

Thomas Bartholin. Physician and anatomist

From unicorns to lymph vessels

by Jesper Brandt Andersen, translated by Peter Fisher

DESCRIPTION:

Danish physician and anatomist Thomas Bartholin (1616-1680) was one of the most important anatomists of the 17th century. As a scientist, his greatest achievement was the discovery and naming of the lymphatic vessels, but he was also a pioneer in a number of other areas of medicine.

In Denmark, his tireless efforts as head of the Anatomy House in Copenhagen and professor of anatomy and medicine were crucial to the rise of anatomical science in the 17th century. He was a skilled and sought-after teacher and mentor, and his efforts in this area were crucial to his famous student Niels Stensen's (1638-1686) outstanding career as an anatomist and geologist. With his authorship of over 80 comprehensive books, Thomas Bartholin was one of the most diligent and skilful communicators of his time. The book unfolds the entire life and work of Thomas Bartholin and analyses and puts into perspective his significance for contemporaries and posterity in a scientific context. The book is an expanded English version of the author's Danish biography of Thomas Bartholin from 2017, where the new material relates in particular to his importance to Niels Stensen.

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