

**FOR RELEASE**

**LONGINES MASTERS OF LOS ANGELES CONFIRMS WORLD'S BEST RIDERS**



*7 Olympic Medalists from the 2016 Rio Games  
Set to Compete at Major International Equestrian Competition*

**LOS ANGELES (Sept. 14, 2016)** – September 29-October 2, the world's best riders will converge in California to compete for the new Super Grand Slam Bonus of 2.25 million Euros at the Longines Masters of Los Angeles. The event is the first FEI recognized CSI 5\* show jumping competition on the West Coast and one of the first major international equestrian competitions following the Olympics. The American leg of the Longines Masters Series will feature seven 2016 Olympic medalists, including gold, silver and bronze team and individual medalists who will meet again in the ring after this summer's games in Rio.

Looking to continue their success from the Rio games, 2016 Team USA silver medalists Lucy Davis and Kent Farrington will return to the Longines Masters of Los Angeles. They will compete against familiar faces from the games, including Team France gold medalists Kevin Staut and Roger-Yves Bost as well as Team Germany bronze medalists Christian Ahlmann and Daniel Deusser, and who shared the podium with them last month.

World Number 3 Simon Delestre from France will make his first appearance at the Longines Masters of Los Angeles after multiple years of competing in the Paris and Hong Kong legs of the international competition. Additional Rio Olympians confirmed to compete include Eric Lamaze from Canada who won individual bronze medalist, Harrie Smolders from the Netherlands, 2012 London Olympics individual gold medalist Steve Guerdat, and more.

Last year's winner of the Grand Slam Super Bonus in Hong Kong and of the Longines Grand Prix in Los Angeles, German rider Marco Kutsher, will be back this year to compete, while the young, up-and-coming Irish star, Bertram Allen will also return to defend his 2015 Longines Speed Challenge title. Allen won the Longines Speed Challenge in Los Angeles and Hong Kong last season.

2012 winner of the FEI World Cup final Richard Fellers is also confirmed to compete, along with many additional notable 5\* riders from the United States, including Georgina Bloomberg, Jessica Springsteen, Richard Spooner and more.



Along with 5\* Masters competitions such as the Longines Grand Prix, Longines Speed Challenge, Emirates Gold Cup, the Prestige and National Trophy classes and Pro-AM for Charity will provide a unique opportunity for amateur riders to compete alongside masters of the sport. Actress Kaley Cuoco and French director/actor and rider Guillaume Canet, and many more will take the ring and show off their skills throughout the four action-packed days.

Longines Ambassador of Elegance, World Cup gold medal alpine race skier Mikaela Shiffrin will attend the Longines Masters of Los Angeles on Friday, September 30 for the Longines Speed Challenge.

The hospitality, lifestyle, entertainment and glamour of Los Angeles coupled with the level of sporting competition of show jumping have made this the must-attend event of the year.

### **Masters (CSI 5\*)**

Christian Ahlmann (GER)  
Kent Farrington (USA)  
Simon Delestre (FR)  
Eric Lamaze (CAN)  
Daniel Deusser (GER)  
Kevin Staut (FR)  
Scott Brash (GB)  
Roger-Yves Bost (FRA)  
Steve Guerdat (SUI)  
Harrie Smolders (NED)  
Bertram Allen (IRL)  
Patrice Delaveau (FRA)  
Denis Lynch (IRL)  
Emanuele Gaudio (Italy)  
Conor Swail (IRL)  
John Whitaker (UK)  
Marco Kutsher (GER)  
Sam Parot (CHI)  
Jack Towell (USA)  
Cian O'Connor (IRL)  
Todd Minikus (USA)  
Julien Epaillard (FRA)  
Richard Spooner (Florida, USA)  
Jos Verlooy (BEL)  
Margie Engle (USA)  
Lucy Davis (Los Angeles, USA)  
Eduardo Menezes (BRA)  
Georgina Bloomberg (USA)  
Jane Richards Philips (SUI)  
Audrey Coulter (San Francisco, CA)  
Jessica Springsteen (USA)  
Richard Fellers (USA)  
Karl Cook (California, USA)  
Chris Surbey (USA)  
Enrique Gonzales (MEX)  
Alberto Michan (Mexico)  
Francesco Franco (ITA)  
Philip Houston (GER)





*Stay connected for further updates and essential information, coming soon!*

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## **ABOUT THE LONGINES MASTERS**

Established in three of the world's most iconic cities — Los Angeles, Paris and Hong Kong — the Longines Masters Series, “Grand Slam Indoor of Show Jumping” is renowned as one of the most prestigious equestrian events in the world.

Created by EEM and inspired by the Grand Slam tennis tournaments, the Series rapidly developed abroad, with the Longines Masters of Hong Kong in 2013 and the Longines Masters of Los Angeles in 2014. In 2015, the intercontinental trilogy became the Longines Masters.

Presented by EEM and recognized by the FEI, the “Grand Slam of Indoor Show Jumping” is the ultimate challenge, with two levels of prizes:

The Super Grand Slam, a bonus of 2.25 million Euros for winning 3 consecutive Longines Grand Prix in the same season: Los Angeles, followed by Paris and then Hong Kong.

The Grand Slam: a bonus of 1 million Euros for three successive victories in the Longines Grand Prix from one season to the next, (ex: Paris > Hong Kong > Los Angeles, or Hong Kong > Los Angeles > Paris.)

These events are broadcast in more than 120 countries and reach up to 550 million households. Every edition of the Longines Masters is a must-attend event bringing together top-level athletes and amateurs alike, celebrities and corporate decision-makers from around the world, all who come to enjoy a unique experience created by exceptional moments in sport, entertainment, glamour, gastronomy and contemporary art.

Save the dates for the season two:

- Longines Masters of Los Angeles: 29 September-2 October, 2016
- Longines Masters of Paris: 1-4 December, 2016
- Longines Masters of Hong Kong: 10-12 February, 2017

## **ABOUT EEM**

EEM CEO and Founder Christophe Ameeuw and his team have set no less a goal than to reinvent the sport of show jumping. For over ten years they have been dedicated to bringing equestrian sports to the international front stage. Inspired by the legendary tournaments of the tennis Grand Slam, EEM gathers under one roof the best of show jumping, entertainment and lifestyle experience. 2009 was a crucial milestone for EEM with its revival of the “Jumping de Paris” and the creation of the Gucci Paris Masters. EEM then set off to conquer new continents, with an Asian edition which took place in Hong Kong in 2013, followed in 2014 by the first American stage of the Longines Masters in Los Angeles. In 2015 the intercontinental trilogy of which EEM is the creator, owner and organizer, became the Longines Masters “Grand Slam Indoor of Show Jumping”.

## **ABOUT LONGINES**

Based in Saint-Imier, Switzerland since 1832, the watchmaking expertise of Longines reflects a strong devotion to tradition, elegance and performance. Longines has generations of





experience as the official timekeeper for world championships and as a partner of international sports federations. Over the years, Longines has forged solid and lasting ties with the sports world. Known for the elegance of its timepieces, Longines is a member of the Swatch Group Ltd., the world's leading manufacturer of timekeeping products. Featuring the winged hourglass as its emblem, the brand operates in more than 150 countries.

Informations : [www.longines.com](http://www.longines.com)

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## PRESS INFORMATION

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↻ **The Instant video:** <https://youtu.be/0EkEQoJgWVA>

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