



Yllwbro, A.A.M. Bos, Dr P, Te Maari
Hongerwinter
10 May - 8 June 2024

In collaboration with Mokopōpaki

No one really makes a point of noticing the sparrow, but my mother did. She lived in a war zone and endured famine. In September 1944, after the intense Allied bombing of the Netherlands that preceded the failed British-led attack on Nijmegen, my mother, aged 14 years, and two boys from her street, were out in the countryside foraging and searching for food. Like many, the children were desperate and starving, roaming a landscape totally ravaged and destroyed by conflict. My mother said, while wandering this landscape, what she remembered about this terrible time, was that everywhere they went, everything had gone. Nothing was left. No trees, no birds, no rats, no cats, nothing, not even sparrows. All gone. Annihilated. Blown to bits or eaten.

For my mother, a sparrow sitting on a fence was a sign of peace and plenty. May this symbol speak also to you. —A.A.M. Bos

Hongerwinter is accompanied by a new book, co-published by Mokopōpaki and Envy.

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Yllwbro is an anonymous sibling collaboration established in 2015. Big sister and little brother. Wētā and Kōkako. Inventive and often unpredictable, they help themselves to images and objects and tell stories using their own unique sense of Māori worldview. Though the artists are not outwardly present, Yllwbro is mindful of the need to communicate and write critically about their work.

A.A.M. Bos was born in Auckland but grew up in Utrecht, the Netherlands. He lives and works on the North Shore in Auckland. His primal zodiac sign is the Shih Tzu. Fellow Shih Tzus include Madonna, Kate Bush and Angela Bassett. A.A.M. Bos is interested in science, observation and matters theological. He has a passion for the natural world and a good, strong Dutch cheese on a thin slice of Vogel's bread.

Dr P was born in Whanganui. She lives and works in Auckland. Her primal zodiac sign is the Vulture. Fellow Vultures include Gwyneth Paltrow, Snoop Dogg, Eminem and Truman Capote. Dr P is not a doctor or a dentist, lawyer or plumber. She is an occasional writer, indoor landscape garden designer and General Secretary of the Mokopōpaki Exhibitions Committee (MMPK).

Te Maari was born in Whakatāne. She lives and works in Birmingham. Her primal zodiac sign is the Deer. Fellow Deer include Naomi Campbell and Prince. She is a collector of snips and snaps, words and facts, trinkets that sing and things with bling. A maker of taonga both beautiful and useful (as would please the likes of Messrs Wm. Morris & Co.), Te Maari is curious and loves to know how things work. She has the ability to master new skills quickly, often moving on to her next commission or project.

www.envy6011.net

exec@envy6011.net