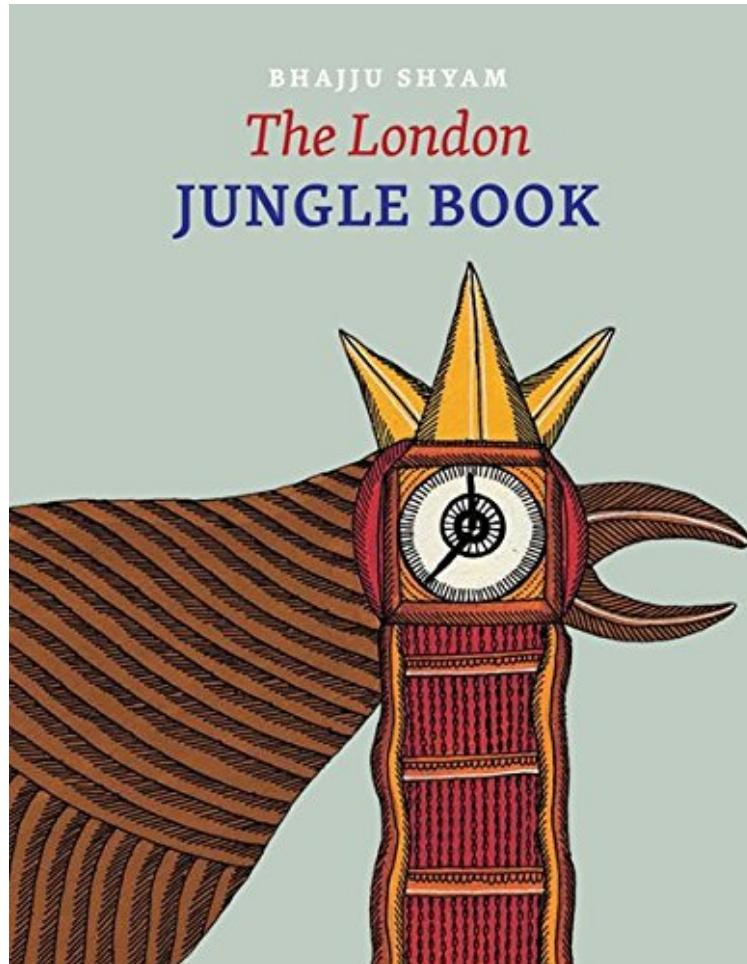


(Get free) The London Jungle Book

## The London Jungle Book

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**From Tara Books : The London Jungle Book** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The London Jungle Book:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An eye for LondonBy Patrick SherriffBrilliant. Take a folk artist from rural India and drop him in London for a couple of months, then get him to describe his experiences through his art with some translated, brief explanations. The result is occasionally profound. I'd never thought of Brits being particularly punctual, but Shyam calls it when he describes Big Ben as London's "temple to time." I'd never thought about it before, but of course sticking a great clock at the heart of the British Empire was the Victorians' way of saying "We are the owners of the world now, we run its time." Sometimes it takes a foreigner with no preconceptions to discover the wonder that the locals have lost. It's a lesson I will remember when writing about Japan.I loved The London Jungle Book and can vouch that it makes a great bedtime book to read to a curious eight-year-old.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book - for those of you who enjoy the ...By CustomerFantastic

book - for those of you who enjoy the world of the non dominant narrative and the richness and humour associated with illustrated ideas. This book reads as a collection of vignettes, beguilingly recounted and illustrated in the Gond style by Bhajji Shyam. The power of a fast vanishing innocence of vision and clarity of simplicity of interpretation. Beautiful style - a gift of insight into the western world through the incredibly generous eyes of this tribal artist. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Buy This if Travel and Contrasting Cultures Interest You By Marie Beautiful illustrations and appealing insights. If you love to travel and appreciate insights into other cultures, here's a great book for you. Listed as for the young, but I think possibly even more appreciated by adults who have enjoy traveling. Probably especially appealing to those who love England or India. Even if your travel is by book or video, as mine is, this gorgeous book is well worth owning and sharing. Would also be a good gift.

This new and fully re-designed edition of the now-classic book marks the tenth anniversary of Bhajju Shyam's momentous journey to London, U.K. Bhajju Shyam, a celebrated and award-winning artist from the Gond tribe in central India, was commissioned to paint the walls of an Indian restaurant in London. He spent two months in the city, and it was the first time he encountered a western metropolis. The book that emerged from his journey is a visual travelogue that both mimics and subverts the typical colonial encounter. With radical innocence and great sophistication, Bhajju brings the signs of the Gond forest to bear on the city, turning London into an exotic jungle, a clever bestiary. The London Underground becomes a sinuous snake, Big Ben transforms into a rooster crowing the time, and an airplane — the first Bhajju ever encountered — is compared to an elephant miraculously flying through the air. It is rare to encounter a truly original vision that is capable of startling us into reexamining familiar sights. By breathing the ancient spirit of wonder back into the act of travel, *The London Jungle Book* does just that.

From School Library Journal Gr 3-6—In 2002, Shyam, a member of the Gond people who are indigenous to the forests of central India, spent two months in London painting the walls of a new Indian restaurant. As told to and translated by his publishers, this deeply personal "travel diary" is replete with the artist's colorful, folkloric paintings representative of his culture. Never having been on a plane before, let alone visited a distant land, Shyam records his impressions and experiences flying to and living and working in the British capital. His accounts are enhanced by paintings typical of Gond art, whose bold colors, though limited in palette, and icons contribute to the book's attractive appearance, as the rich illustrations are strikingly set against stark white pages. The book is visually appealing, but the target audience is unclear. Though children may find browsing interest in the strong colors and quirky animal symbols, the book was not written expressly for children, who won't be particularly drawn to the author/illustrator's experiences or outlook. The publishers' lengthy afterword, discussing Gond art and how the book came to be, is informative. An additional purchase that will be of special interest in Southeast Asian communities and, perhaps, in art units in which elementary-grade students can explore using symbols to represent their own environments.—Carol Goldman, Queens Library, NY "A beautiful book - I would like to give it to everyone I love when they are traveling." - John Berger "A startlingly generous and colourful collection of images, capable of making the most jaded metropolitan refocus and smile." - *The Independent* on Sunday About the Author Bhajju Shyam is hailed as the finest living Gond tribal artist in India. His intricate and colorful work is well-known throughout India and abroad, and has been exhibited in the U.K., United States, Germany, Holland, France, Russia, Italy, and Reunion Island. His other works include *The Night Life of Trees*, *Flight of the Mermaid*, *That's How I See Things*, *Signature: Patterns in Gond Art*, and *Alone in the Forest*. From the walls of his tribal village home to international acclaim, the evolution of his work has been an incredible creative journey.