

Stylus

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF FINE WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Stylus

60 Years and Going Strong
Fisher Space Pen Bullet lifts off

Going for the Gold
Loiminchay's Olympics Collection

Dazzling Diamonds
New pens from Laban

Beautiful Skyline
Eversharp's classic model

In the Driver's Seat

OMAS
Maserati is a winner ▶



(table of contents)

JUNE/JULY 2008 • NUMBER 29



Features

28

Write Like the Wind

The Omas for Maserati Limited Edition is fast and sleek

36

Going for the Gold

Loiminchay creates pens for the 2008 Summer Olympics

42

Outta Sight!

The Fisher Space Pen Bullet celebrates 60 years

42



36



(table of contents)

JUNE/JULY 2008 • NUMBER 29

Short Features

- 50** | **Pen Collectors of America**
"Keeping the history of writing instruments alive through member support and community education"
- 68** | **A Sparkling Idea**
Laban's Diamond collection shines on.



50



18



departments

- 3 Editor's Note
- 4 Technical Editor's Note
- 12 Ask Stylus
- 14 News
- 18 Market
- 54 Collecting
- 60 Travel
- 64 Ink Doctor
- 78 Pen in Hand
- 80 To the Point
- 82 Road Test
- 88 Classifieds
- 93 Crossword Puzzle
- 96 Postscript

(cover story)

WRITE LIKE

BY NANCY OLSON

THE *WIND*

The Omas for Maserati Limited Edition Is Fast and Sleek



At first glance, it's obvious that Omas and Maserati have a few things in common. They are both Italian brands, and they both produce well-crafted products for discerning customers. But dig

a little deeper, and you'll find that these two luxury companies share much more.

Bologna has been home to many artists—writers, painters, composers, actors and singers, among others—during its long

history as one of Italy's cultural centers. Located in the north-central part of the country, Bologna is also the home of Europe's oldest university, the University of Bologna—founded more than 900 years ago—and of many



(cover story)

The Omas for Maserati limited edition combines high polish and satin finishing.

famous companies, including Omas and Maserati Omas started life in 1925 at the hand of founder Armando Simoni, and its purpose was to produce wonderful writing instruments that were both technically perfect in performance and artful in their design. Maserati, founded by the Maserati brothers in 1914, became known for superbly crafted high-performance automobiles that were also pleasing

to behold. Today, both brands continue to produce high-end, high-fashion products that speak to a whole new generation of people who love great quality and good looks.

Omas and Maserati recently joined forces to create a sleek expression of their respective craftsmanship, and the result is the Omas for Maserati limited edition fountain pen and rollerball. It is inspired by Maserati's

GOING FOR THE

GOAL

Loiminchay creates pens for the
2008 Summer Olympics

BY NANCY OLSON





The 2008 Summer Olympics are right around the corner, beginning August 8 at the Beijing National Stadium in Beijing, People's Republic of China. And Loiminchay, world renowned for its luxury writing instrument collections displaying Chinese art and culture, is creating the official pen collections for this event. The challenge? To create pens that would best represent the event for which they were created in the luxurious and meticulous style for which Loiminchay is known.

In addition to maki-e and porcelain, "we used gilded bronze, lost-wax casting and filigree—material and techniques we have not used before," says Loiminchay founder Patrick Chu, adding that the challenge was half the fun. There are eight limited edition collections in all: four styles in maki-e, and one collection each in porcelain, gilded bronze, lost-wax casting and a precious metal filigree (gold or silver) over resin. And in the true spirit of the Olympics, whose slogan is, "One World, One Dream," the pens are

designed and crafted all around the globe, including the United States, France, Italy and the Far East. "The Olympics are meant to bring countries and people together," says Chu of this worldwide involvement.

Each pen within the collections is numbered, and there will be eight sets of all eight pens, at a price of around \$150,000. Though at the time of this writing the exact number within each limited edition was yet to be determined, apparently no more than 68 pieces of each will

Lucky Eight...

The 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing are scheduled to open on 8/8/08 at 8:08:08 p.m. The number eight in Chinese culture means prosperity and wealth. There are eight collections of pens designed by Loiminchay for the Olympics, and there are eight sets of the eight pens available for sale at approximately \$150,000.

OUTTA SIGHT!

60 YEARS
The Fisher Space Pen Bullet
celebrates 60 years



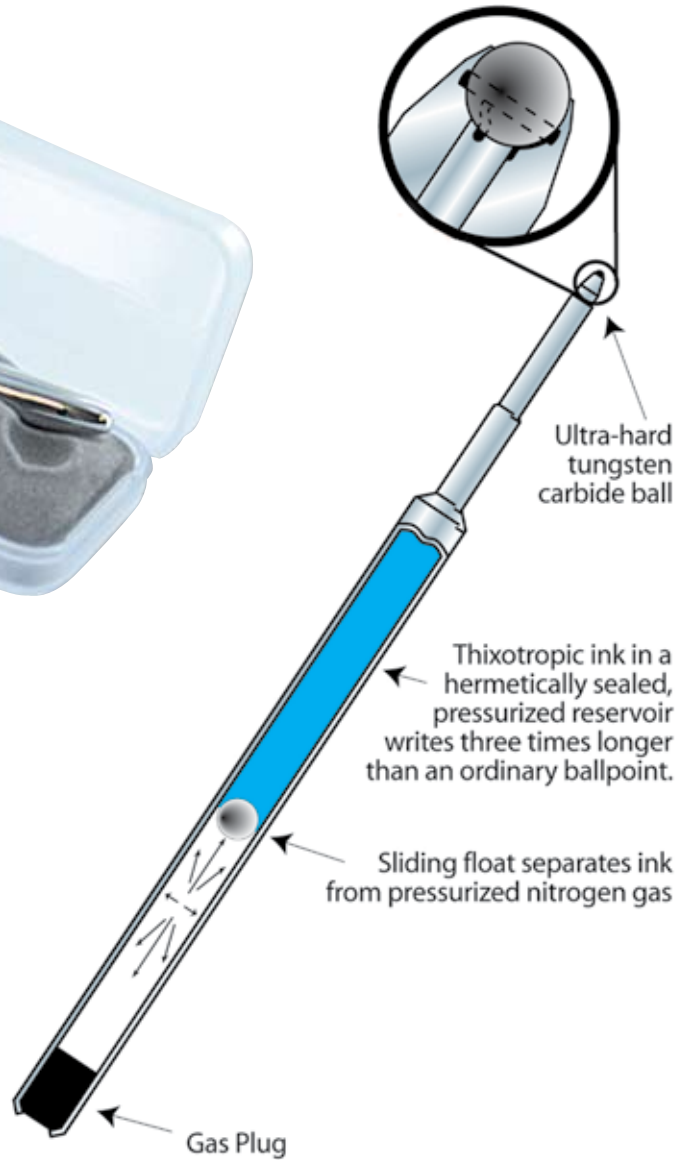


This year, the Bullet pen, from Fisher Space Pen, celebrates 60 years of success. Created by company founder Paul C. Fisher, the Bullet remains as popular as ever, though six decades have passed since the first one was produced. And it continues to gain recognition through various media

that could barely be conceived of at the time of its inception in 1948: it was a topic of the Seinfeld Show (“The Pen”) years ago, and it has been the focus of various web articles and discussions, as well. The Bullet collection has evolved over the years to include, in addition to the original chrome, a variety of fashionable

colors. But its spirit remains the same, and that’s what keeps the pen as fresh as ever. This 3.75-inch pen is even in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, having been cited as an example of “exquisite industrial design.”

An inventor, designer and entrepreneur, Paul Fisher was born



As the 1960s space race heated up, Fisher invented a pen that would write in zero gravity.

the son of a Methodist minister in Lebanon, Kansas, in 1913. He attended Kansas Wesleyan University and Coe College, but left school to work full-time for a bakery, where the first hint of his engineering skills surfaced when he came up with an innovative new bread rack design. He returned to college in 1938, attending Kansas State University, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1939.

He eventually became the general manager of Aetna Ball Bearing Manufacturing Company, which made bearings for plane propellers, jeeps, tanks, naval guns and other military equipment. But it was a fortuitous meeting with Milton Reynolds, of Reynolds ballpoint fame, in 1942, that gave way to Fisher's career in pens. It seems that Reynolds asked Fisher to help him produce a new ballpoint pen, but Fisher

reviewed his plans and declined. He did agree, however to supply Reynolds with the pen parts he requested. Years later, with Reynolds no longer producing his ballpoint pen, Fisher began designing and manufacturing his own. His very first was the now-famous Bullet pen, which is still the brand's biggest seller.

His next invention—in 1953—was the 1-for-All refill, which was designed to fit most pens on