







# Over 150 materials on display at new exhibition: Human X Nature: Environmental histories of Singapore



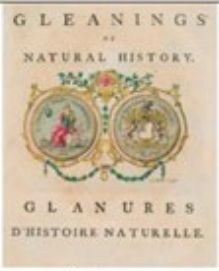

Singapore, 09 April 2021



## ANNEX B

### SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIBRARY OF LIFE – AN INTERACTIVE DISPLAY AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BUILDING (LEVEL 1 LOBBY)


S/N	Image Reference (Click the image for high-res image)	Exhibition Highlight	Description
1	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustrations of different butterfly species</p>	<p><b>Rhopalocera Malayana: A Description of the Butterflies of the Malay Peninsula</b></p> <p>William Lucas Distant</p> <p>Collection of the National Library, Singapore</p>	<p>William Lucas Distant (1845-1922) was an English entomologist who became interested in natural history after joining his father for a whaling trip in the Malay Peninsula in 1867. In 1882, he produced this work which described and beautifully illustrated some 500 species of butterflies in Malaya and Singapore. Other than to show the richness and diversity of these exotic insects, the book examines the close relationship between the butterflies in the Malay Peninsula and those in the neighbouring regions including Borneo, Sumatra and Burma.</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>).</p>

2	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>The Indian or Blue whale exhibit in the Raffles Museum</p>  <p>The Malayan tapir exhibit in the Raffles Museum</p>	<p><b>Guide to the Zoological Collections of the Raffles Museum, Singapore</b></p> <p>Karl Richard <u>Hanitsch</u> Singapore: 1908</p> <p>Collection of the National Library, Singapore</p>	<p>Karl Richard <u>Hanitsch</u> (1860-1940) served as director of the Raffles Library and Museum for 24 years, from 1895 to 1919. He became the first director of the Raffles Museum and Library (today's National Museum of Singapore and National Library Singapore respectively) when the title of Curator and Librarian was changed to Director in 1908. During his long tenure, <u>Hanitsch</u> improved and expanded the library's zoological and ethnological collections. In 1908, he produced this exhibition guide which is the first for the museum.</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>). The physical book is on display at the Level 10 Gallery at the Human x Nature exhibition.</p>
3	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustration of the Whiskered flying squirrel</p>  <p>Illustration of the Banded kingfisher</p>	<p><b>Zoological Researches in Java and the Neighbouring Islands</b></p> <p>Thomas <u>Horsfield</u> 1824</p> <p>Collection of the National Library, Singapore</p>	<p>Not all field books were left unpublished. There were many that made it to the printing press including this pioneering work by American naturalist Thomas <u>Horsfield</u> (1775-1859). Published in 1824, it documented a part of the natural history collections that <u>Horsfield</u> built up when he was in Java from 1801 to 1819. The work features over 60 illustrations of mammals and birds that were described by him. It is an extremely important work given that <u>Horsfield</u> instructed his field books and journals to be destroyed upon his death in 1859. Today, this title is part of the National Library of Singapore's Rare Collection.</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>). The physical book is on display at the Level 10 Gallery at the Human x Nature exhibition.</p>

4	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustrations of different species of dipterous insects</p>	<p><b>Catalogue of Dipterous Insects Collected at Singapore and Malacca by Alfred Russel Wallace</b></p> <p>Francis Walker 1856</p> <p>Collection of the National Library, Singapore</p>	<p>Published in the 1856 issue of the <i>Journal of the Linnean Society of London</i>, this piece was commissioned by English entomologist and botanist William Wilson Saunders (1809-1879) and compiled by fellow English entomologist Francis Walker (1809-1874). It described the <i>Diptera</i> collections gathered by famed English naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913) when he was in Singapore and, later, Malacca in 1854. The descriptions that Walker provided in the piece include the physical characteristics of the <i>Diptera</i> specimens as well as their scientific names, locations and sketches.</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>).</p>
5	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustration of the <i>Orangutan</i> (left) Illustration of the <i>Toco</i> toucan (right)</p>	<p><b>Gleanings of Natural History</b></p> <p>George Edwards London: 1758-1764 (3 volumes)</p> <p>Collection of the National Library, Singapore</p>	<p>This definitive title is the most sought after in the National Library Board's Biodiversity Heritage Library collection. The seven-volume masterpiece, which contains countless illustrations of animals, has topped the collection's downloads chart since 2018. Prepared by English naturalist George Edwards (1694-1773), the illustrations were printed from plates that were etched and beautifully hand-coloured by the author himself.</p> <p>What made it even more interesting was that some bird specimens he depicted were looted from a French ship that had been captured by the British. The French ship had been bringing the bird specimens from the Americas to the collections of a French courtesan Jeanne Antoinette Poisson (1721-1764), also known as <i>Madame de Pompadour</i>, the official chief mistress of King Louis XV of France.</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>). The</p>

			physical book is on display at the Level 10 Gallery at the Human x Nature exhibition.
6	 <p>Book cover</p> 	<b>Fossils from Singapore</b>  Richard Newton Bullen London: 1906  Collection of the National Library, Singapore	<p>Published in the 1906 issue of the Geological Magazine by Richard Newton Bullen (1854-1926) of the British Museum's Geological Department, this piece highlights the earliest recorded discovery of fossils in Singapore. Unearthed by Federated Malay States Geologist John B. <u>Scrivenor</u> (1876-1950), these fossils, comprising a mix of shells and leaves, were from the Mesozoic era, a period also known as the Age of Reptiles or the Age of Dinosaurs. It was found in a quarry on the northern flank of Mount Guthrie (today's <u>Tanjong Pagar</u> Complex site).</p> <p>This title is on display electronically at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display and can be accessed digitally at the Biodiversity Heritage Library (<a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>).</p>

	Mesozoic fossils discovered by John B. <u>Scrivenor</u>		
7	 <p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustration of the Black panther (left)  Illustration of the Striped hyena (right)</p>	<b>Natural History Drawings: The Complete William Farquhar Collection: Malay Peninsula, 1803-1818</b>  John <u>Bastin</u> , Kwa Chong Guan, Ibrahim, Hassan and Morten Strange 2010  <i>This book is not part of Biodiversity Heritage Library Singapore. Copyrights need to be acquired from the publisher before the images can be used.</i>	<p>This book provides a wonderfully illustrated and evocative look at the natural history of the Malay Peninsula. Comprising 477 drawings of the flora and fauna of the Malay Peninsula commissioned by Colonel William Farquhar during his time as British Resident and Commandant of Malacca from 1803 to 1818, it provides a fascinating window both into the natural history of the time and the 19th-century British settlement in the Malay Peninsula.</p> <p>This title is on display at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display. It is also available for loan in public libraries under RSING 759.959 NAT.</p>
8		<b>Birds of Singapore</b>  Christopher Hails (Author), Frank Jarvis (Illustrator) 2018  <i>This book is not part of Biodiversity Heritage Library Singapore. Copyrights</i>	<p>This classic guide is best known for its rich illustrations of birds. Painted by artist Frank Jarvis entirely from field sketches and the specimens of the valued Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong <u>Chian</u> Natural History Museum, they offer the highest level of accuracy in both the features of the birds and</p>

	<p>Book cover</p>  <p>Illustration of the Marsh sandpiper (top) and Common greenshank (bottom)</p>	<p><i>need to be acquired from the publisher before the images can be used.</i></p>	<p>their behaviour. Also included in the book is the all-important scientific observation of birds' migration patterns and their fascinating adaptations to urban development and encroachment by the famous British biologist Dr Christopher Hails.</p> <p>This title is on display at the National Library Building Level 1 Lobby at the Library of Life display. It is also available for loan in public libraries under RSING 589.095957 HAI.</p>
--	---	---	---