Adopt a Book

Rede, Geraldine, 1874?-1943; Teague, Violet, 1872-1951

Night Fall in the Ti-Tree
Melbourne: Imprinted now for the first time by hand at the Sign of the Rabbit, 1905
32 p.; woodcuts; 23 cm.

Rare Books & Special Collections
Strong Room 821A R31n

About

Night Fall in the Ti-Tree was privately printed by hand in 1905 by Violet Teague and her friend Geraldine Rede in the Teague family home in Melbourne. A few copies were released for sale in December of that year. A copy also found its way to art publisher Elkin Matthews in London, who agreed to sell the book. A second edition, published in 1906, had a redesigned title page by Teague, with an imprint of Elkin Matthews as publisher. Night Fall in the Ti-Tree is recognised as the first book with colour relief printing in Australia. It can also be considered as the first Australian artists’ book and is one of the earliest published pieces by an Australian modernist. It consists of 14 leaves folded in the Japanese manner, with original woodcuts and accompanying verse letterpress on opposite pages. Each block was cut and coloured by the artists and many of the images are signed.
**Original Condition**

The stab stitch binding was in poor condition and use was restricted. Silk binding ties were torn and coming away from the leaves. The inner metal staples were also corroding.

**Restoration by Anthony Zammit**

Metal staples in inner binding were removed. Binding was reinforced with dyed linen thread. Original silk tape was retained and also reinforced.