



Inscrutable Press

There's a story lurking  
**Below Tree Level**

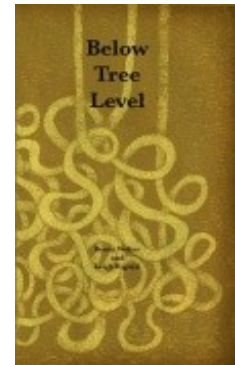
*...a murky contribution to Tasmanian nature writing. ...*

We're accustomed to walking in national parks and reading the interpretive signs - they help us understand the history and geography of a habitat.

But what if these signs were to interpret the wilderness in a very different way?

***Below Tree Level*** is a melancholy journey into wilderness, a work of illustrated fiction told progressively on a series of signs around the Circle Track, just off Shoebridge Bend, on Hobart's iconic Mount Wellington.

A key event in the **2008 Mountain Festival**, *Below Tree Level* is a new approach to storytelling and will be on display from the 7-24<sup>th</sup> March....take a walk and read below the trees.



A man hopes to be revitalised by time in the rainforest but finds every day a dull, dissatisfying routine. He wakes, fetches his water, makes his coffee and idles his way through each hour. But what happens when his boredom is penetrated by an older, bushwalker taking over his space, and a hut inexplicably built across the track? And what does it mean for his frustrations with the wilderness?

A dark, surreal story shaded with green, *Below Tree Level* is written by emerging Tasmanian writer **Benny Walter** and illustrated by comics artist **Leigh Rigozzi**. Asking key questions about our experience of wilderness, *Below Tree Level* leaves the reader uneasy as the story takes its course.

***Below Tree Level*** has also been produced in book form by new Tasmanian publisher, **Inscrutable Press**. The book will be launched by writer Steve Tolbert at Fullers Bookshop, 6pm on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> March. It retails for \$16.95 and is distributed nationally through Black Gum Distribution.

**Benny Walter** produced the poetry exhibition *Writings on the Wall* with the assistance of Arts Tasmania and was the Tasmanian representative in the first national Poetry Slam on Radio National. His writing has been published in *Tarkine*, *Famous Reporter* and a collaboration between *Voiceworks* and the NOISE festival featuring the best young writers around Australia.

**Leigh Rigozzi** was named one of Australia's top 25 visual artists aged 25 and under by *Art and Australia* magazine and the NOISE festival. He has been producing zines and comics since 2001. Leigh's most recent solo exhibition was *Fumetti*, at the Newspace gallery in Sydney. In 2004, he co-curated 'The Dark Woods', a nationally touring exhibition of Australian alternative comics. He has recently completed his Master of Visual Arts at Sydney College of the Arts.

For interviews or further information, contact Benny Walter on 0438 532 517 or [inscrutablepress@gmail.com](mailto:inscrutablepress@gmail.com).

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