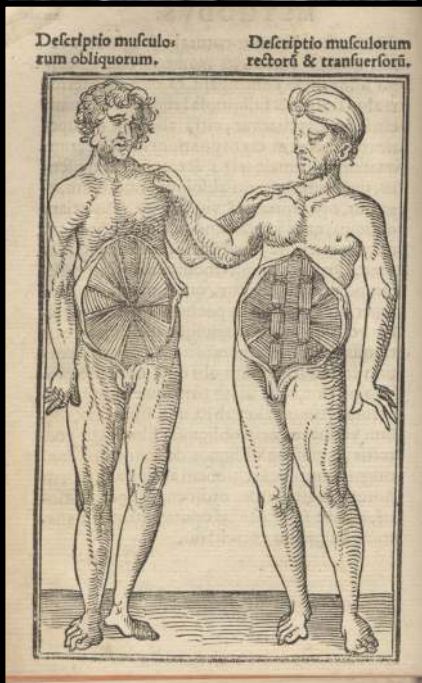
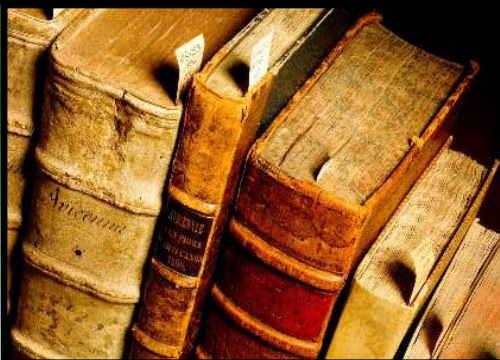


Notes from the  
John Martin Rare Book Room  
August, 2016

ANDRES DE LAGUNA (1499-1560). *Anatomica methodus, seu De sectione humani corporis contemplatio*. Paris: Apud Ludovicum Cyaneum, 1535.



Laguna, a native of Segovia, began his education in medicine at Paris in 1532. While in Paris he published his first three books and became acquainted with Vesalius. By 1539 Laguna was a prolific author publishing over thirty works, many on medical botany--one of his great interests. This work is one of his earliest and was published simultaneously by Jacob Kerver, also in Paris. Laguna notes in the dedication that he spent only three months preparing the work and comments that, in his view, the medical profession of his day had fallen to a very low state. Written in a forthright manner, the book has a strong personal tone and cites few authorities but generally supports the views of Aristotle and Galen. Laguna begins his anatomy with the mouth because that is where the nutritive process is initiated and finishes with the brain where the spirits receive their complete transmutation. He cites few personal observations or autopsies and adds little to the progress of anatomy.



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