

The focal point of The Jungle Project is a colourful mural surrounding the puppet stage in the children's section of the Guildford Library. North Vancouver artist Duncan Weller painted a whimsical background dense with jungle trees, flowers and foliage, which illustrates the story of the 'Love Ant'. The "South American"-style trees are generalized from Weller's imagination together with references from the children's book department. Two young children, patrons of the library, are pictured reading from a storybook at the base of the mural.

The jungle is alive with brightly coloured animals, birds and insects. Children will love the little doors and pathways between the animals' tree homes. Weller and Scott Prieb designed the mobile throne, which continues the jungle theme. Weller's mother, award-winning quilter Jean Weller, designed the throne cushion and lively curtains patterned with leaves for the puppet window.

Duncan Weller earned his BA at Lakehead University, Ontario. While living in BC from 1993, he participated in numerous juried art exhibits. He specializes in imaginative illustration for children. His projects include several published books, a math puzzle game, CD covers, magazine illustrations and television backdrops. During The Jungle Project, Weller served as an artist-inresidence for six months at the Guildford Library and received input from local children through puppet drawing contests.



City of Surrey Public and Community Art Collection

## Duncan Weller

## the jungle project

Guildford Library, 15105 – 105 Avenue, children's section September 2001



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