

## Press release

### A Compact History of Basel – from the beginning to the present

Leaps back into the history of the city of Basel: the book *Leaps in Time – A Brief History of Basel* by Gudrun Piller, Jonathan Büttner and Daniel Suter (Christoph Merian Verlag) invites us to take such temporal leaps. The publication consolidates and complements the new collection-presentation under the same name at the Basel Historical Museum. This excursion through the history of the city sets out six focal points, but without losing sight of the overall picture. When deciding on the thematic aspects, one guiding principle was the question of how the city became what it is today. The publication offers both deep insight and a compact overview, zooming in on and highlighting important events in the history of Basel.

Celtic cooking utensils, a crust of bread dating from the time of the famine or a pattern book used in ribbon fabrication in Basel are among the 50 selected objects that lead us chronologically through time. They are the 'door openers' that incorporate an event or development in the history of the city and fill it with life.

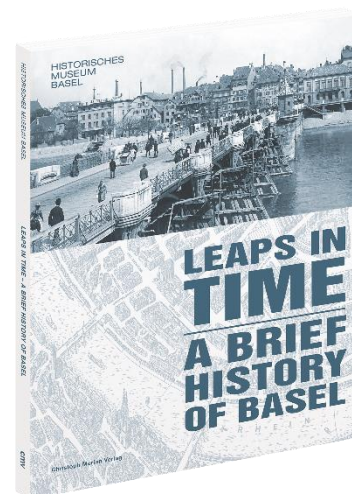
Not all historical events are rendered tangible in remains and objects, for example, crises like natural catastrophes, fire storms or epidemics. How often did plague, typhoid, cholera or the Spanish flu rage in the city? How old are the first settlement finds? A chronological time-line with all the great events and upheavals provides orientation and helps in classifying the objects, plans, models, photographs and illustrations shown.

This richly illustrated publication shines a bright and striking light on the history of Basel from its beginnings to the present.

With 184 mainly colour illustrations. The German edition of the book is entitled *Zeitsprünge – Basler Geschichte in Kürze*.

#### About the editors:

Gudrun Piller (curator at the Basel Historical Museum), Jonathan Büttner (research assistant) and Daniel Suter (librarian and research associate) jointly conceived the exhibition *Zeitsprünge – Basler Geschichte in Kürze* in the Barfüsser Church.



Historisches Museum Basel (Ed.)  
Jonathan Büttner, Gudrun Piller,  
Daniel Suter

#### **Leaps in Time** **A Brief History of Basel**

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English,  
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copy of your review.**