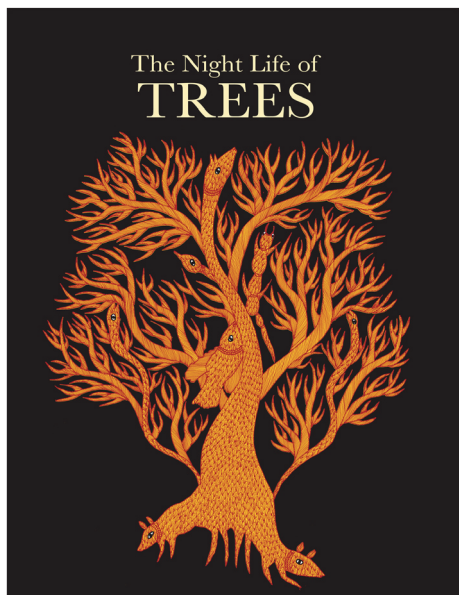




TARA PUBLISHING

Press Release



BOOK DETAILS

The Night Life of Trees

Price: Rs. 850 | \$39.95 | £25.00

ISBN: 978-81-86211-92-2

Pages: 40

Size: 229 x 330mm

Binding: Hardback

Illustrations: Screenprinted; Colour

Subjects: Art / Folktales

Age Range: All ages

Rights Sold: GERMANY (Baobab),
ITALY (Salani), SPAIN (Faktoria K)

Indian tribal artists reach New Horizons: Gond Art Book Wins Major International Award

Tara Publishing is pleased to announce that their handmade book *The Night Life of Trees* has just been awarded the 2008 Bologna Ragazzi Award for New Horizons. The Ragazzi Award is among the most prestigious international awards conferred each year in the world of children's book publishing. This is the first time a book from India has been bestowed this honour. The Ragazzi award is tied to the Bologna Book Fair, which is the largest children's book fair in the world. The award will be presented at a special ceremony on March 31st, 2008.

Originally published as an art book, *The Night Life of Trees* has crossed genres to appeal to not only art aficionados, but to children and adults alike, testifying to the power of a book to transcend categorization and to appeal to a wide audience. *The Night Life of Trees* is an exquisite hand-bound and screen-printed book of tree paintings by three of the finest living artists of the Gond tribal art tradition – Ram Singh Urveti, Durga Bai and Bhajju Shyam. Through their art, they provide a fascinating and haunting foray into the Gond imagination, in which the aesthetic and spiritual aspects of the natural world are inseparable.

This year's international jury of experts at Bologna included Antonio Faeti, Italy; Dorothee Charles, France and Manuel Estrada, Spain. While considering the best publishing projects on their technical elements, artistic merit and the achieved delicate balance between text and images, their verdict on *The Night Life of Trees*:

"Using a complex ensemble of refined graphic materials, *The Night Life of Trees* combines exquisite graphic mastery with meticulous botanical detail. Artistic elegance is here at the service of knowledge. The reader is given a wealth of information within the framework of a harmonious visual text whose profound knowledge of art is itself distilled into a lesson on style. Trees are the main characters of a complex tale... The illustrations belong to the modern graphic current where intricate decorative skills are used to document the finest detail. The book becomes a classroom where the lesson is informative, well presented and stimulating."

Besides the latest award, *The Night Life of Trees* has been featured on the cover of *Patek Philippe* magazine, garnered a starred review in the prestigious *Publisher's Weekly*, and selected as the cover image for the Italian edition of Booker prize winner Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*.

Exhibitions of the artwork from the book have been shown in Chennai, London, Alaska, Hawaii, and California. The rights for the book have been sold in Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Spain.

For more information, a review copy of the book/ images or to schedule an interview with any of the author-illustrators, feel free to contact Nina McConigley at publicity@tarabooks.com or phone +91-44-2440 1696.