

BAUSELE PRESS RELEASE: RAAF 100 YEAR CENTENARY WATCH

On 31 March 2021, the Royal Australian Air Force will mark 100 years of service to Australia.

Bausele has been chosen to create the OFFICIAL WATCH to mark the Royal Australian Air Force CENTENARY in 2021. The Australian watch company was considered amongst multiple globally recognised brands, so the selection reflects the coming of age of this boutique watchmaker.

"We are truly excited about the opportunity to work with an Australian company to produce watches for this important occasion. Australia and Air Force have come so far in 100 years, and we hope these watches will be a fitting keepsake as we move into the next century."

Air Commodore Andrew Elfverson, Director General, Air Force 2021.

Bausele Founder and Head Designer, Christophe Hoppe was inspired by the cornerstone themes of the Air Force Centenary: **Then. Now. Always.** Working in collaboration with the Air Force, these designs reflect Air Force heritage and offer inspiration for the future. The creation of two collector's edition watches will mark this impressive milestone, with each watch offering actual pieces from two of the aircraft flown by RAAF pilots across more than half a century: the dependable Caribou (DHC-4) battlefield transport aircraft and the "Classic" Hornet (F/A-18A) fighter jet, (when purchased during limited edition pre-sale).

On arrival in 1964, Caribou aircraft went straight into battle in Vietnam, going on to serve Air Force across the region for another 45 years. The F/A-18A Hornet became Australia's frontline fighter jet in 1985. Now after three decades, the 'Classic' Hornet fleet is due to be retired in 2021, during the Air Force centenary year. The inclusion of a fragment of these aircraft in the watches is a fitting tribute to all the people and aircrafts to have served the Air Force across the years.

"We are hugely honoured to be chosen to create two unique timepieces in recognition of 100 years of the Royal Australian Air Force. We have designed the watches together with the Air Force, and we feel humbled to be granted the opportunity to pay tribute to the Air Force personnel that have represented Australia during the last 100 years. It has definitely been our most exciting project to date".

Christophe Hoppe, Bausele Founder.

ABOUT THE WATCHES

The Airfield watch takes inspiration from history - the official issue RAAF Pilot watches from the 1940s and 1950s by IWC and Jaeger. Included in the offering during the pre-sale period will be an actual piece of the Caribou (DHC-4) transport aircraft number A4-208 embedded into a Centennial key ring.
RRP \$499 AUD

The Aviator watch looks to the future. Designed by Bausele Founder, Christo Hoppe in collaboration with the Air Force Centenary team, the watch is a Swiss made automatic loaded with high end features. As an exclusive element, the watch back includes a piece from aircraft number A21-01, the first F/A-18A Hornet fighter jet made and flown in Australia.
RRP \$1200 AUD

Between the 15th November and 15th December 2020 buyers can secure a numbered, limited edition watch to wear, gift or as a keepsake, for delivery during Centenary celebrations in March 2021. The exclusive Presale Offering includes:

Limited edition issue number on back

AVIATOR – exclusive piece of F/A-18A in case back

AIRFIELD – exclusive Key ring with Caribou piece

Enquiries about purchasing a limited-edition watch with requested number can be made [here](#) directly.

Offer available only in pre-sale period 15th Nov and 15th Dec 2020.

WEBSITE:

<https://www.bausele.com/collections/raaf-timepieces>

AF100 Centenary Site & Videos:

<https://www.airforce.gov.au/100>

<https://project2021.org/?c=58&k=c990be92aa>

For any further information or questions please contact:

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WATCH DETAILS:

THE AVIATOR

Constructed from surgical grade 316L stainless steel with gun metal IP (blue and black versions) this watch features a Sapphire crystal face with a Swiss Made bi-directional self-winding mechanical movement, Incabloc shock system and Nivaflex mainspring. There are 3 colour options available - White, Black or Blue.

The watch back includes a piece cut directly from aircraft number A21-01, the first F/A-18A Hornet fighter jet made and flown in Australia. The second hand has been designed in the shape of a F/A-18 Hornet and the crown at 4H contains actual soil from Point Cook base which was the first Air Force base in its hollow crown. The RAAF Centenary logo and the Australian Air Force roundel inserted in the crown at 2H under a crystal, completes this unique collector's edition keepsake.

The waterproof strap is made of high-performance recycled PET plastic and comes with an additional self-changeable band. The watch is secured by the most efficient deployed buckle.

It is presented in custom centenary packaging that has been designed, manufactured and assembled in Australia using 100% Australian ink and paper.

RRP \$1200 AU



THE AIRFIELD

The unisex designed watch case is made of surgical grade 316L stainless steel with a Sapphire crystal face. The clean look of the dial with "syringe" hands makes it easy to quickly read the time. The hands have super-luminova to glow when its dark. The watch comes in black, blue and beige, which creates a vintage look.

It has been 70 years since the last RAAF watch collaboration with watch brands IWC and Jaegar LeCoultre and we have built this watch using the same manufacturing techniques as those historical watches. The original watches are now collector's items worth many times their value.

The limited- edition watch includes the Centenary logo and the Australian Air Force roundel inserted in the crown at 4H, under a crystal. We have strategically designed the crown at 4H position to make it easy and versatile for active men and women, to avoid any restriction of movement on the wrist when a crown is placed at traditionally at 3H.

The watch back has been embossed with the outline of the Caribou Aircraft and the second-hand reflects shape of the Caribou as a counter-weight.

The waterproof strap is made of high- performance recycled PET plastic which has been reinforced for longevity. Additional straps can be easily interchanged to create a versatile look and function for every occasion.

The custom packaging is designed and assembled in Australia using 100% Australian paper and ink.

The Pre-Sale offering includes a key ring embedded with a piece cut from the Caribou (DC-4) aircraft #208.

RRP \$499

