

## **BOOK REVIEW: MARGARET MEE'S AMAZON: DIARIES OF AN ARTIST EXPLORER**

*Margaret Mee's Amazon: Diaries of an Artist Explorer* is a compilation of some of the diaries Margaret Mee wrote when she was exploring the Amazon basin. They cover the period 1956 to 1988. Published by the Antique Collectors' Club Ltd. in 2004.

Margaret Mee is best known in the bromeliad world for her bromeliad paintings – many of which appear in this book. She also painted a wide variety of other natural history subjects, some of which also appear in the book.

However, the book is really about the stories behind the paintings. Margaret Mee undertook her journeys with few companions and had to deal with a wide range of situations ranging from lack of food and transportation through to distinctly unfriendly people.

Her diaries provide us with insights into an adventurous and courageous person, but also, much for the Amazon basin, a bygone era.

**Year of Review: 2010**