



The Hölderlin Clock takes us back in Time to the tiny town of Tübingen in the early 19th century. We see the poet Friedrich Hölderlin leaves his tower. Deep in thought, he strolls along the banks of the river. The expression on his face is solemn. When he reaches the weeping willow tree, a flash of poetic inspiration crosses his mind. Wanting to write this down, he turns around and hurries back to the tower.

Motif: the Neckar riverfront is represented in the style of the Biedermeier period. The scene was created by Andreas Härlin, a well-known Tübingen graphic artist.

It is available in two versions:

*Version 1: Screen printed on stainless steel with lasered silhouette
Version 2: Hand painted, oil on enamel, hand-cut silhouette*

Technical/Engineering: The original clockwork was designed and crafted in metal by Master Holdermann. Two high-quality quartz drives, made in Germany, keep the clock running for years between battery changes (Standard AA).

The cabinet is made from high-grade, solid wood and is available in three versions:

*Version 1: Maplewood, light
Version 2: Cherry wood, stained
Version 3: Maplewood, ebonized (black stained)*

The birth of an idea. What inspired Master Holdermann to make the Hölderlin Clock?

Born and raised in Tübingen, the young Holdermann shared the nickname „Holder“ with the famous poet. He also loved to spend idle hours on the banks of the Neckar River – a perfect place to kick back and wind down. Holdermann: „The peaceful flow of the river and the reflection of the city scenery in the water gave me an idea“. As a master clockmaker, he is by definition an expert in making clocks tick. „In today’s world, time is our most precious commodity. The more efficiently this valuable resource is used, the bigger the return on investment. But the paradox is, the more time we gain through the timesaving programs and efficiency measures, shorter working hours and non-stop online presence, the less time we actually have. The bottom line is that time is running in this savings account we call life.“

With this in mind, Master Holdermann decided to create a clock that ticks to a more humane rhythm: The Hölderlin Clock



Master Holdermann presents:

The Hölderlin Clock

*Holdermann’s Uhrenkabinett
Lange Gasse 12 – 72070 Tübingen
Tel.: +49.7071.51425
Fax: +49.7071.996660
Internet: www.Holdermann-Sohn.de
Info@Holdermann-Sohn.de*



Although it took him half-an-hour to get to the willow tree, he scurries back over the same distance in just eight minutes. The rest of the time he spends writing verses up in the tower.

Today, the Hölderlin Tower is an historic landmark in Tübingen, Germany.



Telling Time

Tübingen ca. 1810

Hölderlin leaves the tower at 20 minutes past the hour.

At 30 minutes past the hour, he reaches the steps.

At 45 minutes past the hour, he reaches the willow tree.

At 55 minutes past the hour, he turned around and heads back with a different facial expression.

On the hour, he reaches the steps again as he heads back to the tower.

At 5 minutes past the hour, he disappears into the tower again, where he stays in this creative refuge until 20 minutes past the hour.

The scene cycles every hour.



The hours are marked by the position of the sun and the moon. Rising at 6 a. M., the sun travels over a semicircle across the firmament in 12 hours. At noon it reaches its zenith over the church. At 6 p. M. The sun sets and the moon rises. As shown in the diagram below, the hours are indicated across the sky by tiny stars, clouds, birds or bats.



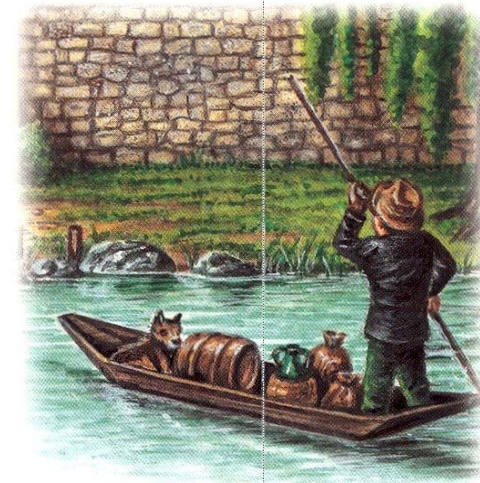
A different measure of time

The Hölderlin Clock dispenses with the rigidity of a modern chronometer and invites us to perceive time differently. This is accomplished in two ways. First, just as our ancestors determined the time of day by looking at rays of light on a sundial, we can see the full hours across the firmament of the clock. Secondly, and this is what makes the clock so special, the pace at which Hölderlin walks along the river bank changes according to his mood. Sound familiar? Sometimes, time just flies by a hectic pace. Other times, the hours drag on. This precision timepiece works in a similar way. Walking away from the tower, deep in thought, Hölderlin takes 30 minutes to reach his destination. On the way back, he covers the same distance in just 10 minutes. In the truest sense of the word, the face of the Hölderlin Clock has a human character.



A modern timepiece

The Hölderlin Clock is more than a step back into the early days of timekeeping. It is a product of German ingenuity designed as a contribution to the new millennium. It suggests a more insightful perception of time.



People, who need to know the exact time down to the second, can always glance at their wristwatch. Today's modern time management has long taken into account the fact that true creativity needs a pause to flourish. People who bury themselves in chronometric time are always rushing from one appointment to the next. Unfortunately, they often miss out on the truly important things in life.

Following the poetic example of Hölderlin, we learn that taking our time often generates creative inspiration and opens our eyes to the real wonders around us.



Why Hölderlin?

The idea of escaping from the rigid staccato of time fits perfectly with the Hölderlin personality. In his time, he suffered the intellectual confinement and oppression of Swabian pietism. He found the peace and harmony he was searching for on the banks of the Neckar River. A place, where he could commune with divine nature.



Printing and folding of this flyer:

1. please print the first and the second page of this document on one sheet (double sided with 600 dpi or more)
2. than cut it at the bottom, the top, the left and the right borders
3. put it on a table with the second side on top
4. and fold it from the outer to the inner at the marked lines