



# Antide Janvier

## Pendule d'Audience

Signed "Janvier à Paris" on the bottom of the case and "Janvier" on the movement, Paris 1801-1802.

"Pendule d'audience" with rectangular case. The main dial bearing two twelve-hour indications, with 10-minute divisions, the auxiliary dial indicating minutes divided into fractions of 20 seconds. The phases of the moon and the hours are indicated by a solar hand. In the lower portion of the case there is a thermometer with blued steel hand.

The mahogany case is attributed to Schwerdfeger, Paris, Directoire period, circa 1801-1802.

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*Height 37 cm / Width 23 cm*

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## Pendule d'Audience

Antide Janvier produced approximately one hundred pieces, the whereabouts of only approximately fifty of which are known today. This "pendule d'audience" was made circa 1801-1802.

Between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and the early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, approximately fifteen clocks of this type are recorded, one of which, bearing the no. 298, is dated 1798. Its mahogany case rests on two lions. Another clock with similar case bears the no. 314. It is dated 1801 and is ornamented with a sphinx.

Antide Janvier developed the "pendule d'audience" in the late 18th century. These clocks featured a dial with 10-minute indications and a small seconds hand. At the time, a petitioner had ten minutes in which to present his request to the government, after which time it was the turn of the next petitioner. The declaration of the rights of man, published in August 1789, stipulated that each French citizen had the right to an audience, or hearing, with government representatives. The people, whose voice had never before been heard, received this news with joy. It was soon decided that each audience would be limited to 10 minutes.

A clock of this type is said to have belonged to Fouché, Duke of Otranto, and Minister of Police during the reign of Napoleon I.

The sun hand indicates the hours; the minutes are indicated by its other extremity. This hand makes one revolution every 24 hours. The gears are calculated so that the two hands meet only once every 29½ days, which corresponds to the lunar month, thus indicating the synodic movement of the moon.

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## *Antide Janvier\_ (1751 - 1835)*

*Antide Janvier (July 21, 1751 - September 23, 1835), was the son of clockmaker Claude Etienne Janvier. Having established a watch-making business in Paris, he was successively named Horloger mécanicien de Monsieur frère du Roi (1783), Horloger Mécanicien du Roi (1784), and, after the 1814 Restoration of the Bourbons, Horloger ordinaire du Roi.*

*Trained by his father, he also received lessons from Abbot Tournier, who taught him mathematics and astronomy. In 1783, he was accorded the protection of Louis XVI's brother, the Count de Provence; the following year, the King acquired two orreries made by Janvier and secured his services.*

*Janvier worked with the best artisans of his time, ordering his cases from Ferdinand Schwerdfeger, Jean-Henri Riesener and Georges Jacob; his enamel dials were produced by the eminent enamellers Coteau and Dubuisson.*