



The ANIMAL series from Reaktion Books

Animal is a pioneering series from Reaktion Books. The first of its kind to explore the historical significance and impact on humans of a wide range of animals, each book in the series takes a different animal and examines its role in history around the world. The importance of mythology, religion and science are described as is the history of food, the trade in animals and their products, pets, exhibition, film and photography, and their roles in the artistic and literary imagination.

Written by authors who are passionate about their subjects, these are highly accessible, informative and beautifully produced books.



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REAKTION BOOKS

ANIMAL

APE

JOHN SORENSON

- A new volume in Reaktion's ever-expanding Animal series, *Ape* explores our relationship with our closest animal cousins
- Examines how apes serve as models for humans in scientific research, describes ape language experiments, and the ethical challenges of extending human rights to apes

Ape also considers representations of apes in popular culture, discussing films, advertising and zoos, considering how apes have been portrayed as caricatures of humans, demonic monsters and as clowns. It also looks at the precarious future of the apes, many of whom are on the brink of extinction, focusing on the 'bush-meat' crisis in Africa, palm oil production in Indonesia and the illegal pet trade, and also includes a discussion of sanctuaries that may offer some hope for their survival.

9781861894229 _____ Jan-10 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



ANIMAL

HARE

SIMON CARNELL

- An account of an animal no less remarkable for its actual behaviour and capacities than for the intriguing ways in which it has been imagined and exploited throughout human history
- Tracking its quarry from ancient Egypt to the serial hare works of Joseph Beuys, *Hare* finds its subject in many surprising as well as expected places and forms
- Combines the most recent natural history with an extensive and richly illustrated focus on visual art

Described in colourful terms by early natural historians as the 'fastest, hairiest, most lascivious and most melancholy' of mammals (and also one that changed sex, never closed its eyes and occasionally grew horns) the hare is no less remarkable for its actual behaviour and capacities than for the intriguing ways in which it has been imagined and exploited throughout history. *Hare* examines how this animal has been described, symbolized and visually depicted, as well as utilized for its fur, flesh, body parts and exceptional speed.

9781861894311 _____ Jan-10 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



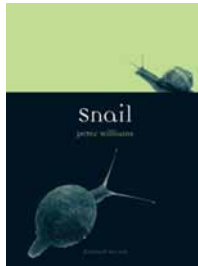
ANIMAL

SNAIL**PETER WILLIAMS**

- A thoughtful, considered history of the snail, which shows it to be a much-maligned creature deserving of respect, rather than repugnance and hostility
- Details snail evolution, behavior and habitat; its use in gastronomy, medicine and the textile trade; as collectible object; as well as its occurrence in literature, art and popular culture
- Contains many surprising and quite beautiful illustrations

Beginning with an overview of our relationship with snails, slugs and seasnails, he goes on to examine snail evolution; snail behavior and habitat; snails as food, medicine, and the source of useful chemicals and dyes; snail shells as collectible objects; and snails in literature, art, and popular culture. The author concludes with a plea for a reconsideration of the snail as a dignified, ancient creature that deserves our respect, rather than one to be squashed thoughtlessly underfoot after a shower of rain. Containing many surprising and quite beautiful illustrations, and written in an approachable, informal style, *Snail* will prove instructive to all who thought that this animal was simply a garden pest to be enthusiastically destroyed.

9781861895288 _ _ _ _ _ Nov-09 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



ANIMAL

PIGEON**BARBARA ALLEN**

- An exploration of the natural and cultural history of the pigeon, and its relationship with humanity through the ages
- Examines the pigeon's, and its close counterpart the dove's, appearance in chocolate, soap, corporate logos, movies such as *Mary Poppins*, and the writings of authors such as Shakespeare, Dickens and Proust
- Aimed at a general audience, as well as animal lovers interested in learning more about animal-human relations

Pigeon is an exploration of the natural and cultural history of the pigeon, and the evolution of its relationship with humanity through the ages. Written out of love and fascination with a humble yet important bird, *Pigeon* relates its cultural significance, as well as its similarities and differences to its close counterpart, the dove.

9781861895134 _ _ _ _ _ Nov-09 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



ANIMAL

OWL**DESMOND MORRIS**

- *A lively approach to the natural and cultural history of the owl, one of nature's most admired, yet most mysterious birds*
- *Desmond Morris, author of The Naked Ape, is a bestselling writer and broadcaster in the fields of anthropology and animal-human relations; will attract widespread review coverage as a result*
- *wide-ranging book takes in owl folk-tale, myth and legend, as well as owls in literature, film, art and popular culture*

'The owls are not what they seem'. From ancient Babylon, to Edward Lear's *The Owl and the Pussycat* and the grandiloquent, absent-minded Owl from *Winnie the Pooh*, to David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*, owls have woven themselves into the fabric of human culture from earliest times. Beautiful, silent, pitiless predators of the night, possessing contradictory qualities of good and evil, they are enigmatic creatures that dwell throughout the world yet barely make their presence known. In his fascinating new book *Owl* bestselling author and broadcaster Desmond Morris explores the natural and cultural history of one of nature's most popular creatures.

9781861895257 _ _ _ _ _ Nov-09 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



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ANIMAL

PENGUIN**STEPHEN MARTIN**

- *A new addition to Reaktion's animal series, this is a natural and cultural history of the penguin, surely one of the most popular and best-known of all birds*
- *Relates penguins in TV shows, books, art and movies such as Pingu, March of the Penguins and Happy Feet*
- *Contains more than 100 images of penguins, 60 in colour, from a wide range of sources*

From the Linux logo to *The March of the Penguins*, a certain tuxedo-wearing member of the animal kingdom has long captured our hearts and imaginations. Stephen Martin regales us here with the cultural and natural history of the penguin, revealing many fascinating and little-known facts about this beloved bird.

9781861893765 _ _ _ _ _ Nov-09 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



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ANIMAL

EEL**RICHARD SCHWEID**

Although it might seem the most mundane of fish when pulled from the mud of creeks, ponds, rivers or the sea, the eel's life cycle is one of the most remarkable on the planet. Freshwater eels are born, according to current scientific theory, in remote ocean depths, and journey thousands of miles to fresh water where they spend their lives, before returning to the ocean to mate and die. Richard Schweid chronicles these creatures in all their aspects: their natural history to their market value; their occurrence in art and literature; and their present threatened status.

9781861894236 _ _ _ _ _ Jun-09 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



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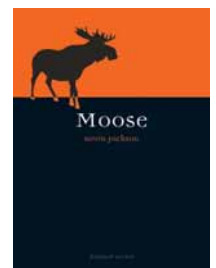
MOOSE**KEVIN JACKSON**

Moose explains the animal's behaviour, evolution and diet, and describes its natural environments around the world, including in the USA, Canada and Scandinavia, where the moose is the national animal of Sweden and of Norway. Jackson considers why the moose is really an elk and an elk is a wapiti, and he also discusses the controversy behind the naming of the Irish Elk.

9781861893963 _ _ _ _ _ Dec-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



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ANIMAL

ELEPHANT**DAN WYLIE**

Aristotle characterized the elephant as 'the beast which passeth all others in wit and mind', and the animal has long figured in cultural artefacts, even on continents it has never inhabited. The elephant's countless manifestations in human history have made it one of the most charismatic animals, and *Elephant* provides a richly illustrated, engaging look at that legacy.

9781861893970 _____ Dec-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



9 781861 893970

ANIMAL

HORSE**ELAINE WALKER**

From Pegasus to Black Beauty, horses have held a unique place in human society and imagination. Elaine Walker tackles the long and multifaceted history of a creature valued for both beauty and usefulness. Spanning the world from the wild steppes of Mongolia to the American plains, *Horse* chronicles the rich and complex natural history of the animal, from wild feral horses to the domesticated species that once played a central role in daily life as a means of transportation, an instrument of war, and a source of labour.

9781861893956 _____ Nov-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



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ANIMAL

DUCK**VICTORIA DE RIJKE**

The squat, noisy duck occupies a prominent role in the human cultural imagination, as evidenced by everything from the rubber duck of childhood baths to the flying ducks on living room walls. With *Duck*, Victoria de Rijke explores the universality of this quacking bird through the course of human culture and history.

9781861893505 _____ Oct-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



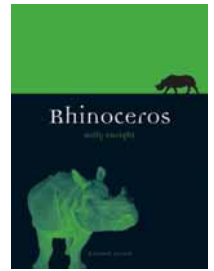
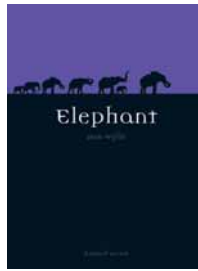
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ANIMAL

RHINOCEROS**KELLY ENRIGHT**

Rhinoceros explores sources ranging from film and literature, to natural history description and exhibition, and asks whether the savagery of the rhino is a reality or a legacy of its mythic past. Well illustrated and persuasively argued, *Rhinoceros* will appeal to all enthusiasts eager to learn about the culture, history and nature of this animal, as well as specialists, from art historians to conservation biologists.

9781861893741 _____ Jun-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



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ANIMAL

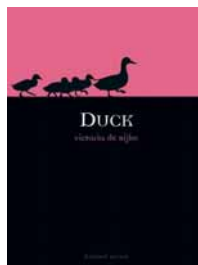
SHARK**DEAN CRAWFORD**

The shark's basic design was perfected by Mother Nature 100 million years ago, and she has been mass-producing them ever since. The shark is so superbly suited to its purpose that it has outlived the dinosaur, the mastodon, the saber-tooth tiger, and the woolly mammoth. In *Shark*, Dean Crawford explores the natural and cultural history of a creature that has a prominent place in mythology, the imagination, and even religion.

9781861893253 _____ May-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



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ANIMAL

SWAN**PETER YOUNG**

Of more than 8,000 bird species, the swan is surely one of the most easily recognised. Airborne, the swan is a majestic sight: with its long, slender neck outstretched, it glides gracefully with slow, strong wing-beats. Its large webbed feet and short legs, which make it awkward on land, propel it serenely and effortlessly through water. *Swan* is a comprehensive natural and cultural history of this most dignified of birds.

9781861893499 _____ Jan-08 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations

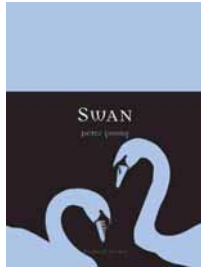


ANIMAL

COW**HANNAH VELTEN**

From the milk we drink in the morning to the leather shoes we slip on for the day, to the steak we savour at dinner, our daily lives are thoroughly bound up with the cow. Yet there is a far more complex story behind this seemingly benign creature, which Hannah Velten explores here, plumbing the rich trove of myth, fact and legend surrounding the cow, bull and ox. Thought-provoking and informative, *Cow* restores this oft-overlooked herbivore to the nobility it richly deserves.

9781861893260 _____ Aug-07 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations



ANIMAL

TIGER**SUSIE GREEN**

- A cultural and natural history of the tiger, a creature universally admired for its strength and beauty, yet highly endangered in all its natural habitats
- Features many illustrations of tigers in myth and reality, from tigers in the wild to Shere Khan and Tigger

Uncovers the natural history of the tiger, showing how the decline of its natural habitat and relentless pressure from poachers and farmers have turned a naturally retiring, solitary creature into an aggressive, man-eating predator. She also explores its cultural history, describing tigers in many cultures from the White Tiger in Chinese Taoist mythology, to Lord Siva in Indian Hindu mythology, to the Western Bacchus, god of wine and mystical ecstasy.

9781861892768 _____ Nov-06 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95

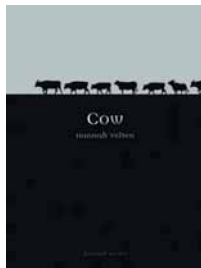


ANIMAL

SALMON**PETER COATES**

Examines the natural history of the fish and looks at it from the perspectives of those who have studied it, eaten it, pursued it, fought over it, pondered its meaning and absorbed it into culture and art. This innovative biography of a species encompasses the salmon's evolutionary, ecological and human stories, ranging from Nova Scotia to Norway and from Korea to California, and stretching from prehistory to the future.

9781861892959 _____ Oct-06 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



ANIMAL

PEACOCK**CHRISTINE E. JACKSON**

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 BCE. 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. 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.

9781861892935 _ _ _ _ _ Oct-06 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



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ANIMAL

FOX**MARTIN WALLEN**

Foxes are nearly ubiquitous throughout the world, living in widely different habitats from forest to desert to the Arctic. What is surprising, though, is that scientists admit that very little is actually known about the lives and habits of foxes. The reason, which this book explores in depth, is that foxes are almost universally despised as being wicked.

9781861892973 _ _ _ _ _ Oct-06 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



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ANIMAL

FLY**STEVEN CONNOR**

For centuries, flies have been seen as mankind's enemy, blamed for plagues, subject to public excommunication in the Middle Ages and campaigns of extermination during the early years of the twentieth century. This book tracks the representation of the fly in in myth, literature, poetry, film, painting, theology and biology. There are chapters on artificial flies, the demonic fly, the erotics of the fly and the fly as carrier of disease.

9781861892942 _ _ _ _ _ Oct-06 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



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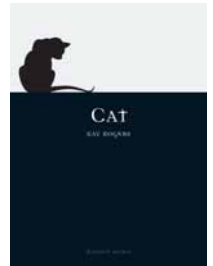
CAT**KAY ROGERS**

Traces the relationship between humans and the cat from its original domestication in ancient Egypt c.2000 BCE, where it enjoyed high status, through to its present status as a companion on a par with the dog. Long before people valued cats as companions, however, they recognized something special about them. Cats' ease of negotiation in the dark, their silent movements, their self-detachment even as they live in our homes, their refusal to defer to humans, seem to indicate strange, even supernatural powers.

9781861892928 _ _ _ _ _ Oct-06 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour



9 781861 892928



ANIMAL

FALCON**HELEN MACDONALD**

Surveys the practical and symbolic uses of falcons in human culture in new and exciting ways; bridging science and cultural history, and packed with fascinating facts and many illustrations, the book offers thought-provoking and sophisticated cultural analysis in a lively, approachable style.



9781861892386 _ _ _ _ _ May-06 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



9 781861 892386

ANIMAL

PARROT**PAUL CARTER**

- Australian author - University of Melbourne
- 145 illustrations in colour and black & white

A natural history, as well as a fascinating and innovative account of parrots in culture. Highly illustrated, with images drawn from a wide range of cultures, historical periods and media, it is a humorous roller-coaster ride through parrots in literature, jokes, folklore, mythology, film, TV, and children's stories worldwide, as well as discussing parrot conservation, talking bird experiments and parrot portraiture.

9781861892379 _ _ _ _ _ May-06 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95
in colour & B/W.



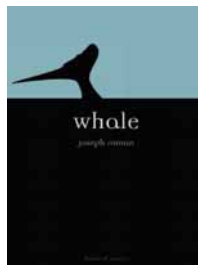
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ANIMAL

WHALE**JOE ROMAN**

Presents the cultural and natural history of these extraordinary mammals, long persecuted and now celebrated throughout the world. From the tales of Jonah and Brendan the Navigator to *Moby Dick* and recent discoveries of cetacean songs and culture, Joseph Roman looks at the role of the whale in human history, mythology, art, literature, commerce, and science.

9781861892461 _ _ _ _ _ May-06 224pp PB \$29.95



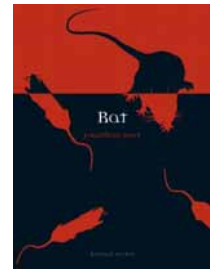
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ANIMAL

RAT**JONATHAN BURT**

This book traces the history of the human relationship with rats from the first archaeological finds to the genetically engineered rats of the present day, describing its role in the arts and sciences, religion and myth, psychoanalysis and medicine. The author includes wide-ranging examples of the rat's appearance: in literature – *The Pied Piper*, Beatrix Potter stories, *The Wind in the Willows*; in culture – Victorian rat-and-dog baiting pits, its popularity as a pet, even the subject of a '70s pop song; and folklore.

9781861892249 _ _ _ _ _ Feb-06 190x135mm 208pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



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ANIMAL

BEE**CLAIRE PRESTON**

This book will be of interest not only to beekeepers and producers of honey, but also to a wide general audience who appreciate the symbolism, society and cultural meanings of this industrious creature. It contains many fascinating bee facts, anecdotes, fables and images.

9781861892560 _ _ _ _ _ Jan-06 224pp PB \$29.95
75 illustrations in colour



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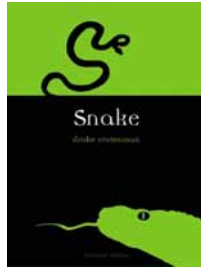
ANIMAL

SNAKE**DRAKE STUTESMAN**

The snake's primordial system, functioning for well over one hundred million years, is a marvel of genetic engineering. The snake smells with its tongue, hears with its flesh, and propels itself by a locomotion of rippling muscles. It sheds its skin, has a detachable tail, and mimics death if afraid. *Snake* explores the animal's natural history, and the widespread snake symbolism, from Eve's serpent in the Bible, to Kaa in *The Jungle Book*; from the Chinese zodiac to Indian snake charmers and the Hollywood film *Anaconda*.

9781861892393 _ _ _ _ _ Jan-06 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95

125 illustrations in colour & B/W.



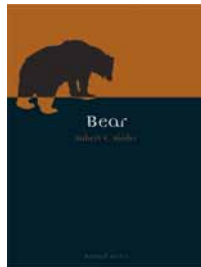
ANIMAL

BEAR**ROBERT BIEDER**

Bears have long wandered through the human imagination: from the Greek legend of Callisto to Winnie-the-Pooh, bears have throughout history been a rich source of imagery, myth, story and legend. *Bear* assesses the evolution, ecosystems and adaptations of the bear, as well as its depiction and construction in folklore and contemporary culture.

9781861892041 _ _ _ _ _ Dec-05 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95

100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



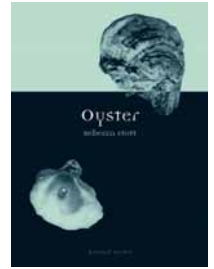
ANIMAL

OYSTER**REBECCA STOTT**

In *Oyster*, literary historian and radio broadcaster Rebecca Stott tells the extraordinary story of the oyster and its pearl, revealing how this curious creature has been used and depicted in human culture and what it has variously meant to those who have either loved or loathed it: the Romans carried much-sought-after British oysters across the Alps on the backs of donkeys to be eaten as delicacies at banquets in Rome, whilst by contrast Woody Allen once famously said 'I will not eat oysters. I want my food dead – not sick, not wounded – dead'.

9781861892218 _ _ _ _ _ May-05 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95

100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



ANIMAL

DOG**SUSAN MCHUGH**

Dogs are perhaps our most popular pets, and certainly one of the best-loved of all animals. This book unravels the debate about whether dogs are descended from wolves, and moves on to deal with canines in mythology, religion and health, dog cults in ancient and medieval civilizations. Ultimately *Dog* reveals how we have shaped dogs over the millenia, and in turn how they have shaped us.

9781861892034 _ _ _ _ _ Sep-04 190x135mm 224pp PB \$29.95

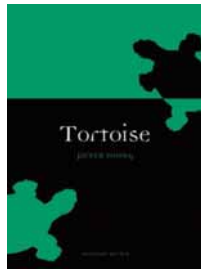
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



ANIMAL

TORTOISE**PETER YOUNG**

Covers tortoises worldwide in evolution, myth and reality, ranging across palaeontology, natural history, veterinary medicine, folklore, myth, art forms, literature, and trade regulations.



9781861891914 _____ Mar-04 190x135mm 176pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



9 781861 891914

ANIMAL

COCKROACH**MARION COPELAND**

Examines the symbolism and cultural significance of the cockroach, a remarkably successful and hardy creature that has existed, almost unchanged, for 250 million years



9781861891921 _____ Mar-04 190x135mm 176pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.

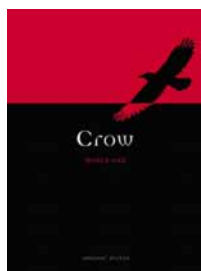


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ANIMAL

CROW**BORIA SAX**

This book is a survey of crows, ravens, magpies and their relatives in myth, literature and life. It ranges from the raven sent out by Noah to the corvid deities of the Eskimo, to Taoist legends, Victorian novels and contemporary films. It will be of interest to all people who have ever been intrigued, puzzled, annoyed or charmed by these wonderfully intelligent birds.



9781861891945 _____ Mar-04 190x135mm 176pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



9 781861 891945

ANIMAL

ANT**CHARLOTTE SLEIGH**

Ants are legion: at present there are 11,006 species of ant known; they live everywhere in the world except the polar icecaps; and the combined weight of the ant population has been estimated to make up half the mass of all insects alive today. This is an examination of the ant, a creature whose behaviour and society have fascinated humanity for millennia. It also investigates the cultural reasons behind society's varied reactions to these remarkable insects



9781861891907 _____ Mar-04 190x135mm 176pp PB \$29.95
100 illustrations in colour & B/W.



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