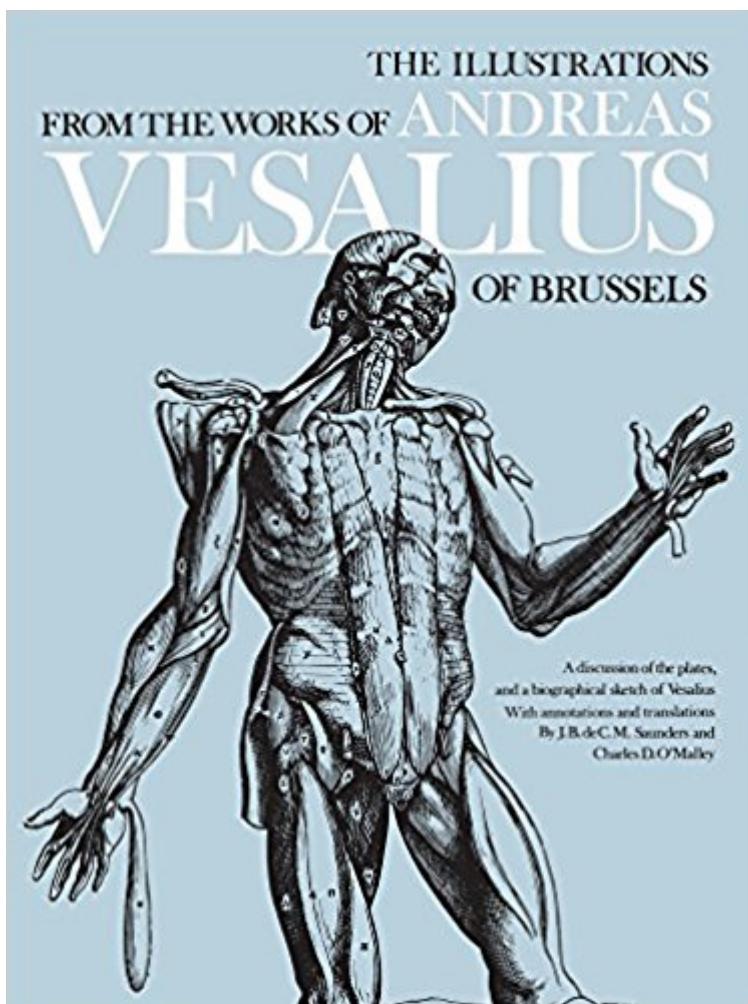


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# The Illustrations From The Works Of Andreas Vesalius Of Brussels (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



## Synopsis

The works of Andreas Vesalius (1514–1564) have long been regarded among the great treasures of the Renaissance. Published as medical books while he was teaching anatomy and dissection at the University of Padua, they include the *Tabulae Sex* (1538), intended as an aid to students; the magnificently illustrated *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* (1543), and the companion volume, the *Epitome* (1543). Individually, these books are milestones in the history of medicine. They also offer one of the most magnificent collections of anatomical drawings ever published. The plates were executed with such vitality and originality that they have been attributed to the most talented illustrators of the sixteenth century, not to mention Vesalius himself. Many of the drawings, in fact, were products of Titian's famous atelier. For this edition of the Vesalius illustrations, Dover has combined the best existing plates and text. The illustrations have been reproduced from the sumptuous (1934) Munich edition of Vesalius titled *Icones Anatomicae*. The Munich plates were struck for the most part from the original wood blocks then in the collection of the Library of the University of Munich. These priceless art objects were destroyed in the bombing of Munich during World War II. Aside from the original copies of the woodcuts (of which only a few complete sets are known), the Munich restrikes are the best representations of the Vesalian anatomical drawings, for they preserve much of the freshness and richness of the 1543 edition. The text of this Dover edition has been faithfully reproduced from an edition of Vesalius published by World Publishing Company in 1950. The editors, distinguished authorities on sixteenth-century medicine, have provided a very comprehensive history of Vesalius, his career, and excellent explanations of the legends surrounding the illustrators, artists, and publishers involved with the production of his books. No other source will provide the general reader, bibliophile, art historian, artist, or historian of science and medicine with such complete data on Vesalius and his fabulous anatomical illustrations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The works of Andreas Vesalius (1514–1564) have long been regarded among the great treasures of the Renaissance. Published as medical books while he was teaching anatomy and dissection at the University of Padua, they include the *Tabulae Sex* (1538), intended as an aid to students; the magnificently illustrated *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* (1543), and the companion volume, the *Epitome* (1543). Individually, these books are milestones in the history of medicine. They also offer one of the most magnificent collections of anatomical drawings ever published. The plates were executed with such vitality and originality that they have been attributed to the most talented illustrators of the sixteenth century, not to mention Vesalius himself. Many of the drawings, in fact, were products of Titian's famous atelier. For this edition of the Vesalius illustrations, Dover has combined the best existing plates and text. The illustrations have been reproduced from the sumptuous (1934) Munich edition of Vesalius titled *Icones Anatomicae*. The Munich plates were struck for the most part from the original wood blocks then in the collection of the Library of the University of Munich. These priceless art objects were destroyed in the bombing of Munich during World War II. Aside from the original copies of the woodcuts (of which only a few complete sets are known), the Munich restrikes are the best representations of the Vesalian anatomical drawings, for they preserve much of the freshness and richness of the 1543 edition. The text of this Dover edition has been faithfully reproduced from an edition of Vesalius published by World Publishing Company in 1950. The editors, distinguished authorities on sixteenth-century medicine, have provided a very comprehensive history of Vesalius, his career, and excellent explanations of the legends surrounding the illustrators, artists, and publishers involved with the production of his books. No other source will provide the general reader, bibliophile, art historian, artist, or historian of science and medicine with such complete data on Vesalius and his fabulous anatomical illustrations. Unabridged republication of the (1950) English edition published by the World Publishing Company. 93 plates reproduced from the (1934) Munich edition titled *Icones Anatomicae*, published jointly by the New York Academy of Medicine and the Library of the University of Munich. 3 additional plates of preliminary sketches for the original title page of

## the Å De Humanis Corporis Fabrica. List of Plates.

This book is one that every single medical student or history enthusiast must own. It gives particularly accurate insight on the life and work of one of the most brilliant and important medical geniuses of the "rebirth". With unsurpassed detail and beautiful arrangement, anatomy has not been represented in such an incredible and accurate way, given the context and the times in which Andreas Vesalius developed his research (dissection was outlawed and Galenus' theories on anatomy, which were based on animal anatomy, were considered dogma) and the extremely poor conditions and knowledge of the human body up until that point in time. Like all great scientists and researchers, Vesalius' recognition came after his death, but it is still a great way to honor him to get to know a little about his life and work, which this book does in such a fine way. The quality of the paper in which it was printed lets the reader get the whole picture and because of its opacity you can enjoy all the details as if you were looking at the original work. The price is also quite a bargain, which, needless to say, is a fair trait in itself. As a personal note, when I first read and saw some of the paintings within Vesalius' "De Humanis Corporis Fabrica", that was the moment when I realized my destiny was in the medical profession; and years later I can see it was not a bad choice at all.

The materials arrived quickly. Excellent material on the life and work of the pioneer of modern anatomy, Andreas Vesalius. For those interested, is the history of anatomy or medicine, whether in art history or biographies in general, this book is very interesting.

Vesalius is one of the masters of medical illustrations and this book is timeless, despite being from the 1400s. The illustrations are impeccable and laid-out in the most artistic, but sometimes gruesome/graphic way. A requirement for anyone in the field or art or medicine.

Nice illustrations, interesting and intriguing. Though as an artist; there are never quite enough drawings for me. The text is well written though more images would have been preferable.

A fantastic look into history. The plates in this book are superb. A must have for any art book collector.

Just what I was looking for

3 bucks great buy!

I just love the book, I got it for Christmas and looking through it is so amazing

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