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**PIONEERS  
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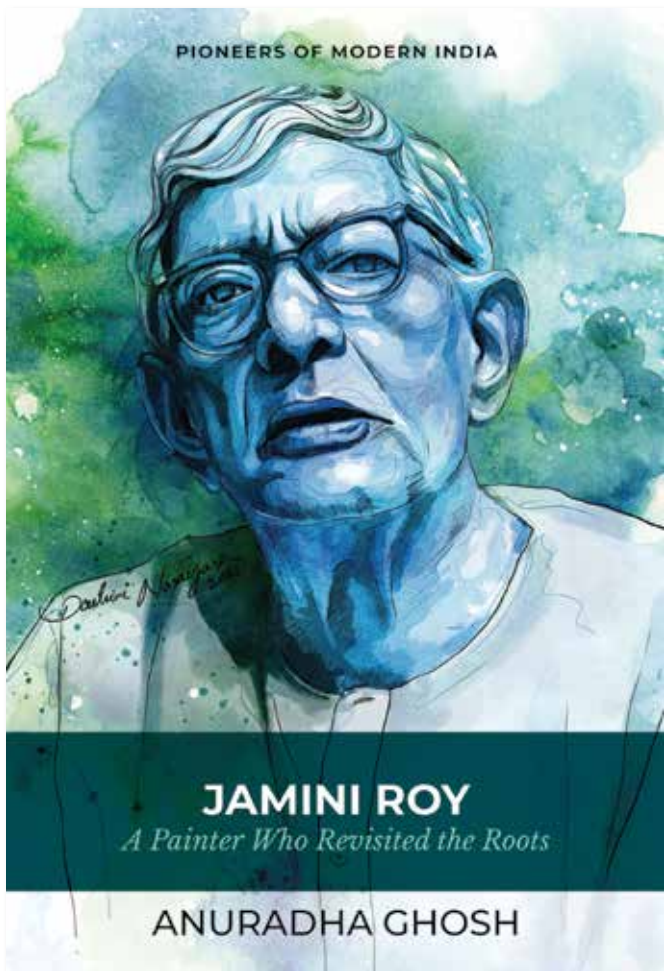
This is *the first ever monograph* on Jamini Roy in English.

A concise biography that traces the life of Jamini Roy, the person and the journey of Jamini Roy, the artist.

Traces the *rural, anonymous sources of Bengal folk art and its journey towards a global platform* through Jamini Roy. It also shows how the rural folk moulded Roy's artistic outlook.

Unearths the crux of the indigenous art form and how it was utilised and appropriated in the hands of Jamini Roy.

Explores the reasons for the unthinkable popularity of Roy's paintings even today.



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## Jamini Roy

*A Painter Who Revisited the Roots*

Anuradha Ghosh

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### A Maestro who Became an Icon of the Rural

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*Jamini Roy: Revisiting Roots* explores the remarkable career of the maestro right from the late 1910s till his very last days. It closely examines not only the steep bends of Roy's art that culminated in his signature style, but also the very process through which he reconnected with his indigenous rootedness that later became the very bedrock of his more famous works. It engages in detail with the influence that the various forms of folk art wielded over him—not only the painted scrolls of indigenous *patuas* or the distinctive *Kalighat pats*, but also the temple murals of *Bankura*, terracotta figurines, floor art, even folk songs, dances and rituals—something that nourished and nurtured his identity. However, Roy's located identity was mediated by the contemporary Modernist idiom, and the elements in his uniquely Bengal-based visual narratives are underpinned by a conscious intention to simplify, abbreviate, and thus reveal the essential, 'significant' form. It also addresses the plural lines of conflicts that underlie the very making of his art—between the urban and the rural, local and the global.

Told in a simple and engaging mode, the book explores the multiple facets of a man for whom art was both a livelihood and a meditative journey, and follows his life of disciplined simplicity along with his quirks and idiosyncrasies.

**Anuradha Ghosh** (b. 1969) is presently Associate Professor in English at Dinabandhu Andrews College, Kolkata. A student of Presidency College, Kolkata, she had begun her career as a journalist in the *Business Standard* and then in *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, before moving on to join her present position in 1996.

She has spoken and written extensively on art and aesthetics, and cultural studies. Her latest book is *The Afterlife of Silence: Still Lives of Jogen Chowdhury* (2020), published by Niyogi Books, New Delhi. She is currently engaged in translating and editing a volume of poems by Osip Mandelstam.



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Mother and Child. 26.5X41cm.  
Courtesy: Birla Academy



A thoughtful Jamini Roy



Jamini Roy with Rabindranath Tagore



Ravana and Sita, Gouache on paper 13.50x17.50 inches.  
Courtesy: Birla Academy



Manasa, the Snake Goddess. Gouache, 34.2 cm x 52 cm.  
Courtesy: San Diego Museum of Art



Landscape. Paper - 43X31cm. Courtesy: Birla Academy



Cat and Fish-1, Gouache on paper, 11.00 inches x 16.50 inches.  
Courtesy: Emami Art

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