
Contents

Preface	xi
Part 1. The Vertical Human: Philosopher of Nature	1
Chapter 1. <i>Anthropos</i>, the First of the Animals	3
1.1. Introduction.	3
1.1.1. Epistemology according to Georges Cuvier	5
1.1.2. From the metaphysics of beings to the physics of their matter	7
1.1.3. Mathematics, forms and women physicians	10
1.1.4. Socrates, Plato and Aristotle: an anthropology of ideas or a certain idea of anthropology	13
1.2. <i>Anthropos</i> , the axis of the world	16
1.2.1. Man, a vertical anatomy	16
1.2.2. Apes and humans	17
1.2.3. The generation of <i>anthropos</i> : the father as a model, the mother by default.	20
Chapter 2. From Aristotle to the 16th Century: The Eclipse of Science	27
2.1. Introduction.	27
2.2. Comparative anatomy of apes and humans from Aristotle to Galen	27
2.2.1. The Museum of Alexandria.	27
2.3. Decadence and rebirth of natural philosophy and human anatomy	31
2.3.1. Albertus Magnus, the Aristotle of a reborn Europe	31
2.3.2. The first lay schools of medicine in Europe in the 11th and 12th centuries	33
2.3.3. Instant of grace: Leonardo da Vinci, from the elusive movement to the restitution of the soul	39

Chapter 3. The 16th Century: From Generation to Human Physiology	53
3.1. Ambroise Paré (1510–1590), father of French surgery with “more than barbaric Latin”	53
3.2. André Vésale (1514–1564), the audacity of objectivity in the face of Galen’s anthropo-simian chimeras	55
3.3. Jacobus Sylvius (1478–1555): defending Galen body and soul	56
3.4. Gabriele Fallope (1523–1562): freedom of dissection, the fine anatomy of the ear and cranial base	59
3.5. Bartolomeo Eustachi (Bartholomaeus Eustachius, c. 1523–1562): the human fetus and the monkey	60
3.6. The embryo, the fetus and blood circulation with the maternal body	62
3.6.1. Arantius (1530–1589): the development of the human fetus	62
3.6.2. D’Aquapendente (1533–1619): the father of embryology	62
3.6.3. William Harvey (1578–1657): the demonstration of blood circulation, vital for the development of the embryo	63
3.7. On human generation and fetal development	64
3.7.1. Gabriel de Zerbis (1455–1505)	65
3.7.2. Volcher Coiter (1534–1576)	65
3.7.3. Félix Platter (Foelix Platerus, 1536–1614), the first optician	66
3.8. Giovanni Alfonso Borelli (1608–1679): the dynamic geometry of the vertical body	67
Chapter 4. Centuries in Search of Light	69
4.1. Independent Academies of Sciences	69
4.1.1. Gerolamo Cardano: of the necessity and the form of Man, by spontaneous generation or by putrefaction?	71
4.1.2. Giulio Cesare Vanini (1585–1619), “Prince of the libertines”	75
4.1.3. Man absent from himself, God always as explanation	77
4.2. The beginning of Man and Russian dolls	77
4.2.1. From microscope to microcosm	77
4.2.2. The created species are not immortal	81
Chapter 5. The Century of Naturalistic Enlightenment	85
5.1. The <i>Jardin royal des plantes</i> : a new natural history of animals	85
5.1.1. Georges Leclerc, Count of Buffon	85
5.1.2. A research organization independent of biblical dogmatism	87
5.1.3. The history of the Earth as a premise of the natural history of Man	90

5.1.4. Man is the last “internal mold” created on the Earth	95
5.1.5. The species according to Buffon	100
5.1.6. A fundamental principle: the subordination of external parties to internal parties	105
Part 2. The Place of Humans among Current and Fossilized Primates	107
Chapter 6. From Natural Curiosity Cabinets to the First Primate Collections	109
6.1. Introduction.	109
6.1.1. Conrad Gessner (1516–1565), the first great collector of natural curiosities.	109
6.1.2. Ulisse Aldrovandi (1522–1605), the first natural history museums in Europe	111
6.1.3. Jacobus Bontius (Jacob de Bondt, 1592–1631): the first wild great ape or “Man of the Woods”	112
6.1.4. Tulpius (1593–1674), the first description of a chimpanzee.	112
6.1.5. Edward Tyson (1650–1708), the first dissection of a chimpanzee	113
6.1.6. Carl Linnaeus (1707–1778), the classification of organisms by species and genera	116
6.2. Comparative anatomy at the <i>Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle</i>	118
6.2.1. Louis-Jean-Marie Daubenton (1716–1799), the occipital hole and the face unified by geometry	118
6.2.2. Georges Buffon publishes his own “Nomenclature of Apes”	122
6.2.3. Petrus Camper (1722–1789), the first dissection of an orangutan: the ape does not speak	124
6.2.4. The premises of a gradualist and racial anthropology	125
Chapter 7. The Transition from the 18th to the 19th Century: Birth of Paleontology and Comparative Anatomy	127
7.1. Oryctography or the study of the disposition of minerals and fossils in the soil	127
7.1.1. François-Xavier de Burtin (1743–1818), a leading European collector	127
7.1.2. The French Revolution: naturalist audacity faced with the fury of the Terror (1792–1794).	128
7.1.3. The premises of the Industrial Revolution: energy and thermodynamics	131

7.2. Georges Cuvier (1769–1832), the French Revolution and the revolution of the globe	134
7.2.1. The natural sciences at the heart of the “Terror”	134
7.2.2. Karl Kielmeyer, Georges Cuvier’s great comrade and gifted youngster.	137
7.2.3. Étienne Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, the unity of the animal composition plan	138
7.2.4. The laws of animal oeconomy	139
7.2.5. Humans have no fossil ancestor according to Cuvier.	141
7.2.6. The division between Cuvier and Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire or the distinction between micro- and macroevolution	144
Chapter 8. The Slow Recognition of Humans’ Simian Origins	147
8.1. Introduction.	147
8.2. Jean-Baptiste de Lamarck or the audacity of the transformist theory of organization plans.	148
8.2.1. “The causes of the main physical facts” or “what is life” (1780) . .	148
8.2.2. Transformism or the first formulation of evolution	150
8.2.3. Lamarck and the first theory of the common origins of the orangutan, the chimpanzee and <i>Homo sapiens</i>	153
8.2.4. The anatomical origins of <i>Homo sapiens</i> , a break with his own statements	154
8.2.5. Which system to classify humans: the separation of organizational plans or the variety of a single plan?	155
Chapter 9. Embryology, Fixist Anthropology and the Neanderthal Man.	159
9.1. Introduction.	159
9.1.1. The theory of epigenesis (Wolff 1759)	160
9.1.2. Karl von Baer discovers the formation of the ovum (1827)	160
9.1.3. Johann Meckel (1781–1833), the revolution of the 11 laws of embryogenesis	161
9.2. The origins of the vertical anatomy of humans: between poetic metaphysics, transcendental finality and climatic influences	164
9.3. Great confusion between Linnaean nesting classification and the emergence of organizational plans.	166
9.3.1. Étienne Serres (1786–1868) and the “transcendental” anatomy of the embryo (1832)	166
9.3.2. Alfred Velpeau (1795–1867) and the cranio-caudal gradient of embryogenesis (1832)	168

9.3.3. The first Chair of Embryogeny at the <i>Collège de France</i> (1844) . .	170
9.3.4. The discovery of the gorilla, 1847–1852	171
9.3.5. Franz Fick (1813–1858), a giant step forward: the study of the internal base of the skull (1853–1862)	172
9.3.6. Rudolf Virchow (1821–1902), a major study on the relations between the internal base and the external face	174
9.3.7. Neanderthal Man (1856), a lost human species	175
9.3.8. Herman Welcker (1822–1897), comparative internal growth of the orangutan and <i>Homo sapiens</i> (1862)	175
Chapter 10. The Decline of Transformism at the <i>Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle</i>	177
10.1. The decline of transformism despite the discovery of the first monkey fossils.	177
10.1.1. First manmade objects contemporary to Diluvium, 1842.	178
10.1.2. Edouard Lartet: the first great fossil monkey to the rescue of Cuvier (1856).	179
10.1.3. Paris, capital of transformist anthropology and free thought (1848–1857).	180
10.2. A theory lacking internal coherence	182
10.2.1. Gradualist classification and discontinuities between fossil genera: an impasse	182
10.2.2. Charles Darwin (1809–1882) knocked at the door of the French Academy of Sciences and convinced no one	184
10.2.3. A progression toward scientific formalization of the evolution of structures: the geometrical study of the skull.	188
10.2.4. The cart before the horse: the Linnaean classification of fossils before understanding of processes	190
10.2.5. The transmission of acquired characteristics and Charles Darwin’s gemmules	194
10.2.6. The faults of Charles Darwin against Armand de Quatrefages . .	197
Chapter 11. Transformist Paleontology Inaugurates the 20th Century	203
11.1. The rebirth.	203
11.1.1. Albert Gaudry (1827–1908), a palace in the <i>Jardin des plantes</i> for paleontology and comparative anatomy	203
11.1.2. Paul Gervais (1816–1879) at the Chair of Anatomy and the first bipedal fossil monkey	204
11.1.3. Haeckel (1834–1919), on the way to formalizing processes	205
11.1.4. Haeckel, a new hope	207

11.1.5. Phylogenesis and embryogenesis, a reversed logic	209
11.2. Natural selection and the scale of human societies	211
References	215
Index	227