

Student Exchange Program Denmark 2015

My name is Matteo Diamante and I am a watchmaker in the third year of the watchmaker school in Hamburg – Germany ([G16 Farmsen](#)).



Kitty (Finland) ,Teacher Micheal, Matteo, Sandra, Ditte , Miko (Finland)

I had the opportunity to take part in this Exchange program with the Denmark School of Watchmaking in, Ringsted. Four students from our class were chosen for the exchange. Two of us went to Denmark, and the other two of to Finland. In exchange, two student from Finland and Denmark completed the same task here in Germany. I am very proud when I look back at the two weeks when I was there. I made new friends and had the awesome task to skeletonizing a pocket watch movement – the Eta 6497.

The exchange is perfect for increasing your skills in watchmaking and English. The whole school is a college, with rooms where you sleep, eat breakfast and have lunch. There are , TV rooms, PC rooms free WiFi and a gym for the whole college.

I arrived on Sunday with my classmate Sandra at the [Zealand Business College](#). Two students showed us the school, our rooms and more importantly, the workshop were would work for the next two weeks. Monday, our first day begun by woke up at 6:50 because the cantin opens its doors at 7 o'clock. After that we had time until 8 o'clock the beginning of the first school lesson. In Denmark it is normal to have a lot of practical lessons and less theory. Their motto is learning by doing. Watchmakers in Denmark need four years for their education, in Germany it is only three years. We were together in a room with the third year students and, besides the work we had to do, had time to talk to each other. They asked us a lot of questioned about Germany and the watchmaker school. On the first day, Sandra and I spend most of the time creating and drawing the bridges for the watch. We were allowed to be creative and that is the best framework for working independently. The teacher, Michael, told us: "Do whatever you want, feel free and try". The casual way Michael handled his class and how the classmates were treating each other relay impressed me. His personality is nice, calm and special, in a positive way.

One other positive aspect of the school is the opening hours of the workshop. After 3 PM the “official school day” is over, but you are allowed to work on your own in the workshop until 6 PM during the week and until 8 PM on the weekends. So Therefore Sandra and I took advantage by working on Saturdays and Sundays

Last but not least, we also took the time to go to Copenhagen with our teacher Michael and our classmates. After side seeing we, visited Jens Olsen world clock. The guide was the same man who restored the clock and knows the mechanics, in case something breaks.

I am glad to say that the school gave me this opportunity and I hope that many other students get a chance to do this in the future. I think your personalty can grow, as well as, your workshop skills and your language skills, you can fiend friends and have a look at a different culture. Experience is a gift, which no one can take away.

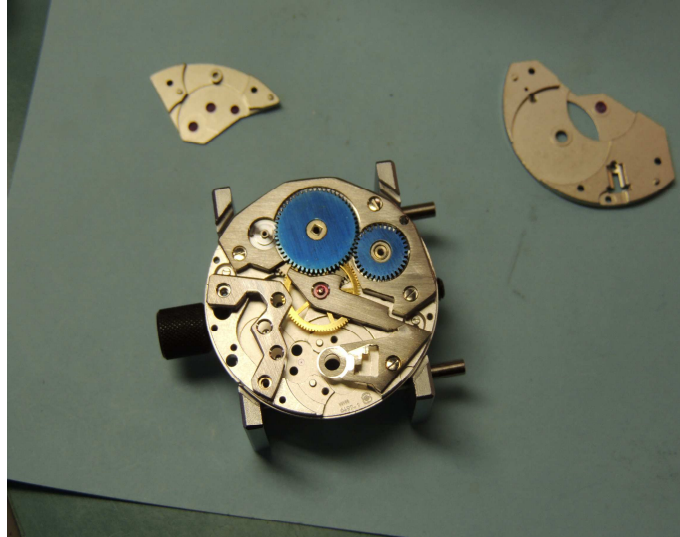


The first idea on paper

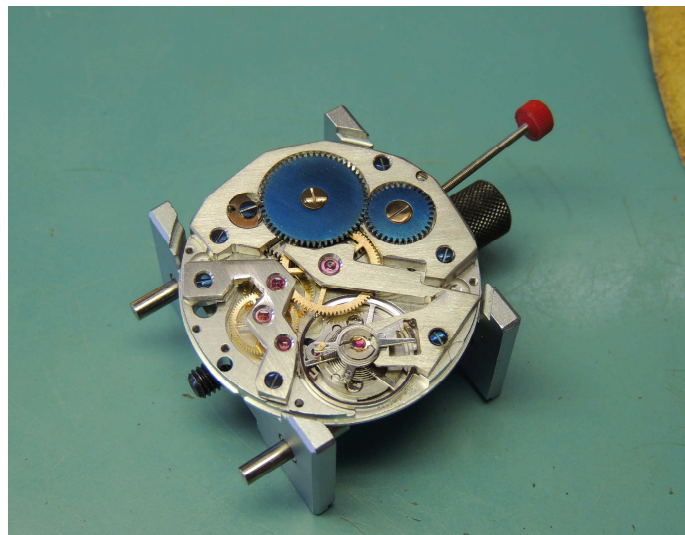


The result of sawing

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My projekt still in progress



My end result