



In the shadow of Vesalius

An exciting series of new insights into the life and work of Andreas Vesalius and his friends

VESALIUS

The 16th century was revolutionized by scientific and artistic novelties, not the least in the anatomical and medical world. In this richly illustrated book a multitude of academic scholars present new findings concerning Vesalius and his contemporaries. One of those discoveries includes a preparatory sketch by Jan Steven van Calcar for a drawing in Vesalius' famous 'Fabrica', called 'The Philosopher'.

Also authentic letters, written by Vesalius to his friends Benedetto Varchi and Octavo Landi, are presented and translated for the first time, and are thoroughly discussed, shedding new light on crucial periods of Vesalius' life, such as his leave from academic Padua, exchanged for imperial service to Charles V, or his contribution to the treatment of Philip II's son, crown prince Carlos in Spain. Anatomical novelties, discovered by Vesalius' friends and

contemporaries, are equally broadly exposed, like Canani's input in human arm musculature or Valverde's 'corrections' of Vesalius' 'Epitome'. Valverde's publication became one of the greatest 'bestsellers' treating anatomy during the 16th and 17th century, thereby spreading the 'Vesalian Revolution' all over Europe. But also the relationship between Vesalius and his Paduan room mate John Kay or Caius is scrutinised, as are a number of family descendants of Vesalius.

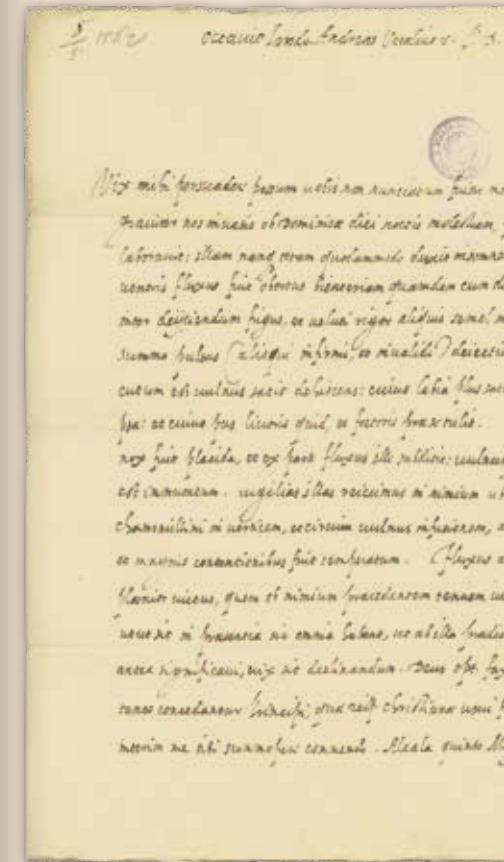
It is newly acknowledged in this book that Vesalius influenced artists in anatomical models and drawings, as well as his influence on veterinary medicine. In short, this book offers an inspiring new account of Vesalius' extraordinary long-term influence on anatomy, science and art in general.



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The shadow of Vesalius

Works written in quarantine

It seems like another world in which we made our plans for the 3rd edition of the Vesalius Triennial Congress, 4 months before the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. From vain belief that COVID-19 would not hit most countries, to hopes that everything would have blown over by 13th November 2020 (the day when the next Vesalius Triennial Congress would take place in Antwerp) to realizing that we were going to have to take action, the scientific committee has transformed from one in which everyone knew their time-tried and perfected role, to one requiring invention in uncharted territory.

Cancelling the 3rd Vesalius Triennial was never an option, since facilitating human communication is the corner stone of a scientific community. So we set sail for the vast virtual-reality realm. To discover just how far we could delve into virtual communication with a dedicated but small organising committee, was an eventful, insightful voyage, as is COVID-19 itself. Sadly after long and careful consideration and several online meetings we finally decided to postpone all international congress keynote lectures and educational sessions until 2023.

However, to enable the Triennial 2020 congress speakers to enlighten a future generation of medical, historical and artistically inspired professionals with new discoveries from the last 3 years, a completely new edition, a book about Vesalius, will be launched this year.

You are hereby invited to immerse yourself in new evidence-based writings on Vesalius' work and influence written by Belgian and international experts in the field of History, Medicine and Art.

Stay up to date and sign up for this innovative book.



Order form

Van Hee R. (Editor):

'In the shadow of Vesalius'

One volume, soft cover.

Published by Garant Publishers.

Antwerp (Belgium)/Apeldoorn (The Netherlands).

- Pre-order price (until release on 13th November 2020):
39 EUR (or 45 USD), *postage and handling excluded.*
Bookshop price as of 14th November 2020: 45 EUR (or 52 USD)

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Comments of Jacqueline Vons

(Emer. Professor of Latin and Medical History, University of Tours, France).

Centered around the figure of Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564), this book 'In the Shadow of Vesalius' offers a vast panorama of the anatomical knowledge in Europe during early Modern times. Some new documents and private letters have been discovered and are finely analyzed, as are anatomical books written by contemporaries and successors of Vesalius. The studies gathered here show how the text and iconography's diffusion of *De humani corporis fabrica* and *Epitome* made Vesalius the first modern medical authority (*auctoritas*): his work was quoted, copied, discussed by all those who were interested in the anatomy of the human body.

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Somersstraat 13-15
B-2018 Antwerpen
Telephone: +0032 (0)3 231 29 00
Fax: +0032 (0)3 233 26 59

Koninginnelaan 96
NL-7315 EB Apeldoorn
Telephone: +0031 (0)55 522 06 25
Fax: +0031 (0)55 522 56 94

www.garant-uitgevers.eu | info@garant.be | info@garant-uitgevers.nl

