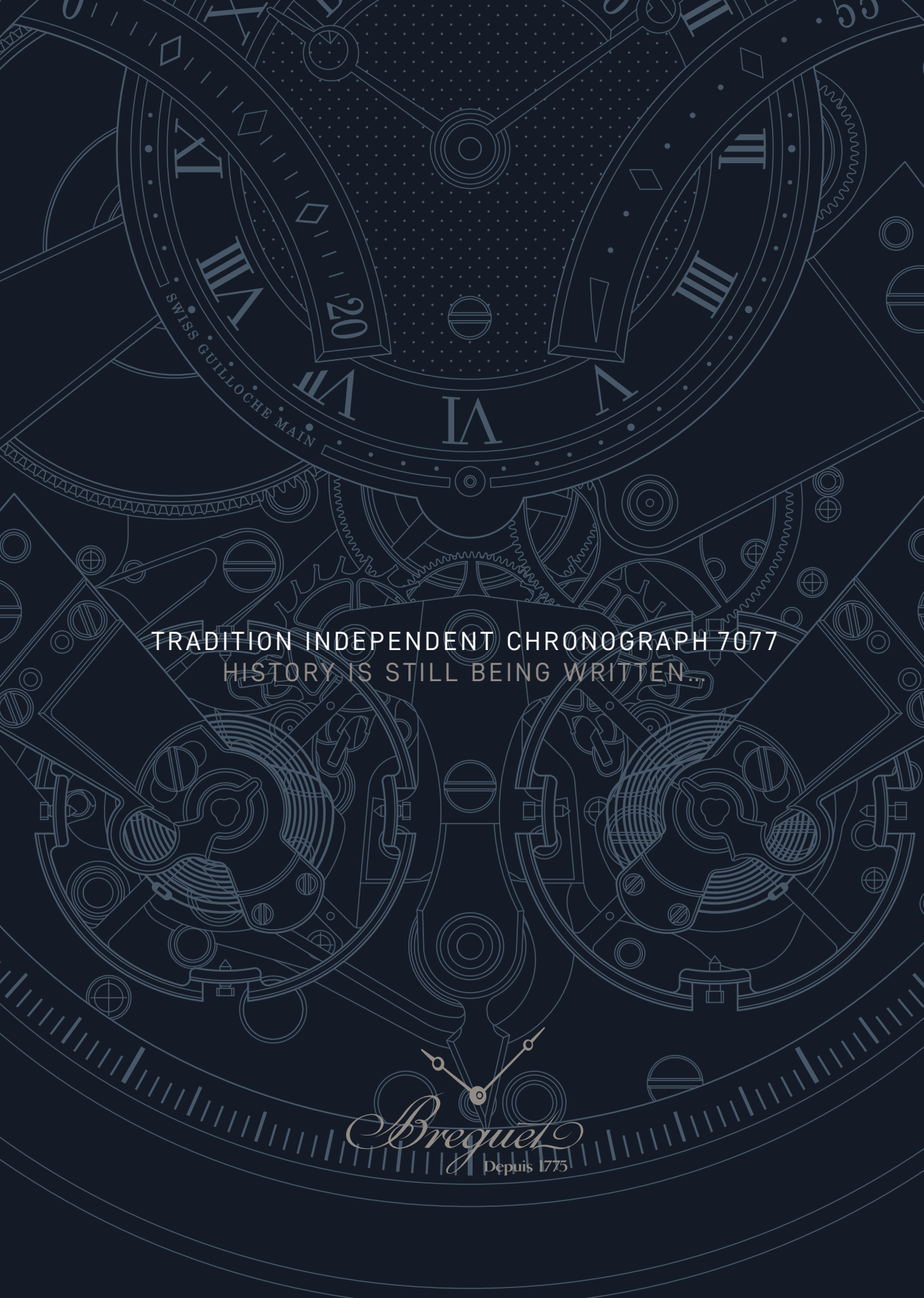

TRADITION INDEPENDENT CHRONOGRAPH 7077
HISTORY IS STILL BEING WRITTEN...
SWISS GUILLOCHÉ MAIN
Breguet
Depuis 1775

SWISS GUILLOCHÉ MAIN

TRADITION INDEPENDENT CHRONOGRAPH 7077

HISTORY IS STILL BEING WRITTEN…

THE INDEPENDENT CHRONOGRAPH 7077 IS
EQUIPPED WITH TWO ENTIRELY INDEPENDENT GEAR TRAINS.

TWO BALANCE-WHEELS FOR TWO INDEPENDENT MECHANISMS.
THE TIME-ONLY GOING TRAIN IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE CHRONOGRAPH FUNCTION.

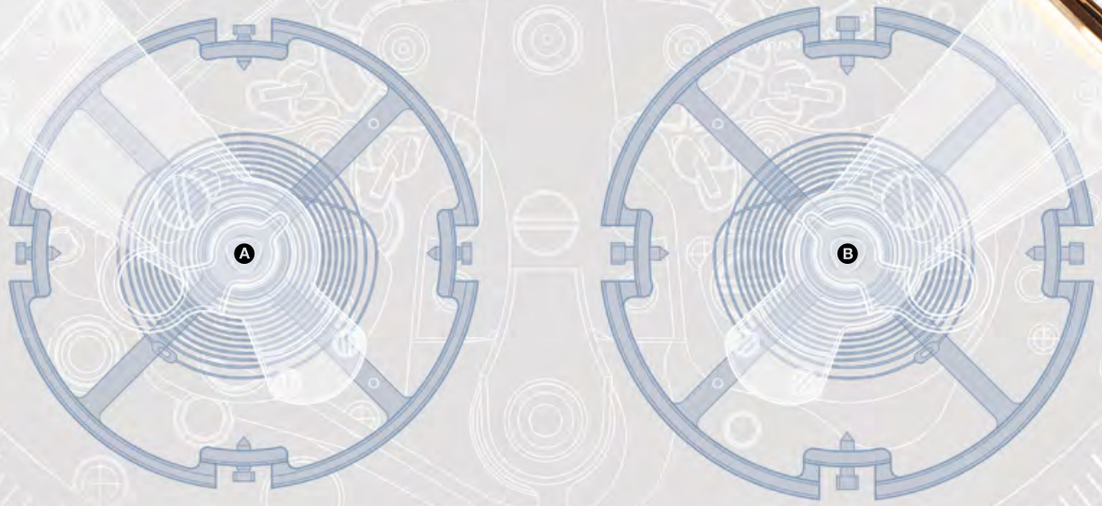
THE PUSHER AT 4 O'CLOCK IS DEVOTED TO STARTING THE MEASUREMENT, WHILE THE PUSHER AT 8 O'CLOCK STOPS AND RESETS THE CHRONOGRAPH TO ZERO.

BREGUET, THE INNOVATOR

THE ROOTS OF TRADITION

In 1796, Abraham-Louis Breguet finalised a new timepiece which he named the subscription watch. The concept was based on a movement featuring a large central barrel and a going train symmetrically arranged on either side of the barrel. This masterpiece of simplicity and pure design inspired the 2005 creation of the Tradition collection.

Breguet No. 960 subscription tact watch, sold in October 1802. Breguet Museum.



THE TWO BALANCE-WHEELS OF THE INDEPENDENT CHRONOGRAPH

The Independent Chronograph 7077 features a unique integrated construction exempt from any additional plate. The chronograph function has its own gear train, independent from the main going train of the watch, which means this timepiece is equipped with two balance-wheels. The first **A**, which is dedicated to the chronograph functions, is powered by a flexed blade spring operating at 5Hz to ensure enhanced rate stability and greater measuring precision. The second balance-wheel **B**, driven by a conventional barrel and with a 3Hz frequency, is reserved for the hours and minutes. The symmetrical arrangement of the elements is inspired by the original subscription calibre, paying homage to the Breguet style: fluted caseband, manually engine-turned gold dial and Breguet open-tipped hands.

BREGUET BALANCE-SPRING (1795)

The balance-spring, together with its balance-wheel, represents the central element and the very heart of the watch. Its regular oscillations set the movement's rhythm and regulate the flow of time. Coiled into a spiral shape, it is secured to the balance-staff at its far end and to the outside of the balance-bridge. In 1795, Abraham-Louis Breguet conceived the idea of raising the balance-spring's terminal curve towards the balance-staff, thus becoming the famous Breguet overcoil. This marked the birth of the Breguet balance-spring Ⓐ which now featured a concentric development, thereby improving the precision of the watch. The Independent Chronograph 7077 is equipped with two Breguet balance-springs in silicon.

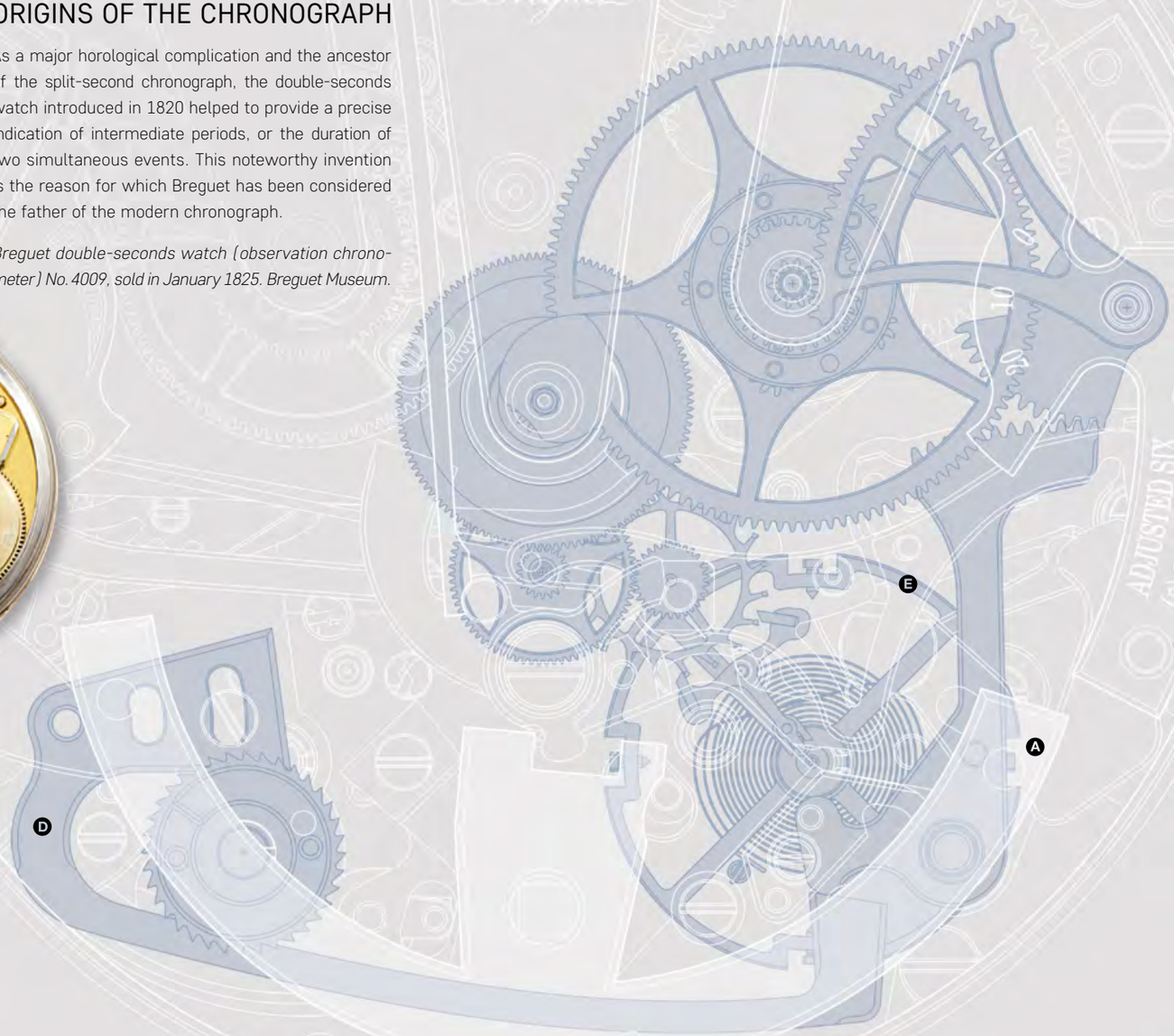
PARE-CHUTE (1790)

The *pare-chute* Ⓑ is one of Breguet's best-known inventions. As the forerunner of all modern-day shock-protection devices, it was specifically designed to protect the balance-staff from impacts. In 1790, based on the observation that, if the watch suffered a blow, the pivots of the balance-wheel were vulnerable due to their slenderness, Abraham-Louis Breguet decided to give them a device in a cone shape that holds them in place by a small dish of matching shape, mounted on a blade-type spring. Both balance-wheels of the Independent Chronograph 7077 are equipped with the *pare-chute* shock-protection device.

ORIGINS OF THE CHRONOGRAPH

As a major horological complication and the ancestor of the split-second chronograph, the double-seconds watch introduced in 1820 helped to provide a precise indication of intermediate periods, or the duration of two simultaneous events. This noteworthy invention is the reason for which Breguet has been considered the father of the modern chronograph.

Breguet double-seconds watch (observation chronometer) No. 4009, sold in January 1825. Breguet Museum.



INDEPENDENT CHRONOGRAPH GEAR TRAIN

The chronograph control Ⓐ of the Independent Chronograph 7077 references the anchor-shaped control of the double-seconds watch (observation chronometer) No. 4009 sold in 1825. A first pushpiece Ⓑ is dedicated to starting the chronograph, while the second pushpiece Ⓒ serves for stopping and zero-resetting. The latter action flexes and rearms the blade spring Ⓓ to its initial position, meaning the chronograph is ready for another timing operation. The oscillation of the titanium balance-wheel Ⓔ is governed by two stop devices. The first, by pressing on the stop pushpiece Ⓒ, blocks the balance-wheel in a position guaranteeing optimal restarting, while the second device automatically ensures that the balance-wheel stops after 20 minutes.

HISTORY IS STILL BEING WRITTEN…

THE ENERGY REQUIRED TO POWER THE CHRONOGRAPH
IS SUPPLIED BY RESETTING TO ZERO.

THE CHRONOGRAPH PUSHERS ARE SCREW-LOCKED TO ENSURE THE WATCH'S WATER-RESISTANCE.

7077BB/G1/9XV

7077BR/G1/9XV

Mechanical hand-wound chronograph movement Cal. 580DR, 16 *lignes*, 62 jewels • 55-hour power reserve • Power-reserve indicator at 2 o'clock and 20-minute counter at 10 o'clock, also engraved on the back of the movement • Chronograph running indicator at 6 o'clock • Symmetrical inverted in-line lever escapements with silicon pallets • Two entirely independent gear trains • Two Breguet balance-wheels, the left-hand one in titanium, operating at a frequency of 5 Hz for the chronograph function, and the right-hand one at 3 Hz for the hours and minutes • Breguet balance-springs in silicon • The two oscillators are adjusted in six positions • Silvered gold dial finely engine-turned by hand • Case in 18-carat rose or white gold with delicately fluted caseband • Screw-locked pushers • Welded lugs with screw bars • Sapphire crystal caseback • 44 mm diameter • Leather strap • Water-resistant to 3 bar (30 m)

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