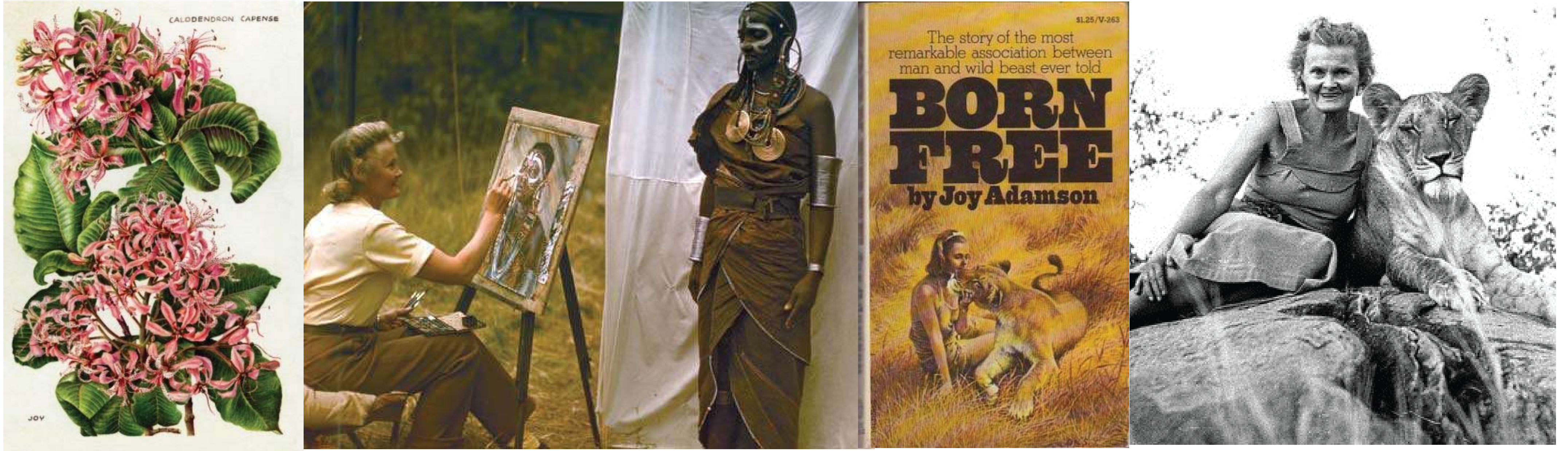


JOY ADAMSON



JOY ADAMSON, known to millions for her numerous books (and later TV series) describing the story of Elsa (Born Free), the Kenyan lioness and her cubs and Pippah, the Kenyan Cheetah and her cubs. Coming to Kenya in 1937, Joy, a self taught artist, first turned her talents to painting Kenyan flora as well as coral fish at the coast. She was awarded the Grenfeld Gold Medal of the Royal Horticultural Society for her botanical pictures. During her travels she realized that she must paint the various peoples of Kenya in their many varied tribal dresses before they were abandoned for Western wear and imports. She spent six and a half years living in all parts of Kenya during this pursuit after the Kenya Government of the time commissioned her to make a comprehensive record of all the traditional dress and ornaments of the people of Kenya. The results now hang in the National Museums of Kenya and State House. They are also recorded in a spectacular book published in 1967 the PEOPLE OF KENYA. As she gained the confidence of the peoples she painted she was allowed to paint some of their most sacred and secret rites some of which had never been recorded. This is a unique record of the artistic traditions of the people among whom she lived. Her museum at Lake Naivasha is a memorial to her remarkable history.

