



# Origins of Neuroscience: A History of Explorations into Brain Function

By Stanley Finger

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**Origins of Neuroscience: A History of Explorations into Brain Function** By Stanley Finger

With over 350 illustrations, this impressive volume traces the rich history of ideas about the functioning of the brain from its roots in the ancient cultures of Egypt, Greece, and Rome through the centuries into relatively modern times. In contrast to biographically oriented accounts, this book is unique in its emphasis on the functions of the brain and how they came to be associated with specific brain regions and systems. Among the topics explored are vision, hearing, pain, motor control, sleep, memory, speech, and various other facets of intellect. The emphasis throughout is on presenting material in a very readable way, while describing with scholarly acumen the historical evolution of the field in all its amazing wealth and detail. From the opening introductory chapters to the concluding look at treatments and therapies, this monumental work will captivate readers from cover to cover. It will be valued as both an historical reference and as an exciting tale of scientific discovery. It is bound to attract a wide readership among students and professionals in the neural sciences as well as general readers interested in the history of science and medicine.

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"Provides a scholarly and comprehensive history of the development of concepts about brain functions. This book traces the development of the neurosciences in a logical and chronological fashion. . . . employs a scholarly but not pedantic approach; it offers a wealth of detail, yet it is quite readable." --*Doody's Health Sciences Book Review Journal*

"A really comprehensive overview of the development of all the major concepts in neurobiology....Masterly, readable, and long-needed....Read from cover-to-cover, it provides a panorama of the entire field. Read by the casual reader who wants some background on a restricted topic, the book offers a series of bite-sized essays that can be munched at leisure....There is much here for both basic scientists and clinicians."

--*Restorative Neurology and Neuroscience*

"The book is packed with facts, and Finger has woven clinical observation and clinical work on animals into a fascinating story that will appeal to anyone with some knowledge of brain structure and function. . . . The book is a must for anyone researching brain function or treating diseases of the nervous system; highly recommended to anyone fascinated by how our brain works." --*New Scientist*

"A comprehensive and well-written history of neuroscience, this book can serve either as an academic textbook or simply as a general source of historical information....The historical references are wonderful...printing is excellent, and the copious half-tone illustrations are well reproduced. Specialists in neuropsychology, neurophysiology, and neurology should all find many intriguing ideas here as should anyone with an historical interest in the neurosciences." --*Perceptual and Motor Skills*

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## About the Author

Stanley Finger, Ph.D., is Professor in the Department of Psychology and the Program in Neural Sciences at Washington University, St. Louis.

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