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Navitimer Story

The Epic Saga of The Breitling Chronograph

Grégoire Rossier

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- The epic saga of the Breitling chronograph
- This second book in the *Watch Stories* series, dedicated to the history of emblematic timepieces, traces its heroic and unique destiny from its creation to the current models
- Also available is volume 1 in the series, *The Moonwatch Story*, ISBN 9782940506415

Navitimer. A mysterious name at first glance. It is in fact a contraction of two words, which correspond to the two major functions of a revolutionary watch: NAVIgation and TIMER. A chronograph designed for airborne navigation. But much more than that, an exceptional destiny, shaped by extraordinary and visionary actors. From the very beginning of its existence, in 1884, Breitling specialized in time measurement, namely the design of timers and chronographs. It was in the 1930s that the foundations of a close relationship with the world of aviation and aeronautics were laid, under the aegis of Willy Breitling. These ties have remained unbroken ever since. In 1952, in collaboration with the AOPA, the largest aeronautical association of the time, Breitling launched the development of the Navitimer, which offered what no other watch manufacturer had ever proposed: a chronograph combined with a slide rule for aircraft pilots. The Navitimer was available only to AOPA members in 1954, and then marketed to the general public in 1955. For 70 years now, the Navitimer has enjoyed glory, flown into space and weathered crises, integrating numerous evolutions without ever losing its original DNA. It has appealed to several generations of professionals, celebrities and lovers of exceptional watches, undoubtedly earning its status as an icon of watchmaking history.

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Anthony Marquié is a French national and a trained aeronautical engineer. He swiftly turned to an international career in finance and investments. He has always been a collector of both modern and vintage watches, including many icons from the Omega production. Today he spends a lot of his time looking for rare examples, as well as studying the market for prestigious watches and collector's pieces. **Grégoire Rossier** is a Swiss biologist specializing in bioinformatics. He became a watch enthusiast at the age of 13 when he inherited his first Omega Seamaster, but it was only much later that he started serious research on the Moonwatch. Applying his experience as a researcher, he developed a systematic database of thousands of entries referencing all his observations as well as the market trends for several versions of the Speedmaster.





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