

# Legacy Machine No.1: “Now Somebody” Has To Explain It! (Interview) by [Massimo Scalese](#) – Orologi di Classe

So, from the half of September till the 4th of October, MB&F left the world (of connoisseurs) in suspense waiting for the fifth Horological Machine but, something went wrong... Not at all! But yes, went different... We saw a round case, and then a free sprung of a big balance in the middle of the dial, under a domed sapphire crystal, suspended from an amazing and wide V bridge.

At MB&F did they get suddenly crazy, or fired everyone and restart from scratch? Again no... Max's and Friends new kinetic concept seemed only to go counter clockwise, comparing to the previous works, flying in the horological high altitudes, but differently.

As usual every time I ask to Maximilian Büsser for an interview or what ever else I've in mind, he's busy travelling, launching or following up something new. Anyway, I want to remark another time that he always takes the time to answer to my questions. (...I mean - until now - comprehending this post – this was how it worked...) Want an example? [Read this!](#) Two years ago Max spoke about the HM2 unique piece for Only Watches 2009, few days before the auction.

So here follows my usual new “3 questions to”.

**contaminuti: Max, in Legacy's Machine No.1 official video, you said that the first drawings you sketched about the LM 1 were done late of 2007-beginning of 2008. From that period to the release of LM1, MB&F released in the market 3 of it's 4 watches. Why this project took so much time to get out comparing to the Horological Machines?**

**Maximilian Büsser:** (“laughs”) But all the Horological Machines take the same time to create !!! Count 3 to 4 years for each. Their movements are as (if not more) complex than the [Legacy Machine No1](#). We are working today on HM5, HM6, HM7, LM2 and LM3 as we speak. Because if we were not, there is little chance that the pieces supposed to come out in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016 would ever see the day. That is one of the many difficulties of our creative quest.

**cm: Since the implementation of new technologies in developing sapphire crystals, watches unveiled undiscovered worlds. Was this a good starting point for building a 3D movement, and if yes, what's your value added?**

**M.B.:**The progress in Sapphire manufacturing is extremely recent. We ran around the world to find someone capable of first creating the [HM2 SV sapphire bloc](#) and only one accepted, Stettler in Lyss (Switzerland). Since we developed together the Frog domes, the Thunderbolt middle part (185 hours of machining !!!) and now the LM1 dome.

As usual in our Industry, it is only when we found someone ready to take on the challenge and proved that it could be done that other sapphire manufacturers started to explore new dimensions.

Like with all we create, if we do not find the right artisan who not only has the know-how but also the wish to experiment, we cannot transform a simple idea into a complex product.

**cm: So now MB&F has two collections of kinetic “machines”, but this Legacy Machine with the special effort of Jean-François Mojon and Kari Voutilainen seemed to put, far**

**and higher from other elements, a bold mechanism, specially if compared to HM series. Will this behaviour be in the future only a LM prerogative?**

**M.B.:** Now that is where you are wrong. The movement of the [LM1](#) is as complex as those of the HM1 to 4. The problem we are facing at MB&F is that most people just acknowledge the “amazing” designs of our HM but do not understand that they are also very refined and complex horological movements. As soon as you create a good old round watch, everyone can suddenly see the light and the complexity. Why ? Because there are no known existing references for the HM while there are hundreds of years of references for an LM. And that is what we are also trying to tell the world: our HM are as complex and refined as our LM.

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So in conclusion, with only three questions of this short interview Max confirms that also with the efforts of the best strategies and planning tools - indeed necessary - if you want to make real luxury timepieces, but also to be successful in sell them, you have to really work hard. That's what today's makes the difference.

Last, Legacy Machine No. 1 by my personal opinion - is one example of how - although if you walk through classic paths – you can reach Haute Horlogerie with a high personality.

[contaminuti](#)