



Robert Robin

Astronomic Regulator

Paris 1789/1799

Signed on the front "Robin au Louvre" and on the dial "Robin Horloger du Roy"

Astronomic Regulator with skeleton movement and multiple indications:

Hours and minutes, phases of the moon and lunar calendar, full calendar, striking the hours and half hours.

Standing on a green marble pedestal.

Dial attributed to Joseph Coteau.

Height 60 cm / Length 20 cm / Depth 10 cm

Astronomic Regulator with skeleton movement and multiple indications: Above, a polychrome enamel dial with the phases of the moon and lunar calendar; below, 3 smaller white enamel dials, indicating, clockwise: the days of the week, the months and the days of the month.

Beneath, the main white enamel dial for the hours and minutes reveals, at its centre a 15 day going movement, striking the hours and half hours, a pin-wheel escapement, knife-edge suspension and compensated pendulum with 9 rods, oscillating above the movement. This regulator also includes a thermometer.

It rests on a rectangular green marble base.

Robert Robin_ (1741 – 1799)

Robert Robin was born in Chauny and trained in Noyon. A remarkable engineer with a creative mind, Robin was one of a small number of great horologists of the late 18th century who played a particularly influential role in the perfection of instruments of time measurement. He was extremely ambitious, and accumulated titles and charges, at one point attempting to change his name to the more aristocratic Robin de Beaumont.

In 1763, Robin acquired the royal warrant of Marchand Horloger privilégié du Roi, which he sold in 1765. He became master horologist in Paris on November 21, 1767 by decision of the King's Conseil d'Etat, on November 10, 1767. ROBIN presented a new horological device to the Royal Academy of Sciences in 1777. He immediately applied this invention to a piece he was constructing for the Duke d'Aumont, Premier Gentilhomme de la Chambre du Roi.

In November 1778, he became Horloger du Duc de Chartres. After Louis XVI purchased his meridian clock, he took the title of Horloger du Roi. In 1783, he was named Valet de Chambre-Horloger du Roi in reversion of Charles-Athanase Pinon, but never exercised that function. On October 1, 1786, he received the commission of Valet de Chambre-Horloger ordinaire de la Reine, following the death of Vilbar. He also acquired the titles of Horloger Ordinaire de Monsieur after 1785, and Horloger des Menus Plaisirs du Roi after 1785. After the executions of Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette, he took the title Horloger de la République in 1794, then Horloger du Directoire in 1795.