

ONE OF EUROPE'S TOP KIDS AUTHORS DAVIDE CALI



Adelaide (May 16-19), Melbourne/Geelong (May 20-25) Sydney (May 26-28)

For further information or an interview please contact
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DAVIDE CALI *Ten Little Insects*

by Davide Cali
Illustrated by Vincent Pianina
ISBN 9780987109910 \$29.99 hb



ONE of Europe's most acclaimed writers for children, Swiss-born Italian, French and English-speaking Davide Cali, will be making his first ever visit to Australia from May 16-28.

He's not your typical children's book writer, he has studs in the ears, looks like an avant garde artist and plays guitar in a heavy metal rock band.

He will be here as a guest speaker at the **Children's Book Council of Australia's National Conference** in Adelaide (May 17-19) where he will also launch his latest book, *10 Little Insects*, a graphic novel for late primary readers.

10 Little Insects is an innovative riff on the classic Agatha Christie murder mystery. Ten very different insects, each with something to hide, are brought together in a mysterious house on a secluded island for the weekend. Then, one by one, they start dying in very unusual circumstances ...

But all is not as it seems, as Cali and illustrator Vincent Pianina, delightfully subvert the whodunnit genre with a story that is brilliant, baffling, laugh-out-loud funny and somewhat surreal.

Cali has published over 40 books.

DAVIDE CALI was born in Northern Switzerland, near the state line with Germany, but grew up in Italy. Despite studying accountancy, he found that illustrations and words prevailed over numbers. Davide adored comics from an early age, especially Asterix. At 22 he wrote and illustrated for the monthly Italian magazine LINUS.

A thirst for storytelling eventually led him to writing children's books. Since his first books, which he wrote and illustrated, he has collaborated with many talented illustrators including Serge Bloch (French), Gianluca Foli (Italian) and Anna Laura Cantone (Italian). Picture book awards include France's prestigious Baobab Prize for the most innovative book of 2005 for *I Can't Wait* illustrated by Serge Bloch. This was also Honour Book in the American Library Association's Batchelder Award.

Over the past 10 years he has gone on to create more than 40 illustrated books for publishers in Austria, France, Italy, Argentina and Portugal. His books have been translated into 25 countries all over the world.

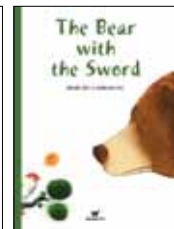
Australian children's publisher Wilkins Farago is proud to have published eight of Davide's books for the English language market to excellent reviews. His nine most recent titles include *The Enemy* (included in the USBBY's 2010 list of Outstanding International Books), *The Bear with a Sword* (selected for the International Youth Library's White Ravens catalogue) and *What is this thing called love?*

10 Little Insects was selected by a panel as one of the best graphic novels of the year at the prestigious Angoulême International Comics Festival in France.

Being fluent in French, Italian and English, Davide travels extensively around Europe giving talks and performing workshops at schools and book fairs.

Oh, yes, he also plays in a heavy metal rock band!

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