



Kon Calembakis

RIVER TREK

We unload our canoes
Beside the muddy river.
Everybody is excited
With the long journey ahead.

Breakfast is brief
The journey begins mid-morning.
We easily sense
A feeling of community.

Our progress is good
The environment is ever changing.
We pass lagoons
And islands of tall grass.
Sometimes sheer cliffs accompany us
Excellent for sound games
And cave explorations.

We discover pleasant meadows
And witness to our surprise
Wild bulls rushing to the bank!
We observe jungle terrain
Immersed in shadows
Terribly inviting
To any courageous explorer.

We are hailed by river boat people
And pestered by larrikin skiers.
Our greatest discomfort
Is the ever present
Aerosol resistant fly!

We reach our destination
On the brink of nightfall.
We are exhausted
But content with our achievement.

Our legs are gone,
So we crawl along the bank
Until the blood returns.

Dinner has never been better
Around a big camp fire
With singing and joking
And the company of the Milky Way.