

Métiers d'Art

*Since 1998 - exceptional Timepieces and
Writing Instruments, hand-crafted by Martin Pauli
in the Ateliers in Switzerland*



MANVPROPRIA

*Angular Momentum
of Switzerland*

*Ateliers & Showrooms - Pulverstrasse 8, 3063 Ittigen-Bern, Switzerland
www.angularmomentum.com - www.manupropria-pens.ch*

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In 1998 I founded Angular Momentum & Manu Propria with the vision of creating beautiful and unique timepieces, writing instruments, jewelry and other art objects using ancient technologies and traditional craftsmanship and traditional craftsmanship, on the premise that not a single part should be produced is produced by modern machines and not to be dependent on suppliers. All steps from the production of the case to the artwork are created with my own hands

Martin Pauli

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Angular Momentum Watches: A Blend of Artistry and Horology

Angular Momentum Watches is a boutique Swiss watch brand renowned for its innovative designs and artisanal craftsmanship. Since its founding in 1998 by Martin Pauli, Angular Momentum has pushed the boundaries of traditional watchmaking by combining modern technology with centuries-old artistic techniques. Known for creating unique timepieces that blur the line between functional horology and wearable art, Angular Momentum has carved out a distinct niche in the luxury watch market.



The Vision of Angular Momentum

At its core, Angular Momentum embodies the philosophy of "Horological Art." Unlike most commercial watch brands, Angular Momentum emphasizes the artistic expression of time, using timepieces as canvases for creativity. Martin Pauli, the driving force behind the brand, set out to produce watches that are not only functional instruments but also reflections of personal and artistic tastes.

Each Angular Momentum watch is handcrafted, with the brand deliberately avoiding mass production. This artisanal approach allows for the integration of a wide range of materials, techniques, and designs, offering customers the chance to own a one-of-a-kind piece. Watches from Angular Momentum often feature bespoke elements, including hand-painted dials, engraved cases, and intricate mechanical movements. The use of artisan techniques, such as Verre Églomisé (reverse painting on glass) and enamel work, elevates the watches to works of art that transcend timekeeping.

Innovative Time Displays

One of Angular Momentum's standout features is its unconventional way of displaying time. The brand has introduced several watch models with unique time display mechanisms, challenging the traditional idea of hour and minute hands. For example, the "Time in Motion" series features a rotating dial that gradually reveals the hours through a window in the watch face, creating a mesmerizing visual experience. This departure from traditional timekeeping methods makes Angular Momentum watches not only conversation pieces but also testaments to the brand's commitment to creativity and innovation.



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Verre Églomisé

The Beauty of Miniature Pigment Painting

The First

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Metiers d'Art Verre Églomisé

Verre Églomisé is a term used to describe the art of cold painting and gilding on the reverse of glass. The glass can be painted, gilded with gold, silver or metal leaf using a gelatine adhesive. A beautiful mirror-like, reflective finish can be achieved, in which designs can be engraved or the leaf chemically treated to create special design effects.

The technique dates back to the pre-Roman eras, but its name is derived from 18th century French decorator Jean-Baptise Glomy who is responsible for its popularity today.

in 2004, Angular Momentum has developed a technique of pigment painting on the reverse of the sapphire crystal or sapphire dial of a timepiece.

The technique is that of arranging finely calibrated color pigments in special oil. Angular Momentum is the only company in the world applying this exclusive and rare art.

„There are no two identical Verre Églomisé Timepieces in the world. Every „Verre Églomisé Timepiece“, created and manufactured in our ateliers is unique and differs either in theme, size, material, form or function“.



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The Beauty of Engraving & Sculpturing

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Engraving, Repoussé, Uchi-Dashi,

Many different metal and lacquer works are executed in my Atelier such as engraving, repoussé, casting, uchi-dashi for forming in low and high relief metals like Silver, Gold, Shibuichi and Shakudo.

Further on I apply also various relief techniques with Urushi lacquer



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URUSHI

The Shining Beauty of Oriental Lacquer

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Metiers d'Art Urushi

URUSHI The Shining Beauty of Japan Lacquer made in Switzerland
The deep, shiny luster of black or dark red lacquerware, often gorgeously decorated with gold and silver or inlaid with mother-of-pearl, is a Japanese handicraft form that has long fascinated the world. No other application style can match the deep hues and smoothness of Japanese lacquer (urushi in Japanese). Lacquerware stands as one of the most distinctive forms of Japanese beauty.

History of Urushi

Urushi is the sap of the urushi or lacquer tree that is native to Japan, China, and Korea. The sap of this tree contains a resin that polymerizes and becomes a very hard, durable, plastic-like substance when it is exposed to moisture and air.

Characteristics of Urushi

Liquid urushi can be applied to just about any surface: wood, metal, cloth, ceramics, etc.. When it solidifies, it becomes a very hard coating that waterproofs and protects the coated object from the effects of mold, mildew and other forms of weathering. It also provides protection against caustic substances such as acids. Only direct and prolonged exposure to sunlight will cause urushi to deteriorate. Urushi's hardness and durability make it an excellent protective coating for any object that will be used continually over a long period of time. It also has excellent adhesive properties. It is used as a special kind of glue for metal leaf, powders of various kinds, shells, etc.

"I think urushi is one of the finest and most representative craft forms. It is characterized by precision craftwork and expresses the fascination of elegance and beauty"

Martin Pauli

In the year 2006, Angular Momentum has released the „Guilloche Noir“ Timepiece, its first timepiece with an Urushi lacquer dial. It was the first time, classic guilloche engraving has been executed on an black Urushi lacquer dial. In the following years a number of custom made and bespoke timepieces with Urushi dials have been manufactured on customer's demand.



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The Beauty of Sparkling Diamonds

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Angular Momentum's Sparkling Diamond Watch Collection is a truly luxurious line of timepieces that combines the brand's signature mechanical craftsmanship with the elegance and brilliance of diamonds.

The collection is designed to appeal to connoisseurs of fine watchmaking who appreciate both the artistry of mechanical movements and the sparkle of diamonds, bringing a perfect balance of precision, luxury, and beauty.

Features of Angular Momentum's Sparkling Diamond Watch Collection:

Diamond-Set Dials and Bezels:

Many models in this collection feature diamond-encrusted dials and bezels. The diamonds are often set with meticulous attention to detail, creating a stunning visual impact while maintaining the watch's sophisticated and refined look.

The diamonds are usually of the highest quality, with excellent clarity and cut, contributing to the watch's overall luxury aesthetic.

Luxurious Materials: The timepieces in this collection are crafted from high-quality materials, including 18K gold, platinum, and stainless steel, providing both durability and a luxurious finish.

The dials are often made from rare materials like meteorite, mother-of-pearl, or high-grade sapphire crystal, which are complemented by the dazzling diamonds.

Exquisite Craftsmanship: Each watch in the collection is handcrafted by Martin Pauli, ensuring that each piece is unique and of exceptional quality.

The setting of the diamonds and other gemstones is executed with extreme precision, creating a harmonious balance between the mechanical movement and the decorative elements.



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The Beauty of Precious Metals

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Angular Momentum's handmade watch cases crafted from gold and platinum represent the pinnacle of luxury watchmaking. Known for its impeccable attention to detail, the Swiss brand combines artistic craftsmanship with precision horology to create cases that are both functional and visually stunning.

These timepieces are often regarded as wearable art, where the watch case itself plays a key role in elevating the overall aesthetic and value of the watch.

Here's an in-depth look at the features and appeal of Angular Momentum's handmade gold and platinum watch cases:

Gold: Angular Momentum typically uses 18K gold (either yellow, white, or rose gold) for its cases, which strikes the perfect balance between softness (for ease of crafting) and durability.

The gold adds an inherent warmth and elegance to the watch, making it timelessly luxurious.

Platinum: Known for its density, rarity, and hypoallergenic properties, platinum is a metal that signifies the highest level of luxury.

Platinum watch cases by Angular Momentum are often preferred by those who desire a truly exclusive timepiece with a substantial, refined feel on the wrist.

These metals are chosen not only for their beauty but also for their ability to stand the test of time, ensuring the watch remains a cherished heirloom for generations.

The hand-finishing process allows for unique textures, patterns, and designs to emerge on each watch, ensuring that no two timepieces are exactly the same.

Whether through polishing, engraving, or brushing, these cases often feature intricate details that enhance the overall elegance of the watch.

Engraving & Motifs: Many watches feature engravings of geometric patterns, floral motifs, or nature-inspired designs. These intricate details are often hand-engraved by master artisans, offering a level of personalization and artistry that sets Angular Momentum apart from mass-produced timepieces.



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The Beauty of Historical Watch Movements

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Angular Momentum's commitment to historical watch movements sets the brand apart in the world of luxury horology. Rather than merely relying on modern mass-produced calibers, Angular Momentum draws inspiration from the great mechanical movements of the past, often restoring and incorporating them into its timepieces.

This unique approach not only enhances the craftsmanship of each watch but also preserves the legacy of fine Swiss watchmaking. How Angular Momentum Incorporates Historical Movements:

Restoration of Antique Movements:

Angular Momentum is known for restoring and reviving historical movements from renowned Swiss and European watchmakers. These movements may come from vintage pocket watches, early wristwatches, or even antique pocket chronometers.

They ensure that the intricate mechanisms are fully functional and preserve the historical integrity of the timepiece. Some of the restored movements might be over 100 years old, offering a true piece of history on the wrist.

Angular Momentum often incorporates rare, collectible movements from historically significant brands or manufacturers. These movements, sometimes sourced from the late 19th or early 20th century, are known for their superior craftsmanship, and their inclusion adds immense value to the finished watch.

Some of the movements might even come from special-edition or discontinued models, offering a unique piece of horological history that is no longer available on the market.

Some Collectors are drawn to the historical value of a movement that has survived through decades of mechanical advancements. The restoration process ensures that these movements continue to tell time accurately, allowing their historical essence to live on.



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Patent CH686988

The Beauty of Digital Time Display à Souscription

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Angular Momentum's unique patented digital time display via the Revolving Disk System represents one of the brand's most innovative contributions to the world of horology.

This system combines mechanical ingenuity with digital time reading, creating a one-of-a-kind solution for displaying the time in a digital format while staying true to the mechanical and artistic ethos that defines Angular Momentum.

The Revolving Disk System is a mechanical time display system that uses rotating discs to create a digital display of time.

Unlike traditional analog time displays with hands and dials, or fully digital displays, this system resolves the time using discs that rotate, revealing numerical values for hours, minutes, and sometimes seconds.

This innovative approach is a patented mechanism, developed by Angular Momentum to create a visually striking yet functional way to read the time.



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Émail Lumineuse

The Beauty of Bioluminescent Pigments

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History of Luminescent Pigments

There is a long history of luminescent pigments. In ancient times, the Chinese found photoluminescent jades and ground them into photoluminescent beads, wine cups or other ornaments. These were collected as precious treasures because of their rarity. According to an ancient document from the era of Chinese Emperor, Zhao Tai Zhong, the first luminous paint was invented in Japan during the early Heian Period (794 – 1185 AD) over 1'000 years ago. The document, displayed at the Palace Museum in Taipei, Taiwan) tells of how the emperor heard of a painting which showed a wonderful cow drawn on the wall of a cave.

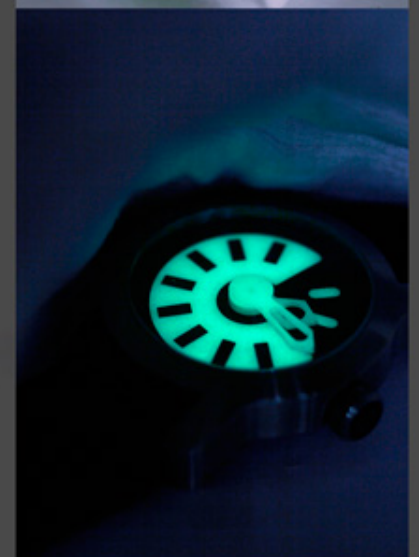
Apparently, the cow could not be seen in the daytime because "it went to a meadow for eating", and "returned to the cave in the evening". Ordered to investigate, one scientist learned that "the cow was painted with special paints made from shells of the sea".

Other accounts of the era mention the use of seashells combined with volcanic materials - perhaps pointing to zinc sulfides being formed along with suitable impurities such as copper. The technique of luminous painting was known both to the Chinese and the Japanese and there was some trading of materials between the two countries.

In 18th Century Europe, John Canton prepared a luminous pigment made from oyster shells reacted with sulfur. By the end of the 19th Century, Swiss watchmakers began treating the dials of timepieces with a natural luminescent paint created using the same technique as the early Japanese artists.

In 2004 I found in an old book a receipt for Phosphorescent Paint and Enamel and I have been experimenting for over a year to find a way to produce a powerful, luminous powder from sulfurized oyster shells. The powder does not have the purity of modern illuminants such as Super-LumiNova, which is used in the watch industry for example.

The powder or granulate is also too coarse to be used for printing. It is also not completely homogeneous in larger areas and the result sometimes appears somewhat blotchy. But it is 100% natural and impresses with its strong and long-lasting luminosity, which will last for decades if not forever. For illuminating my watches, I combine the luminous powder mixed with clear, transparent cold enamel



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URUSHI

The Beauty of Pens refined with Japan Lacquer

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The Art of Urushi Lacquering in Fountain Pens

The use of Urushi lacquer in Manu Propria fountain pens is a process that requires patience, expertise, and precision. Pauli applies multiple layers of lacquer by hand, each layer taking time to dry and harden before being polished and followed by the next. This process can take weeks or even months to complete, depending on the complexity of the design and the desired finish.

Enhancing Urushi with Artistic Flourishes. The most exquisite techniques Pauli employs is known as "Kawarinuri" experimental Lacquer or "Sayanuri" sword scabbard lacquer, a decorative art that involves sprinkling powdered gold, silver, or other precious metals onto the wet Urushi lacquer to create intricate patterns. Each design is carefully composed and applied, resulting in a striking fusion of visual art and craftsmanship. The incorporation of "Raden", a technique where thin layers of mother-of-pearl or abalone shell are inlaid into the lacquer surface or sprinkled on, further elevates the pens to the level of fine art.

These techniques add texture, depth, and shimmer to the pens, creating a piece that catches the light and draws attention to its intricate detailing.

Materials Used in Manu Propria Pens. While the Urushi lacquer takes center stage, Manu Propria fountain pens are crafted from a variety of premium materials that complement the lacquer work. Ebonite, a hard rubber material is often used for the pen bodies, as it provides a solid, comfortable feel in the hand while being an ideal surface for the Urushi lacquer to adhere to.

Pauli also incorporates natural wood, particularly Japanese woods such as Rosewood, Ebony, Zelkova or Kashi, into some designs, highlighting the organic beauty of these materials. The use of precious metals for accents, such as silver and gold, adds a layer of luxury to each piece. Nib options typically include high-quality gold or stainless steel nibs, often handcrafted or engraved, offering a smooth and responsive writing experience that is worthy of the pen's overall artistry.





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TOBACCO PIPES

The Beauty of Urushi Lacquer Pipes

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Manu Propria, led by Swiss artisan Martin Pauli, is renowned for crafting exquisite tobacco pipes adorned with traditional Japanese urushi lacquer. Each pipe is meticulously handcrafted, reflecting a harmonious blend of functionality and artistry.

Urushi Lacquer and Its Significance

Urushi lacquer, derived from the sap of the urushi tree, has been a cornerstone of Japanese craftsmanship for centuries. Its application involves multiple layers, each painstakingly applied and polished to achieve a deep, lustrous finish. This process not only enhances the visual appeal but also imparts durability and heat resistance to the pipes. Notably, urushi can withstand temperatures up to 300 degrees centigrade (600 degrees Fahrenheit), making it well-suited for tobacco pipes.

The 'Shibui' collection exemplifies Manu Propria's dedication to understated elegance. Pipes in this series feature minimalist designs, allowing the natural beauty of the urushi lacquer to take center stage. The subtle textures and deep hues achieved through techniques like Ishime-Ji-Nuri and Raden contribute to a refined aesthetic that appeals to connoisseurs.

Craftsmanship and Philosopher: As a one-man company, Manu Propria ensures that each pipe is a unique masterpiece. Martin Pauli personally oversees every step, from turning the ebonite base to applying the final urushi layers. This hands-on approach guarantees exceptional quality and imbues each piece with a distinct character.

Manupropria Pens

In summary, Manu Propria's tobacco pipes are not merely smoking instruments but embodiments of artistic expression and cultural heritage. The fusion of traditional Japanese urushi techniques with meticulous Swiss craftsmanship results in pipes that are both visually stunning and highly functional, offering enthusiasts a truly unique and refined experience.



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Urushi Jewelry

The Beauty of Jewelry refined with Urushi Lacquer

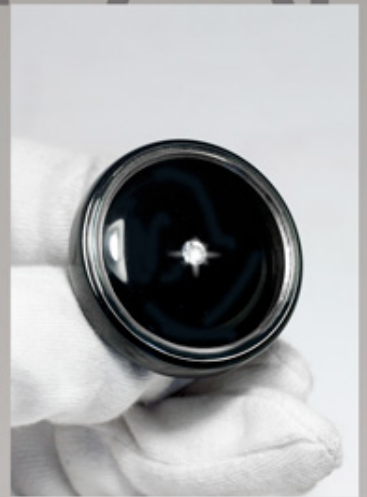
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Manu Propria Urushi Lacquer Jewelry: Timeless Elegance

Discover the exquisite beauty of Manu Propria's Urushi Lacquer Jewelry, where centuries-old Japanese craftsmanship meets modern design. Each piece is meticulously handcrafted using natural Urushi lacquer, adorned with traditional techniques like mother-of-pearl, Maki-e (gold powder art), and Kawarinuri (textured finishes).

This jewelry collection reflects timeless elegance, offering unique, wearable art that celebrates the harmony of nature and artistry. Perfect for collectors and connoisseurs seeking sophistication and heritage in every piece.

Elevate your style with Manu Propria's Urushi masterpieces—where tradition shines eternally.





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Kawarinuri

The Beauty of Experimental Urushi Objects

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Urushi Works

A collection of unique urushi works made by Martin Pauli, featuring techniques like dry lacquer "kanshitsu" and experimental lacquer "kawari-nuri"

Touch them, however, and it is immediately apparent that the eye has been deceived. There is no stone, iron wood or fabric. All is recreated in lacquer. In Japanese lacquer arts there is a rich tradition, dating back to at least the 18th-century, of using lacquer in replication of materials. The 19th century artist Shibata Zeshin perfected such techniques.

