Fetal skeleton with embryo, fetus, placenta and atheroma

Thesaurus Anatomicus, a 10-part work first published from 1701 to 1716, is a catalog of Frederik Ruysch’s unusual anatomical collection. Illustrated with over 40 plates, engraved by Joseph Mulder and Cornelis Huyberts, Ruysch’s collection contains odd assemblages of primarily human anatomical specimens, some of which he composed with the help of his daughter, the painter, Rachel Ruysch. In addition to the curiosities that he contributed to the science of anatomy, Ruysch also advanced techniques in dissection and embalming.


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HUNDE-EMBRYO, 25 TAGE ALT, VON DER BAUCHSEITE, GEÖFFNET

Depiction of the dog embryo at twenty five days old opened from the ventral side. Labels are provided for organs and body parts.

Ernst Haeckel's Anthropogenie, oder, Entwicklungsgeschichte des menschen, a simplified embryology textbook focusing on ontogeny and phylogeny, was first published in 1874. Challenged on the accuracy of its embryological illustrations and its promotion of the recently developed theories of Darwin, the book's publication was the subject of much controversy.

Original image in: Bc 25a (Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia)

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VENAS EXHIBET, QUAE PER DUOS INFERNOS VENTRES, NECNON PER ARTUS ANTERIÙS SPECTATOS FERUNTUR

Anatomical diagram of a human figure, anterior view, showing the veins throughout the body.

Tabulae anatomicae, a collection of Bartolomeo Eustachi’s anatomical engravings, was first published over one hundred years after Eustachi’s death. Eustachi was known for his strong defense of the Galenic tradition. His plates introduced numbered rulers on the edges of images (instead of marking the image itself with small letters and numbers) to help readers locate relevant text in the book.


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Paré was a renowned French barber surgeon and served Kings Henry II, Francis II, Charles IX and Henry III. In 1575, he published a large volume containing 29 books on topics such as anatomy, tumors, wounds, fractures, smallpox and measles, poisons, the generation of men, and monsters and prodigies, among others. Paré's section on the monstrous discusses monsters, marvels, and maimed people, all of which appear outside the course of nature. During Paré's time, it was believed that God or the devil caused monstrosities and that these “prodigies” foretold impending disasters.

Original image in: Paré, Ambroise, 1510?–1590. Les oeuvres d’Ambroise Paré., page 1075. ZEa 9f (Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia)

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Woodcut from *Ophthalmodouleia*, das ist Augendienst was the first Renaissance manuscript on ophthalmic disorders and surgeries. Georg Bartisch (1535–1607), considered by many the "father of modern ophthalmology," accompanied the images with a discussion of eye pathologies, surgeries and the instruments used in ocular surgery at the time. *Ophthalmodouleia*, das ist Augendienst was notably written in Bartisch's native German rather than Latin, the dominant language of science and academia at the time. It was the first textbook in the German language and is seen as the precursor to the modern textbook.

Original image in: Bartisch, Georg, 1535–ca. 1607. *Ophthalmodouleia*, das ist Augendienst ZKb 16 (Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia)

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