

L'ÉPÉE 1839



THE UNNAMED SOCIETY

GOLDEN BOY

A REIMAGINATION OF THE LEGENDARY WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE

Golden Boy is a new class of hyper-exclusive items that redefines the Art of Gifting and takes creativity, aesthetics and artisanship to the highest level.

Today, The partnership between L'Épée 1839 and The Unnamed Society opens another stunning creation imagined for those who set the bar for the Art of Gifting a bit higher than the rest, for appreciators of the finer things, and for visionary collectors.

Golden Boy remains true as ever to the spirit of "creating the impossible that defies the imagination" by looking not just at a timekeeper as an expression of aesthetic, engineering and artisanship excellence, but as a true witness of its time. Golden Boy is the logical sequel to Pancho Villa's Bisley Colt – an intricate work of artistry and precision that engages the imagination and the senses on many levels, taking us back to an age of human evolution that seems impossible in hindsight and yet epitomizes our understanding of courage, resilience and perseverance.

Golden Boy has the same dimensions as the original, the same feel and heft. Holding it is holding the legend. Beholding it is glimpsing the amazing era that defined adventure and fired the imagination of every generation born since.

The legend that won the West...

Nicknamed the 'Gun that Won the West,' the Winchester Rifle remains one of the most iconic firearms of all time. Used by both lawmen and outlaws in the Old West, the Winchester rifle so perfectly embodies the legendary struggle between the peacekeepers and the bandits. Favored by many notable figures such as Billy the Kid, Butch Cassidy, and Buffalo Bill it has become a symbol of that time.

For the gun that inspired Golden Boy, the year is 1866. The place: a vast country born less than a century before from the purest of desires, self-determination.

Winchester 'Yellow Boy' 1866 name: It wasn't the settlers or bandits who came up with the term 'Yellow Boy' as shorthand for their trusted rifle. 'Yellow Boy' was what the Indians said, when they saw the shiny brass-alloy receiver that housed the cocking and loading mechanism of the lever action rifle.

Historians all agree that the Winchester was a key element and so representation of winning battle.



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

LIMITED EDITION

UNIQUE PIECES

FUNCTIONS

Hour and minute display
A functional hammer and trigger as a playful function

POWER RESERVE

8 days

ENGINE

L'Épée 1839 in-house movement
Incabloc protection system
2.5 Hz / 18,000 vh
11 jewels
342 components

WINDING & TIME SETTING

Manual winding by swivel motion of the cocking mechanism of the lever action rifle - actioning the lever 15 times for a 8-day power reserve
Time setting by opening up the left side window and turning the disks manually

DIMENSIONS & WEIGHT

109.3 cm long x 5.7 cm wide x 20 cm high
5.4 kg

MATERIALS

Stainless steel
Brass

FINISHES

Polishing
Microblasting
Satin-finishing

Golden Boy is a work of art in form and function

A true-to-the-legend reimagining of the iconic lever action rifle as a clock, its original loading and cocking mechanism rethought for winding the timekeeping calibre and setting the time. Holding – and beholding – this uniquely fascinating feat of engineering and artisanship evokes childhood dreams of a far-away age that ultimately helped shape our modern times. It can be displayed to great effect both on a desk, mantelpiece or on the wall.

In a way no conventional clock could ever hope to, Golden Boy doesn't just tell time...

Inspiration

It is one thing to hold and handle Golden Boy, and feel transported into another age. The age of your own childhood, when playing the various roles that defined the conquest of the west – cowboy, Indian, soldier, settler – would first fill afternoons and then late night dreams. Golden Boy takes you there.

It is quite another to see Golden Boy displayed on its bespoke stand. Shock. Evoke. Inspire. These are the words that should describe a piece of Art. Shocking because so unusual. Evocative because of its power to rekindle powerful memories. Inspiring because it draws you into an unexpected juxtaposition of engineering and aesthetics, itself triggering new associations.

Indeed, if the bespoke display stand created especially for Golden Boy comes at no extra cost, it is because together they form a whole. Resting on its display on a desk, table or mantel, Golden Boy is an immediate presence in the room. When the display is placed on a wall, Golden Boy becomes a painting telling not just one story, but thousands. It has such an uncanny effect of transfiguring the setting in which it is displayed.

Design

Says Arnaud Nicolas, CEO of L'Épée: "Golden Boy is our second project with The Unnamed Society and a natural continuation of the Pancho Villa's Bisley Colt we created together. Bolting a clock to a gun was never an option, so rethinking the original rifle's ingenious lever action mechanism as a main component of the clock calibre seemed like an irresistible challenge. The result is a work of engineering that transcends its function into a work of art, true to our DNA.

What made the lever action repeating rifle such a gamechanger back in the day was the revolutionary approach to loading ammunition, cocking the hammer and chambering the bullet in one rapid, fluid motion – with a lever actioned by the trigger hand. Able to hold 15 rounds before having to reload, the original was not only much more practical than a single-shot rifle, but also allowed for excellent handling and accuracy.

L'Épée 1839 captures this defining movement of the hand as it loads the round and prepares the gun for firing: by having the clock mechanism wound – 'loaded' – in exactly the same way. By actioning the lever 15 times – as for the 15 bullets the 1866 Winchester magazin – the mechanism is fully wound for a 8-day power reserve.

