



## Preface

### THE SONNERIE SOVERAINE GRAND-STRIKE CLOCKWATCH AND MINUTE-REPEATER

#### Full grand-strike functionality and operational safety protected by 10 patents

The grand-strike clockwatch is the most complex of horological creations. The greatest difficulty in its construction is to achieve full clockwatch capability from the limited energy in a wristwatch, without compromising on the sound and reliability of the chime.

In your watch, a single mainspring provides enough energy for 24 hours of grand strike (96 full chimes in passing), for the minute-repeater, and to keep the movement going for 48 hours. The chiming functions alone use up almost 60% of the main-spring's energy, and without the chime, the movement will run for five days.

Constructing this movement has been an exercise in minimising energy use by maximising mechanical efficiency. The result is a low-tension movement with gentle mechanisms that have to be very finely adjusted to ensure unfailing chimes 35,040 times a year.

Operating a chiming watch has always been risky. If you do the slightest thing wrong, like setting the time while the chimes are ringing, you damage expensive mechanisms.

Thus, the first entry in my specification book for your watch was: "make it safe to use by an eight-year-old child." You will forgive me if you knew that the eight-year-old set me the toughest assignment of my career. To meet the demands, I had to construct a movement on new mechanical principles. In this piece, 10 patents underwrite the "invenit" of my watchmaking. "Fecit" took me five years.

I'd like your watch to make you feel you possess time itself, and therefore invite you discover how the illusion was created by exploring your new domain in this manual.

By naming your watch, you gave it a purpose, an identity and a soul. Thank you for being its guardian.

François-Paul Journe