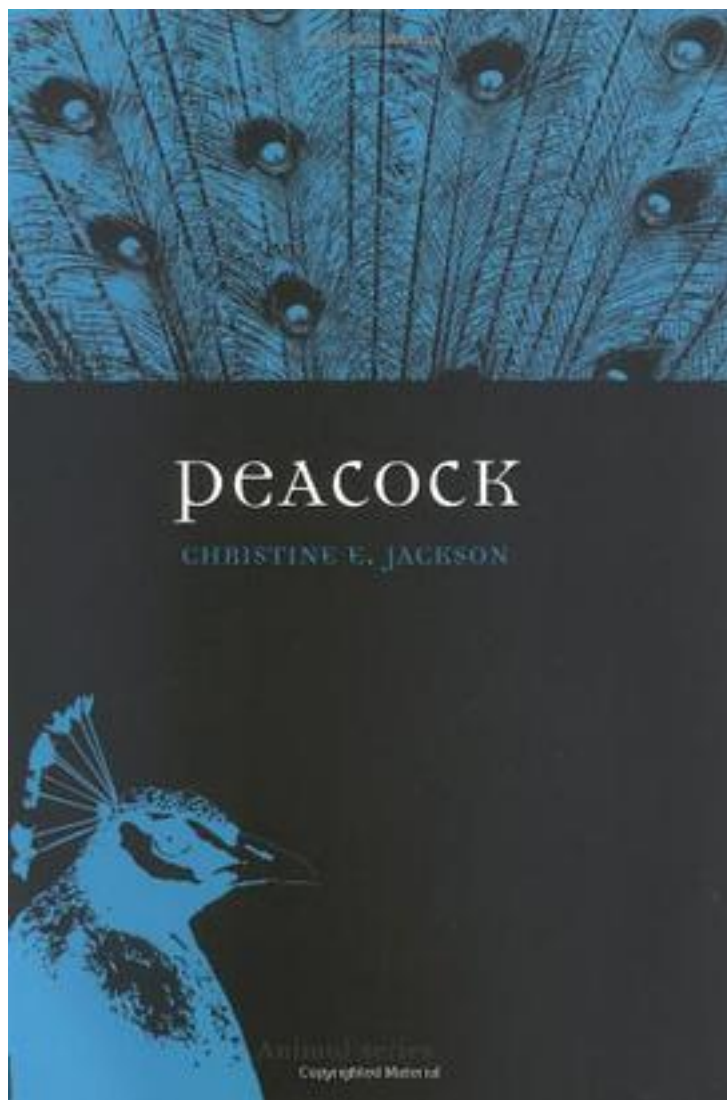


Peacock



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People in most countries are familiar with the blue peacock. It is one of the very few bird species that will tolerate a person standing within a few feet of it, and appears to appreciate an audience when it unfurls its magnificent train into a 6 7-foot arc of glittering iridescent feathers. The train feathers with their eye-spots have been prized possessions for centuries. The first record of a peacock in the Middle East, taken there from its homeland in the Indus Valley, was when King Solomon imported them c. 950 BC. The story of the peacock spread westwards and its impact on different countries is both surprising and fascinating. Peacocks became the subject of fairy stories, legends, fables, myths and superstitions. Images of peacocks have appeared in mosaics, frescoes, paintings from illuminated manuscripts through to modern graphics, and in the nineteenth century they represented opulence, luxury and vibrant beauty in the artefacts created by the Arts and Crafts, the Aesthetic and the Art Nouveau movements' craftsmen in glass, ceramics, metalwork, jewellery and other materials. The feathers of peacocks have been used in head-dresses, hats and helmets, to fletch arrows and to tie artificial flies for fishermen. This is the first book to bring together all the facets of the peacock including natural and social history, its role in religions and mythology in the East and West, and its place in the history of art and artefacts.

作者介绍:

Christine E. Jackson is a writer who has researched extensively in bird art and illustration and the social and natural history of birds. She is the author of many books including *Bird Paintings: The Eighteenth Century* (1994), *Sarah Stone: Natural Curiosities from the New Worlds* (1998), *Dictionary of Bird Artists of the World* (1999) and *Sir William Jardine: A Life in Natural History* (2001).

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标签

评论

Nice concept with biology, mythology, literature, and art about peacock. Only if the images can be of higher resolution...

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书评

最近刚刚读完这本书

看到三联书社在周刊上推荐的这一套书就很感兴趣，它们专门写熊、蚂蚁、孔雀，可能之后还有其他的动物出现。

对喜欢孔雀的朋友们来说是一本值得一读的小书，不过它们着重写的是孔雀的演变迁徙历史，关于他们的饲养生活习性写的比较少，其实我很好奇要怎么样...

孔雀东南飞，五里一徘徊。读完隼、乌鸦，紧接着读孔雀，除去看过的蚂蚁，还剩熊虎和猫。这本书涉及的面很广，但是肯定有遗漏的，就像开头的两句，比知道别的国家、文明中孔雀的形象，漏下了什么。就他写出的这些，足够看一阵子啦。

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