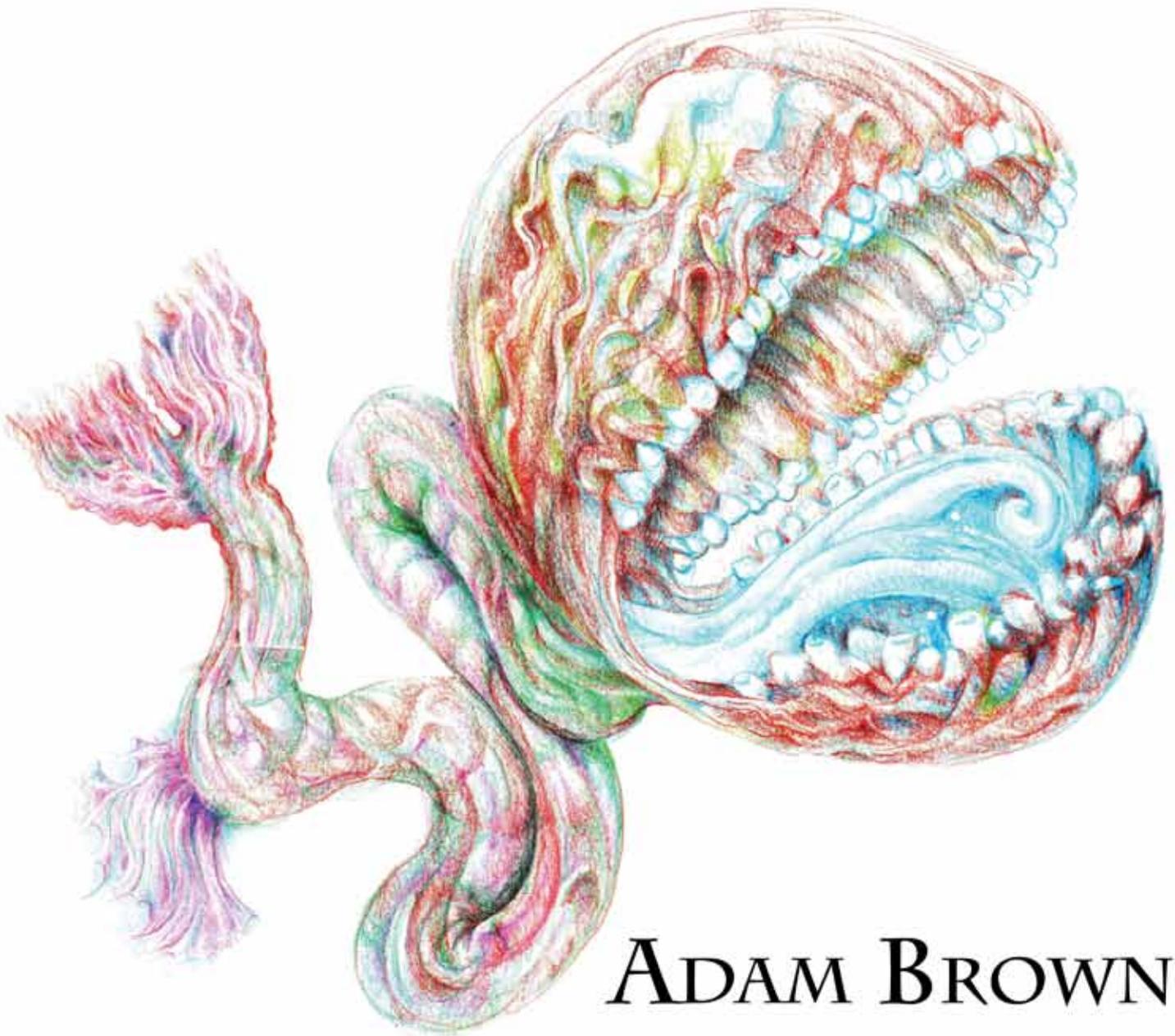


THE TAME  
ANIMALS  
OF SATURN



ADAM BROWNE



a brief excerpt from



**Adam Browne**



Thereafter, he was a frequent visitor to Lorber's room at the *Zum weißen Kreuz*, an inn in Graz. Spiritual matters were discussed, séances conducted, Karoline's spirit summoned. If she was Leitner's late wife, she proved punctual in her visits. Over the two decades that followed, she counselled Leitner (through Lorber) on various matters: he was to abstain from coffee and cheap wine, he would be advised to take neck and chest massages, and so on.

Youens gives no explicit mention of patronage, perhaps it goes without saying.

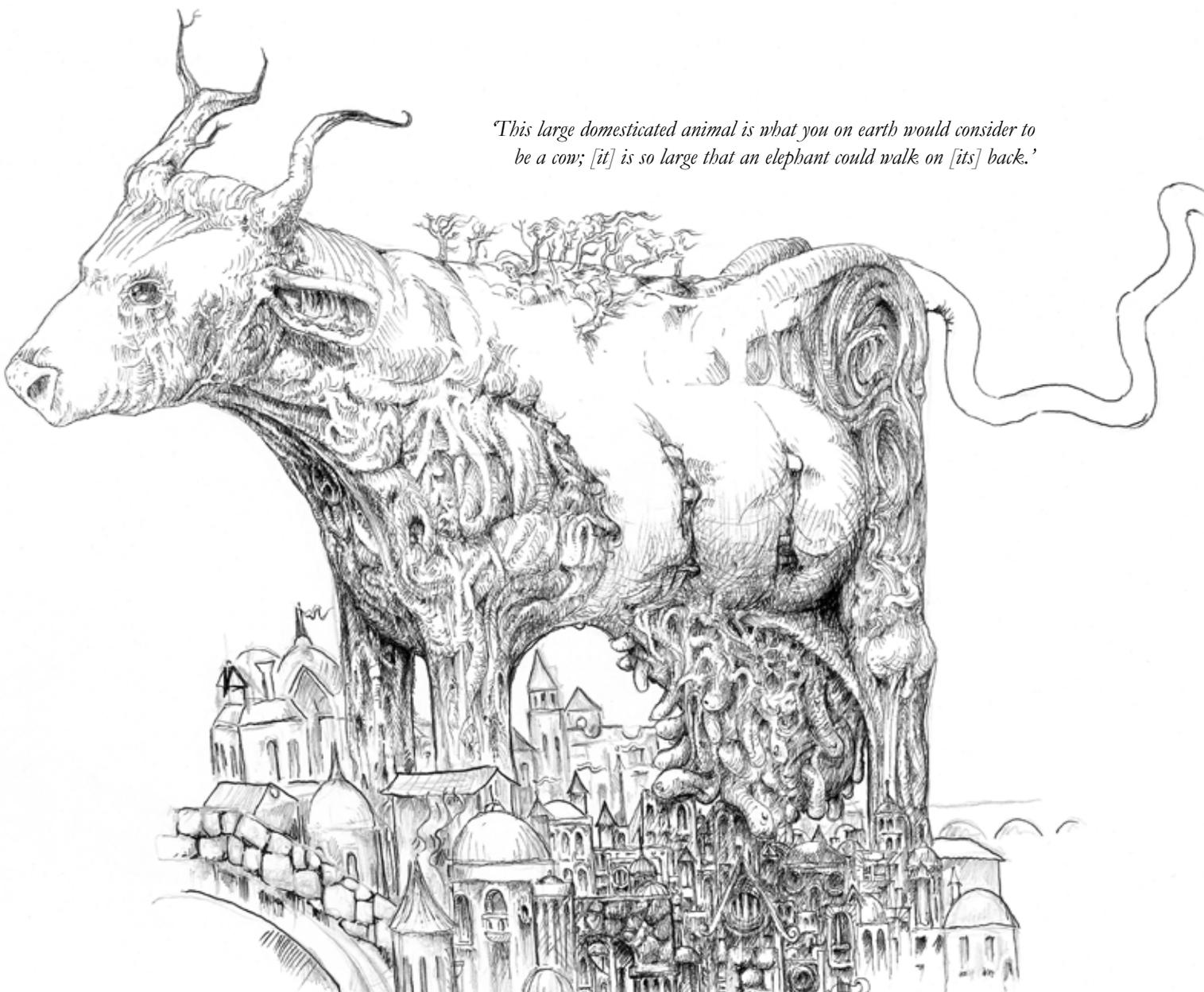
It seems that Lorber had solved the problem that faces every scholar (almost a homophone of 'squalor').

He'd found a way to make a living, and perhaps also a way to *live on*. Borges said, 'When writers die they become books'. We're not the flesh but the patterns in the flesh. Reproduction, in the child or the book, is perpetuity by proxy; reading is a creative act that restores the author to life. It's what William Burroughs meant when he said, 'the immortality of the writer is to be taken seriously'.

It's a mutuality, a back-and-forth, like the *strange loop* of Douglas Hofstadter—who, like Leitner, was motivated to investigate these matters when he became a widower. It's the collaborative illusion of self, continuing beyond death.

The life of Lorber, then, matters less than his body of work; a colossal body, 10,000 pages large.

*'This large domesticated animal is what you on earth would consider to be a cow; [it] is so large that an elephant could walk on [its] back.'*





# Acknowledgements

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All of these people are friends, colleagues and family. Essentially, the crowdfunding process amounted to a sort of formalised begging.

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Thanks to the publishers and editors: Liz Bright, Edwina Harvey, and Simon Petrie. Just delightful people to work with.





The author, beardedly gleaming, with friend

## About the Author

**Adam Browne** lives in Melbourne, Australia. His first book, *Pyrotechnicon: Being a TRUE ACCOUNT of Cyrano de Bergerac's FURTHER ADVENTURES among the STATES and EMPIRES of the STARS, by Himself (dec'd)* (coeur de lion 2012), was a sequel to the science fiction of Cyrano de Bergerac. His second, a collection of short fiction called *'Other Stories', and Other Stories* (Satalyte Publishing), was published in 2014. His story 'The Weatherboard Spaceship' won the Aurealis Award for best short science fiction in 2001, and in 2009, his story 'Neverland Blues', published by Jack Dann in *Dreaming Again*, won the Chronos Award for best science fiction short story. A selection of his stories was recorded as an audiobook read by Francis Greenslade, available online.



# The Tame Animals of Saturn

*Adam Browne's phantasmagoric meditation on the Christian mystic Jakob Lorber (who called himself 'God's scribe') is a fabulation about a fabulist, an extraordinary one-off feat of the imagination. No one but Adam could have written The Tame Animals of Saturn, much less conceived it! And his illustrations ... ah, they are as wild and wonderful as the text itself.*

—Jack Dann, author of  
*The Memory Cathedral*

*What hath Adam Browne wrought?  
An essay? An apostrophe! Biography?  
Catastrophe! Poetical, exegetical,  
entirely unapologetical, a work of  
hallucinatory scholarship.  
A dazzling deft display of  
images and other lines at play.*

—Marc Laidlaw,  
author of *The 37th Mandala*

