The *Dictionnaire des Philosophers Antiques* (DPhA)
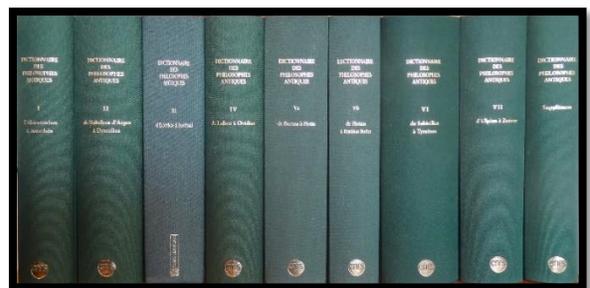
Introduction:

The DPhA is a database produced by the Belgian publisher Brepols and provides comprehensive coverage of philosophers and important witnesses of the Greek and Roman philosophical tradition, from the Presocratics to the late Neoplatonists of the sixth century and some Byzantine scholars whose role was important for the conservation of the Greek philosophical heritage.

It is not the thought of the philosophers concerned which is the subject of this resource but the life, the intellectual activities of the philosophers, the inventory of their preserved or at least attested works and the conservation or exploitation of their works in the later tradition down to Byzantine times and in the literatures of the medieval Near East. As Sinatti[1] a reviewer of the 7th printed volume explains, "As we see from the presence of entries on Varro and Virgil, the criteria for inclusion are rather wide and comprehend figures who are not conventionally considered philosophers .. the choice of authors, therefore, is justified by the fact that each of them showed interest in philosophy or wrote or was attributed some philosophical works. For instance, in the case of Virgil, Régine Chambert focuses on the philosophical aspects of his poetry"

There is also a selective bibliography of editions, translations, commentaries, lexicons. There are over 2,900 articles prepared by French and foreign scholars, who make use of literary sources as well as inscriptions and papyri. References are provided to entries for the philosophers in Pauly's *Realencyclopaedie* (RE Volumes / Supplements) and other works e.g., Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire and Prosopographia Imperii Romani (2nd edition). Use this link if necessary to expand the abbreviations used for references to books and journals.

Access:

This resource is available for subscribers (it is a one-off purchase) such as the Institute of Classical Studies Library / Hellenic and Roman Library.   It is based on a set of 9 printed volumes (1989-2018) published in Paris by the Centre national de la recherche scientifique.   Updates will be incorporated into the online database.
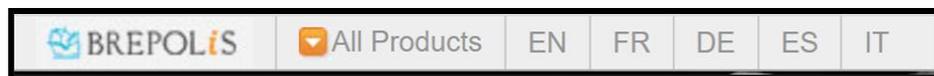

---

[1] a review by Cesare Sinatti (University of Durham) of Vol. 7 in the Bryn Mawr Classical Review https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2018/2018.08.34/

Users with a valid library card should login via the catalogue – using the interact section – enter your name and barcode number then search by title *Dictionnaire des Philosophers Antiques* – *selecting* the title of the entry which has the Internet resource icon and 2018 on the right-hand side then use the clickable link - Full text available online to HARL and ICLASS members. There may be a message to say the link is insecure, please press continue.
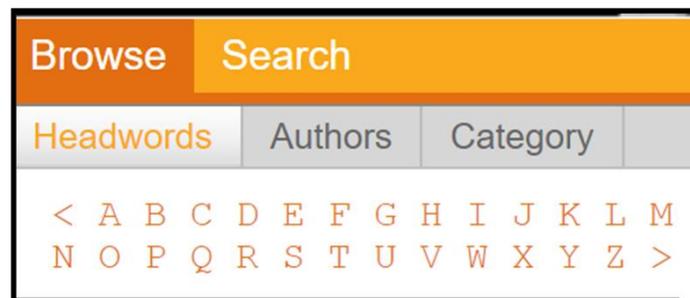
Title	Dictionnaire des philosophes antiques [electronic resource] / publié sous la direction de Richrd Goulet avec une préface de Pierre Hadot.
Imprint	Paris : Centre national de la recherche scientifique, 1989-2018.
Connect	
	Full text available online to HARL and ICLASS members.

Searching options:

It is possible to change the search interface (but not the information in the database which is provided in French) by selecting from the bar displaying the options: English, French, German, Spanish or Italian. It is possible to use Google Translate to see a basic translation – Select full screen option first

There are 2 ways to find the main entries in the database for ancient names using the search box illustrated below:

a) Enter the name in the search box below the Alphabetical display, using the French form of the name if known – often it is enough to enter the first few letters. Many will be associated with a geographical area / city - there is an option to search by place under Category. There may be several entries with the same name but each one is a different philosopher, e.g. Onètor. It is often necessary to check several entries.

b) OR select a letter from the A-Z list and either scroll down through the list presented using the NEXT button or enter the first few letters to see a listing from which to select an author.

When you find the name, click on the name to show the full entry. There are options to print or download.

Note that the option AUTHORS is a listing of the modern authors of the entries.

To search for the entry for the female philosopher Hypatia - in this case there is only one possibility. HYPATIE D'ALEXANDRIE. Each name is given a number i.e.. H175 which corresponds to the entry in the printed volumes. This shows the start of the entry which is 4 pages long print form. At the end of each entry is a citation link.

HYPATIE D'ALEXANDRIE

HYPATIE D'ALEXANDRIE [H175] *RE PLRE* II :1
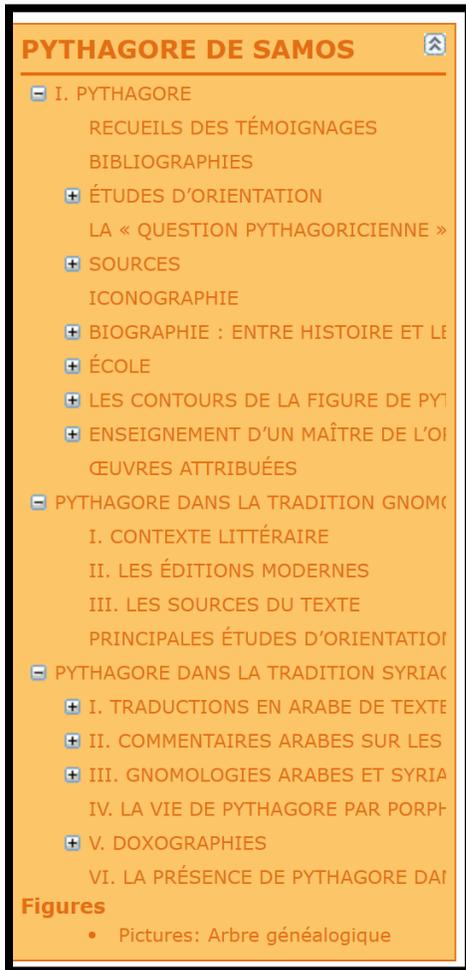
Datation : *ca* 355 - 415

Femme philosophe néoplatonicienne, disciple et collaboratrice de son père, Théon (→T 88). **1** D. Roques, « La famille d'Hypatie », *REG* 108, 1995, p. 128-149, voudrait que le vrai nom du père d'Hypatie soit Théotecnos pour la raison que Synésius (→S 179) dans deux de ses lettres, *Ep.* 5, p. 26, 2 Garzya, et *Ep.* 16, p. 37, 4, emploie l'expression τὸν πατέρα Θεότεκνον, mais dans la lettre 5, ce personnage (→T 107) est désigné comme faisant partie du chœur des disciples d'Hypatie et dans la lettre 16, comme un ἑταῖρος de Synésius ; il est douteux que ces qualifications conviennent au père de la philosophe, et d'autre part on ne comprend pas bien pourquoi Théon n'aurait pas signé ses propres œuvres de son vrai nom.

There are links within the entry which lead directly to other related entries, e.g Théon (→T 88) will take you to THÉON D'ALEXANDRIE.

Dates if known or approximations are given for the authors. Where centuries are shown – in roman numerals - a small superscript letter "a" indicates BCE and superscript "p" if necessary for dates in CE. The letters D, M and F stand for beginning, middle and end.

Entries give an overview of the philosopher, references to books, articles in journals. For some entries there are detailed sections for Chronology / Biography, Bibliographies, Preserved Works, Dating, Editions and translations Some entries, e.g. PYTHAGORAS have an extensive entry summarized in a box display which can be expanded / hidden as required.

For some entries there are detailed sections for Chronology / Biography, Bibliographies, Preserved Works, Dating, Editions and translations.

Some entries, e.g. PYTHAGORAS have an extensive entry summarized in a box display which can be expanded / hidden as required. This entry has over 200 pages in the printed edition.
Each entry concludes with the name of the modern author (s) below which there is a clickable link which takes the user directly to the to Brepols Database *L'année philologique* for an instant search for bibliographic references about the ancient author. Some entries also include images / diagrams / genealogy trees.
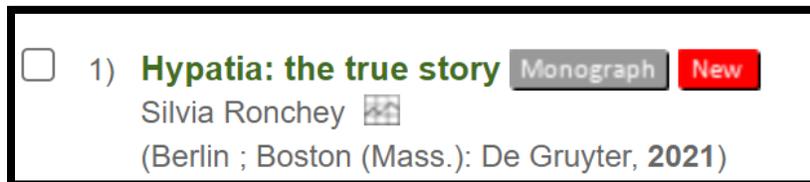
Below is the author of the Hypatie entry and the link to connect to the L'année philologique database.
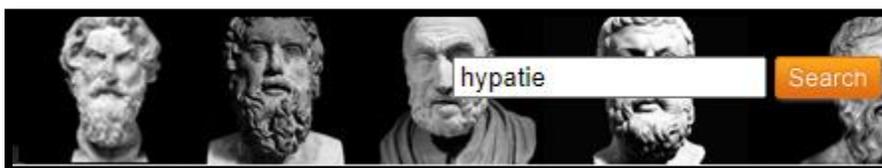
HENRI DOMINIQUE SAFFREY
Consult current bibliography 'L'Année philologique' (APh)

In this example (as of July 2022) there are 76 references which appear in descending date order.

These may be exported to your desktop prior to view and then may be sent to an email address as an attachment. The first entry is shown below.

☐ 1) **Hypatia: the true story** Monograph New
Silvia Ronchey
(Berlin ; Boston (Mass.): De Gruyter, **2021**)

Another option is to use the search box which is at the top of the first screen, next to the image of sculptures of philosophers. This finds all entries where the term is mentioned.

hypatie   Search

Seaching by Keyword.

This option allows a search of the text of the entries as well as the names / associated
places of the philosophers. Since the printed volumes / database entries are in
French using French terms will yield far more results. Use the search box to enter terms and click on the search symbol below the text box. Use the truncation symbol if appropriate e.g. vegetarien* It is also
possible to search for Greek terms, use copy and paste function to enter terms from entries found from an earlier search in the database.

CLODIUS SEXTUS
HÉLIODORE D'ÉMÈSE >
**ORIENTATIONS PHILOSOPHIQUES
DES *ÉTHIOPIQUES***
IARCHAS
PHRAÔTES
PYTHAGORE DE SAMOS > **I.
PYTHAGORE** > *ENSEIGNEMENT D'UN
MAÎTRE DE L'ORALITÉ – DOCTRINES
ATTRIBUÉES (DOXAI)* > **Doctrines
attribuées à Pythagore (δόξαι)**
PYTHAGORE DE SAMOS [Compléments]
> **II. LES PYTHAGORICIENS
ANCIENS** > *À LA RECHERCHE DE
L'IDENTITÉ PYTHAGORICIENNE* > **Un
problème de taille : selon quels
critères attribuer l'identité
pythagoricienne ?**
PYTHAGORE DE SAMOS [Compléments]
> **III. INFLUENCE ET RÉCEPTION DU
PYTHAGORISME : TRADITION
PYTHAGORICIENNE,
PSEUDÉPIGRAPHIE, *REVIVAL*,
*NACHLEBEN*** > *RÉCEPTION ET
NACHLEBEN* > **1. De l'époque
hellénistique jusqu'à la fin de
l'Antiquité** > * '*Popularphilosophie*' et
culture générale.

A search on vegetarien produced these results and to locate the search terms within each entry – it is necessary to use the Find function – (Control Key plus F) and enter the term again.

Using this function gives an indication of the number of entries found with the search term - the number shown includes the search term.

Note that some searches will retrieve far more entries than can be displayed on one screen, and the additional entries can be found by selecting Next at the end of the panel.

Searching by Categories.

From the Browse option, it is possible to search for Schools of Philosophy, by School in combination with century or by Century. By selecting one of
these, a listing of authors in that category is displayed. Scroll down through the list or select letter E for Ecole, L for Lieu or S for Siècle

École = Académicien
École = Annicérien
École = Aristonéen
École = Aristotélicien
École = Cynique
École = Cyrénaïque
École = Démocritéen
École = Dialecticien
École = Éclectique
École = Éléate

École/Siècle = Héraclitéens + 0
École/Siècle = Héraclitéens + BC 4 s.
École/Siècle = Héraclitéens + BC 5 s.

Also within the Categories is an option to select a geographical location for philosophers, e.g Apamée. Clicking on the entry displays one name at first.

Ethnique = ANTIOCHE
Ethnique = APAMÉE
Ethnique = APHRODISE
Ethnique = APHRODISIAS
Ethnique = APOLLONIA
Ethnique = APOLLONIE
Ethnique = ARCADIE
Ethnique = ARGOS

≡ ASCLÉPIADÈS D'APAMÉE
+ [...]

By clicking the + sign, more entries are shown.

≡ ASCLÉPIADÈS D'APAMÉE
≡ HOSTILIANUS HÉSYCHIUS D'APAMÉE
≡ IAMBLICHOS D'APAMÉE
≡ MÉTRODORE [D'APA]MÉE
≡ PHILIPPOS (AURELIUS BÈLIOS –) D'APAMÉE DE SYRIE
≡ POSIDONIUS D'APAMÉE
≡ SÔPATROS D'APAMÉE
≡ SÔPATROS D'APAMÉE

Another option is a search by place of activity of the philosopher, place of origin, or place of their training. These boxes show a few of those listed.

```
Lieu d'activité = Égypte        Lieu d'origine = Égypte
Lieu d'activité = Grèce         Lieu d'origine = Grèce
Lieu d'activité = Italie        Lieu d'origine = Italie
Lieu d'activité = Occident      Lieu d'origine = Occident
```

```
Lieu de formation = Égypte
Lieu de formation = Grèce
Lieu de formation = Italie
Lieu de formation = Occident
```