This exclusive choice offers a host of advantages from many angles. First of all, it makes it possible to optimally fill the volume of the middle's V-shaped profile for enhanced ergonomics and an aesthetic worthy of the most demanding criteria in fine watchmaking craftsmanship. Each indication hinges on an axis perpendicular to the bezel's inclined plane, offering the best legibility from the most natural angle and positioning on the wrist.

This specific construction in sapphire created a set of unprecedented difficulties for all the artisans. Micro-engineers, decorators, dial-makers, and watchmakers together succeeded in meeting the many challenges presented by this new case material in the Récital 26. Mr. Raffy paid them homage by christening this new watchmaking feat Brainstorm®, which evokes both the solutions found collectively and the stroke of genius required to resolve the many unique situations in a project that has become a reality.

And what about the Chapter One subtitle in this timepiece's description? It hints that Pascal Raffy's abundant imagination still has many areas to explore the scope of the possibilities offered by the «writing slope» case's unprecedented design.

As is now customary at BOVET, the Récital 26 Brainstorm Chapter One is presented as a limited edition, restricted to the number of movements produced. Only sixty movements will leave the manufacture's workshops, ensuring a level of exclusivity that reflects the excellence of this timepiece.



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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS



Ref: R260002, convex blue quartz dial  
R260001, black aluminum dial

### CASE

Type	Dimier « writing desk » case
Diameter	48 mm
Thickness	15.50 mm
Material	Sapphire with titanium lugs and case-back
Bracelet	Full skin alligator
Buckle	18K white gold ardillon
Water resistance	30m

### MOVEMENT

Caliber	17DM04-SMP
Type	Hand wound movement
Diameter	38.50 mm (1 7/8")
Frequency	18,000V/h
Power reserve	10 days
Functions	Hours, minutes, seconds on tourbillon, big date, power reserve indicator, hemispherical moon phase indicator

### DIAL

convex blue quartz or propeller shape dial, different colors

### LIMITED EDITION

60 movements

### PATENTS

Spherical winding system  
Tridimensional toothings with multiple gearing  
Double face flying tourbillon

### GUARANTEE

5 years