

THOMAS BARTHOLIN (DANISH, 1616 - 1680)

ANATOMIA, EX CASPARI BARTHOLINI PARENTIS
INSTITUTIONIBUS...AD SANGUINIS CIRCULATIONEM....

[ANATOMY, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF CASPAR
BARTHOLIN....]

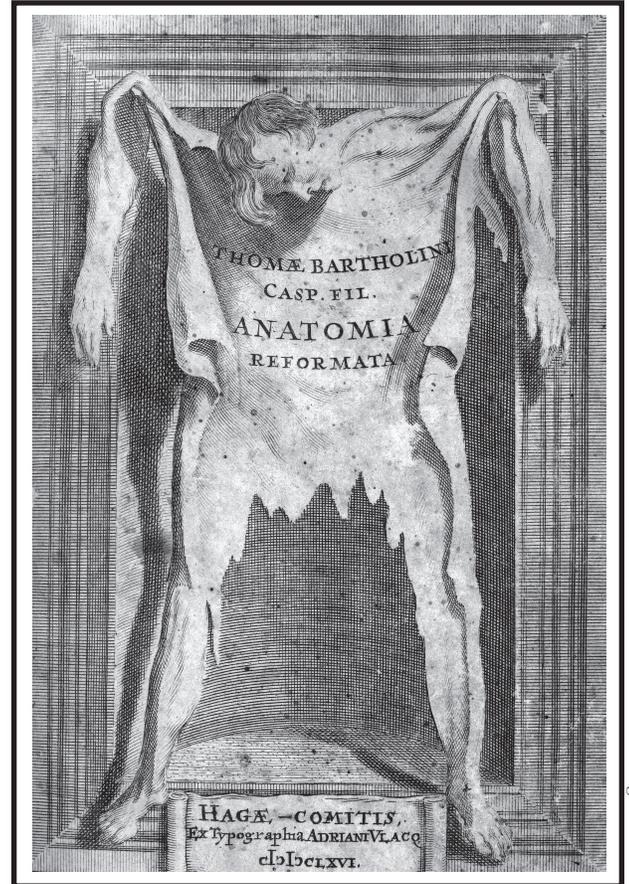
THE HAGUE: ADRIAN VLACQ, 1666.

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Thomas Bartholin was a member of an extensive family of physicians and anatomists and the son of famous anatomist Caspar Bartholin. The family was well respected as physicians and well-connected with the Danish ruling class. Thomas Bartholin was appointed professor of anatomy at the University of Copenhagen in 1648, an academic chair he held until 1661.



Bartholin • Anatomia • The Hague • 1666

While studying in Leiden, Bartholin concerned himself chiefly with the study of the lymphatic vessels and William Harvey's theory of blood circulation. His most important contribution to anatomy and physiology was the discovery that the lymphatic system is an entirely separate system from the circulatory system; the lymphatics formed a never-before-described physiological system.

Bartholin wrote several anatomical treatises that were used by medical students as textbooks. In reality, however, these texts were largely revised and updated editions of his father's *Institutiones Anatomicae* (1611). Though the anatomical illustrations differed from edition to edition, few of them were original. Most were taken from works by Andreas Vesalius, Giulio Casseri, and others.

On display is Plate III, a hand-tinted engraving of a laterally dissected human brain.