

## DIRGE BUCOLIC

PUBLISHER	Compound Press
AUTHOR	Schaeffer Lemalua
RRP	\$30 NZD
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CATEGORY	Poetry, New Zealand, Experimental, Collage



**THE BOOK** The debut collection from a great poet and artist gone too soon. His word is among us, travelling still, full of candour, humility, a loving regard for detail. Includes an introduction by renowned US poet Donald Revell.

**PRAISE** Schaeffer is in that rare company of poets who could dismantle the hierarchy of perception. This is a poetics of intimacy: open, rare, unguarded.

—Michael Steven

Schaeffer lived in art where words and images jostle in a friendly-like stripped-out feeling-cut way, like “some great bird / had flown into the milk bar / and i felt all the malanky little hairs / on my plot / standing endwise” while pop culture and police hives break out all through. In this fresh book the poems are streets of reference carried along by blood and feeling—they call out names of loved ones, admired songs and poets, flourishes of curses, and consolations of philosophy: “search for the perfect blossom / and you wont find it / they are all perfect”.

—Lisa Samuels

**THE AUTHOR** Schaeffer Lemalu (1983-2021) was a poet and artist from Auckland. He published two chapbooks, *Sleeptalker* (2018) and *Sleeptalker 2* (2020), and exhibited paintings on numerous occasions at Robert Heald Gallery.

**THE PUBLISHER** Compound Press was founded in 2012 after hours in the print room of an unnamed law firm with appropriated materials. Today we print and bind the books in our own workshop in Auckland, New Zealand, and maintain a particular though non-exclusive commitment to poetry of the Pacific Region while sea-levels still permit.

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