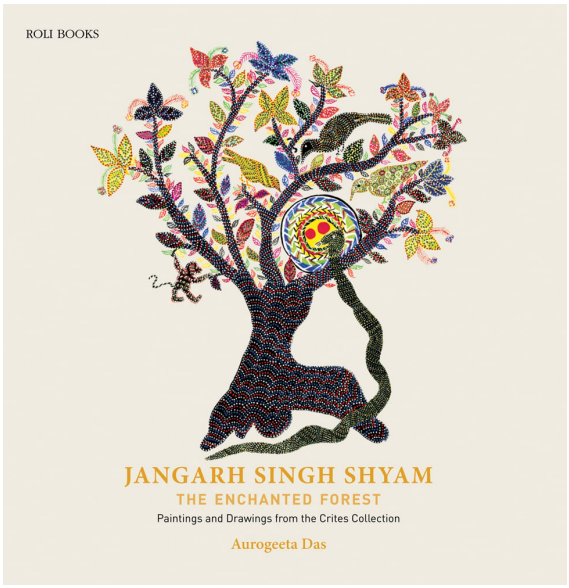
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Jangarh Singh Shyam: The Enchanted Forest

Paintings And Drawings From The Crites Collection

Aurogeeta Das

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- Explores the aesthetics, themes, and art historical relevance of India's greatest tribal artist, Jangarh Singh Shyam
- Includes a catalogue raisonné

Jangarh Singh Shyam was born in the early 1960s to an impoverished Gond family in rural central India. Discovered and nurtured by the renowned artist J. Swaminathan at Bharat Bhavan, the multi-arts center in Bhopal, Jangarh rose to global prominence after participating in a seminal art exhibition in Paris. After a brief career spanning only 20 years – and by then recognized as one of India's greatest tribal artists – Jangarh committed suicide in 2001 at the age of 39. His work, informed by the Gond deities of his childhood, defied established categories and inspired a contemporary school of indigenous painting, which continues to attract admirers in India and abroad. Exploring his aesthetics, themes, and art historical relevance, this book also looks at the relationship between the artist and his early patrons, the collectors Niloufar and Mitchell S. Crites. Dr. Aurogeeta Das closely examines the huge body of work Jangarh left behind in The Crites Collection, enriching her study with references to works in other private and institutional collections. As such, she also captures early practices of collecting contemporary folk and tribal art in India. Contents: Preface by Mitchell S. Crites Patangarh to Paris, New Delhi to Niigata; Images I Samvega, Aesthetic Shock: Jangarh's Artistic Evolution; Images II The Enchanted Forest: Jangarh's Thematic Range; Images III Cataloague Raisonné: Paintings and Drawings from the Crites Collection.

Aurogeeta Das trained as a printmaker and completed her postgraduate and doctoral studies at the University of Westminster, London. Her PhD involved extensive research on Indian floor-drawing and floor-painting traditions, a genre of domestic practices that influenced Jangarh's contemporary traditional art. She regularly lectures on Indian art at Sotheby's Institute of Art, London, and is close to completing research towards a biography of Jangarh.

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