

The human body between natural and artificial

Ioan Zanc¹, Iustin Lupu¹, Mihai Lupu²

¹. "Iuliu Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca

². Student, "Iuliu Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca

Abstract

The paper describes the evolution of the human body image from Greek and Roman antiquity to the present days. The presentation starts with the dual psyche-soma image described by Platon, continues with the "human-machine" image present in the rationalist mechanistic theory of the 17th century (R. Descartes) and ends with the contemporary image of the human body as a representation of the individual. The main methods of body transformation (tattoos, piercing, lifting, cosmetic surgery etc.) are presented, together with the body parts which are most frequently subject to medical and surgical transformations: the facial expression, breast size, weight, skin etc.

Keywords: human body, social body, body image, body modelling, aesthetic surgery, biotechnologies.