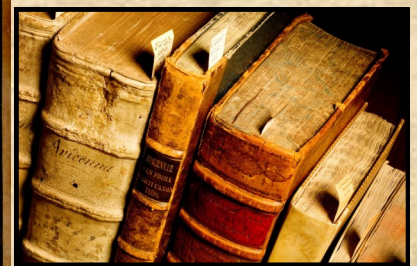
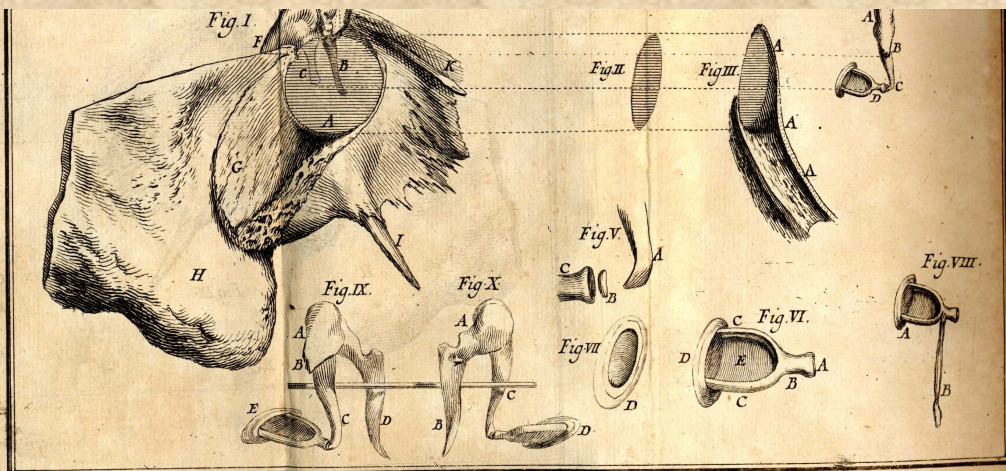


Notes from the John Martin Rare Book Room August, 2011

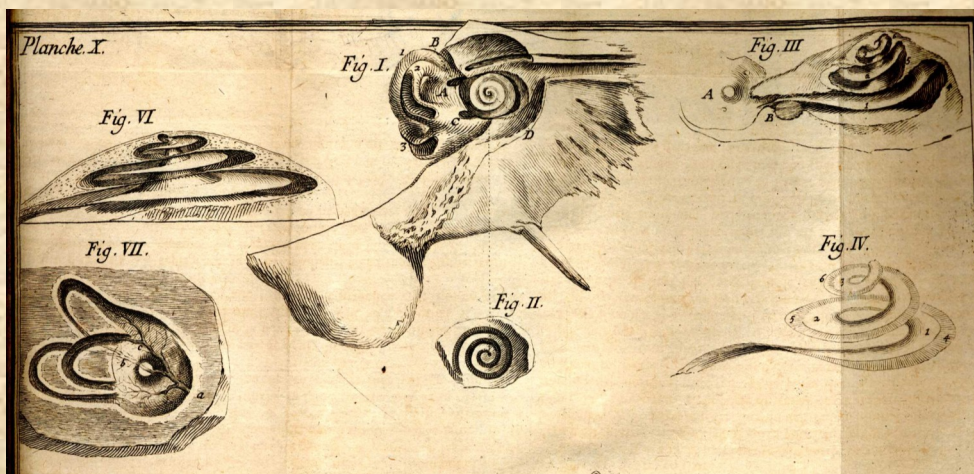
Du Verney: Research on the ear in 1683

GUICHARD JOSEPH DU VERNEY (1648-1730). *Traité de l'organe de l'ouïe*. Paris: Chez Estienne Michallet, 1683.



JOHN MARTIN
RARE BOOK
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The present treatise is the first scientific account of the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the ear. Du Verney corrected the erroneous belief that the Eustachian tube was an avenue for breathing or hearing by showing that it was simply the channel through which air to the tympanic cavity is renewed. He correctly explained the mechanism of bone conduction and gave a clear and accurate account of the bony labyrinth. He greatly advanced knowledge in the physiology of hearing and his theory of hearing and communication of sound anticipated that of Helmholtz (1851). Du Verney also studied ear diseases and searched for scientific explanations of earache, deafness, and tinnitus.



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