

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 43 (2016)  
**Heft:** 3

**Rubrik:** Images : ticking art from a bygone era

#### Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

#### Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

#### Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 22.08.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Ticking art from a bygone era

The first Swiss watches were once made in Geneva. They were ornate, colourful and exquisite. Some of these treasures from the 17th to 19th centuries can now be seen in Basel. The Basel Historical Museum is displaying exhibits from its own collection.

LEH



A "skeletonised" pocket watch from the 1820s designed by Bordier of Geneva. (Photos: HMB / Natascha Jansen)



A pocket watch made of silver jointly created by Michel Spleiss from Schaffhausen and Domaine Dassier from Geneva around 1700.



Circa 1790 watches were also mounted on rings, as this timepiece by an unknown watchmaker proves.



This colourful timepiece made of enamelled gold was made jointly by three watchmakers circa 1745.



This watch made of enamelled gold in the form of a smelling bottle was produced around 1665 by Auguste Bretonneau.



From 1800: An extraordinary watch in the shape of a lyre from Piguet & Capt.



Watch with a noble lady: This piece with protective casing and gold piqué on leather was created around 1690 by Isaac Perrot.