

REWGE

MILIARIUS

MANUFACTURING MUSIC AND EMOTION FROM THE INANIMATE

Based in Sainte-Croix, Switzerland, with more than 150 years of expertise, REUGE is positioned as the world leading producer of musical automatons, that are technically, acoustically and aesthetically superlative. Forward-thinking and innovation define REUGE just as much as its respect for traditional craftsmanship. REUGE's ability to transform inanimate metal into emotion continues to enthral those who seek a genuine piece of craftsmanship, reaching beyond fleeting trends.

« MILIARIUS »

A TRIBUTE TO THE ROMAN EMPIRE

In the Ancient Roman Empire, legendary chariot races took place in the Circus Maximus Arena applauded by 300,000 spectators including the great emperor Julius Caesar himself. This is where fearless slaves risked their lives in ferocious struggles to seize a victory and gain their freedom. Miliarius was the finest of them all, the charioteer with a thousand victories. He was revered by both the public and the elite for his courage, which inspired REUGE to dedicate his name to a unique mechanical artistry.

Every single element of the Miliarius, whether technical or decorative, was made entirely by hand by the craftsmen of the REUGE Manufacture in Sainte-Croix with outstanding quality and artisan expertise.

Most of the decorative elements involve the process of casting. After designing and conceptualizing, liquid metal is poured into a mould with a hollow cavity of the desired shape. Once it has solidified, the sculptor craftsman carves the last intricate features, right up to the details of the horses' mane or the veins of the foliage on the crown. Finally, the decorative elements are gilded in 18 carat gold and carefully manipulated for a perfect finishing. Hand craftsmanship means

that each and every element constituting the Miliarius is unique. Upon activation of a lever, five chariots fighters pulled by ten horses are set into motion. The race starts and bets are cast among the viewers but no one knows its outcome yet because a different horse wins each time.

The mechanism of this automaton took months to conceive and develop within the REUGE atelier of Sainte-Croix. It encloses more than 2'200 components which interact flawlessly together, bringing the automaton to life

The horserace occurs without music so as to enhance the rhythmic sound of a gallop, keeping everyone's eyes on the prize. As the horses breathlessly cross the finish line, the incomparable REUGE musicality rises from the mechanism. The "Victory Parade" melody, used as the celebratory anthem after all Roman races held in the Circus Maximus Arena, is reproduced with a flair that only REUGE can master.

Miliarius embodies REUGE's creativity and know-how. The automaton brings an epic battle back to life; the music consecrates the scenery. Behind the Brand's mystical quest for an organic sound and a creative motion, lies a desire to transcend an experience. Music and movement engage senses: when played right, when timed just so, they have the power to take us back in time so that we relive emotions we thought were hidden.

CHARACTERISTICS

- Roman Chariot Race musical and sound automaton
- Limited Edition of 50 pieces each numbered
- 5 chariot fighters, silver
- 1 victory crown, silver and 18k gold plated finish
- 2 dolphin winders, silver and 18k gold plated finish
- · One cylinder playing one melody
- More than 2'200 components in the mechanism
- · In-house movement (SH 3.144) produced and assembled by hand in our atelier
- More than 2'200 pins on the cylinder and 144-note keyboard
- Manual and individual tuning of musical comb, nickel plated finish
- About 35 seconds per tune
- 41 minutes power reserve





