



# Jay Matternes

## Paleontologist and Wildlife Painter

### Richard Milner

### With Ian Tattersall

### Foreword by Mauricio Anton

ISBN	9780789214805
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Territory	World excluding USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Australia
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- The first career-spanning volume on Jay Matternes (b. 1933), the influential paleontologist and wildlife artist who set a new scientific standard in the field
- Matternes' accomplishments include his famous murals at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.; numerous illustrations for *Science*, *National Geographic*, and *Scientific American*; and collaborations with eminent scientists like Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Louis Leakey
- This book features beautiful colour reproductions of Matternes' paintings of dinosaurs, extinct mammals, human ancestors, African wildlife, and more
- Also features never-before-published excerpts from Matternes' twenty-year correspondence with Dian Fossey
- Authored by Richard Milner, noted historian of science and Associate of the American Museum of Natural History
- Introductory biographical essay by Ian Tattersall, the eminent paleoanthropologist
- Foreword by Mauricio Anton, one of the celebrated contemporary paleontologists influenced by Matternes

### The first career-spanning volume on Jay Matternes (b. 1933), whose scientific rigor and artistic skill set a new standard in natural history illustration.

Millions have grown up inspired by Jay Matternes' murals of extinct mammals at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the American Museum of Natural History. Others have savoured his depictions of human origins in such prestigious publications as *Science*, *National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, and *Natural History*. Matternes' art has also graced popular books by such trailblazing wildlife scientists as Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Louis Leakey.

Now, for the first time, the entire scope of Matternes' achievement is revealed in this full-colour retrospective, prepared with the artist's full cooperation and featuring many works never before published. Here are his depictions of living species, whose anatomical accuracy and vivid detail owe much to Matternes' lifelong devotion to painting from nature: the wildlife of Africa, the birds of America, chimpanzees and gorillas, and more. Here, too, is his paleoart, meticulously reconstructed from the fossil evidence and ranging from dinosaurs, through the rise of mammals, to our hominid ancestors — including Matternes' groundbreaking reconstruction of the 4.4-million-year-old hominid *Ardipithecus*, on which he laboured in secrecy for more than a decade. The highly readable text includes, among other special features, selections from the artist's 20-year correspondence with the late Dian Fossey.

**Jay Matternes: Paleontologist and Wildlife Painter** will be an essential volume not only for aspiring illustrators and paleontologists, but for anyone with an interest in the natural world and how we visualise it.

**Richard Milner** is an anthropologist and historian of science whose books include *Charles R. Knight: The Artist Who Saw through Time* and *Darwin's Universe: Evolution from A to Z*. An Associate at the American Museum of Natural History, Milner has appeared on the *History Channel*, *Discovery*, and *NPR*, and has been profiled in the *New York Times* and *Time Out New York*. **Ian Tattersall** is Curator Emeritus at the American Museum of Natural History and a leading paleoanthropologist. **Mauricio Anton** is a celebrated paleontologist based in Spain.

