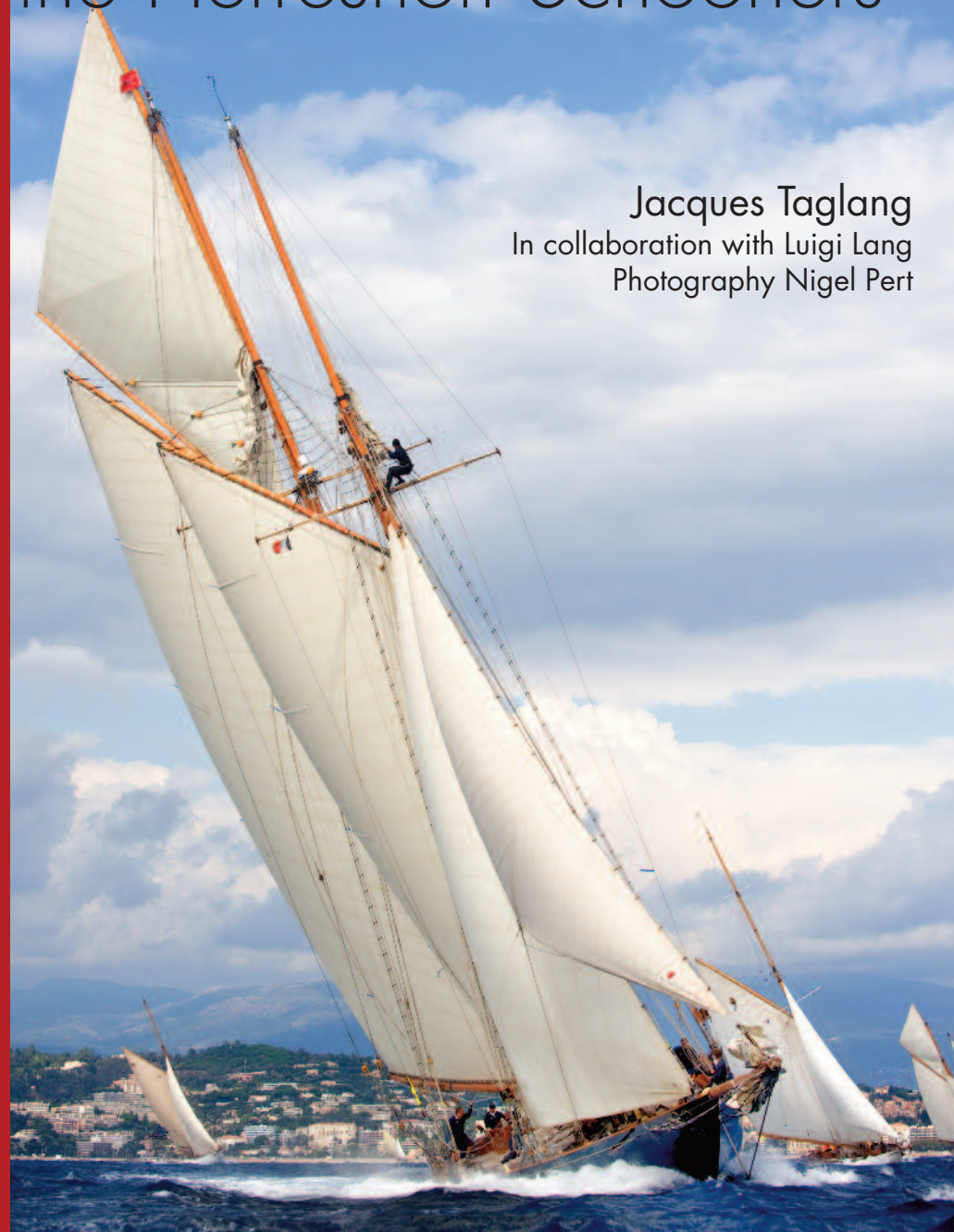




& MARIETTE

the Herreshoff Schooners

Jacques Taglang
In collaboration with Luigi Lang
Photography Nigel Pert



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MARIETTE

the Herreshoff Schooners

A book written by **Jacques Taglang**, to be published end of **March 2010**.

Almost **500 pages** tell the story of this famous schooner and her place in the body of work created by the most brilliant of yacht designers: **Nathanael Greene Herreshoff**.

As well as relating the intricate and fascinating saga of *Mariette* – she's a grand old dame of 94 and has known 17 owners since she was launched in 1915 – the book also tells the tale of the other 14 schooners that Herreshoff designed.

Yes, amazingly, Captain Nat designed a mere 15 vessels with schooner rig - representing a minute proportion of his output. He created more than 400 yachts, while the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company built about 2,000 yachts of different types and sizes (including boats in various one-design series), so the very limited number of schooners is highly mysterious!

Many personalities have collaborated in the creation of this book, which carries a preface written by **Maynard Bray**. The long list includes **Louis Boudreau**, **John Lammerts van Bueren**, **Thomas Eaton**, **Llewellyn Howland III**, **Luigi Lang**, **Claas van der Linde**, **Jonathan Money**, **Erik Pascoli** and **Charlie Wroe**.

Photos by **Nigel Pert** feature throughout the book and **François Chevalier** has redrawn the lines and sail plan of *Mariette*.

The richness of the included illustrations and photography is unprecedented. For a start, there are **35 of Nathanael Greene Herreshoff's plans** (construction, interior, sail) being published for the first time. Many vintage photographs are included, too. Among them are some wonderful shots by **Edwin Lewick** and **Beken of Cowes**, along with other striking photos from the collections of the **Peabody Essex Museum**, the **Rochester Museum** and the **Herreshoff Marine Museum** - plus reproductions of two works by the English artist **Jamie Medlin**.

A **separate hard-bound file** (in the same format as the book) will contain the 35 Herreshoff plans. The file also has two large-scale plans for use by modellers, plus some stunning illustrations.

The published set offers a unique record of *Mariette* and the other Herreshoff schooners and stands as fulsome testament to the skill of the yachts' designer...

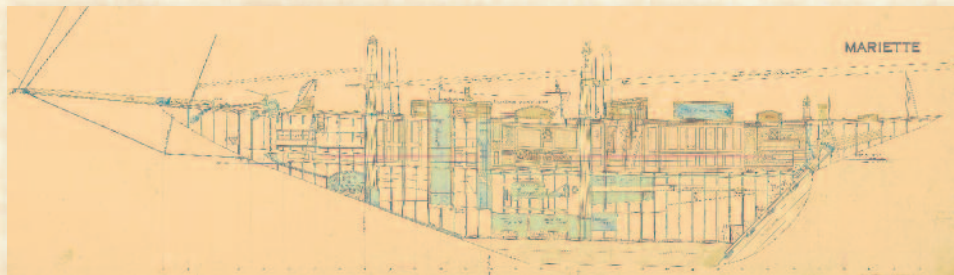


“Understanding genius has proven to be rich fodder for researchers and writers – as it has aspiring yacht designers and boatbuilders. It’s a never-ending quest. As with Mozart and Monet, there’s much that still remains to be explored and understood about NGH and his thinking. This comprehensive book by Jacques Taglang is one more important step in achieving that end.”

(Extract from the preface of the book *Mariette & the Herreshoff Schooners*, written by Maynard Bray)

“Only a great artist – and one who was also a great engineer – could have taken a highly evolved form such as the early 20th century racing schooner and made it so triumphantly his own. Not even the very gifted A. Cary Smith and William Gardner, themselves masters of racing schooner design, achieved a body of work to equal that of Captain Nat. His schooners are the “cathedrals” of American yachting. We gaze upon them with reverence and awe.”

(Extract from the book *Mariette & the Herreshoff Schooners*, written by Llewellyn Howland III)



“As with creations by conventional artists, Nathanael Greene Herreshoff’s yachting work is somewhat paradoxical. He is one of the most famous designers - possibly the most talented in yachting history – and constantly strove to surpass himself throughout his working life. He singlehandedly designed at least 400 boats and dreamt up the first modern catamaran as early as 1876. In 1891, he began to revolutionize yachting with his three “reference” boats – *Gloriana*, *Dilemma* and *Alpha*. He also designed the yachts that won the America’s Cup six times between 1893 and 1920. His legacy, with contributions from his blind brother, John Brown, includes many innovations still found in modern yachts today. The so-called Wizard of Bristol dedicated his life to yachts but, if his son L. Francis is to be believed, he did not have any particular interest in schooners.



But how could this genius – to whom no technical challenge was ever an obstacle (proof being the remarkable *Mariette*) – seem so unenthusiastic about the rig of preference of most rich yachtsmen of that era? Especially when many of his customers would have found it unimaginable to be without a big, fast, comfortable schooner in their lives - and when so many of Captain Nat’s colleagues and competitors didn’t hesitate to meet their demands?

Let’s try to find what lay behind this character, a man capable of designing the beautiful *Mariette*, a schooner that remains an imposing testament to his skill and leaves modern spectators in awe of her symmetry and perfection.”

(Extract from the book *Mariette & the Herreshoff Schooners*, written by Jacques Taglang)

