The light frigate, a small vessel that was relegated at the bottom of the rating, between the large frigates and barca longas and used for all and any mission in Louis XIV’s Navy, had not been the subject of any exhaustive study until now.

The study of the _Aurore_ that he presents here begins with a definition of the characteristics of the light frigates at the beginning of the reign of Louis XIV that were still answering to the design concepts that prevailed in the first half of the 17th century. Then he describes their evolution the light frigate architecture, like that of ships-of-the-line, having had to adapt to the constant increase in firepower during the long periods of the reign and the following dozens of years until, in spite of a reduction in topside heights, it was abandoned for the corvette whose shape is lower on the water.

The study continues, focusing on a remarkable example of the light frigates built after the ministries of Colbert and Seignelay: the eighteen 6-pdrs “l’Aurore”, laid down at Le Havre by Philippe Cochois in 1697.

The results of this study are translated into 31 plates at the 1/48 scale that describe the Aurore graphically in all her aspects, from her schematic lines to the complete rigging, including the framing and inside accommodations.

The relative dryness of the subject is somewhat attenuated by the relation of her career in the Royal Navy and in particular by the story of her two overseas cruises. This relation that enriches the study considerably is the work of the historian Patrick Villiers. He contributes to giving a more alive image of the Aurore.

Overall, the monograph provides all the information, technical and historical, on the light frigate within the French Navy from 1661 to 1750. Its contents should answer fully the expectations of experienced modelers.

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6. Arrangements in the hold and bread room
7. First deck - framing and fittings
8. Castles - framing and planking - topgallant poop: structure and covering
9. Deck and castles with their fittings - dressed-up elevation
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11. Cross-section of the stern through frame VII
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**EXTRACTS FROM THE PLANS**