



**SELF
MADE
HERO**

THE CASTLE

KAFKA/JAROMÍR 99/MAIROWITZ

PRESS RELEASE

For the 130th anniversary of his birth, Franz Kafka's classic tale gets the graphic novel treatment following SelfMadeHero's critically acclaimed adaptation of *The Trial*. The protagonist, K., arrives in a snowbound village which is overshadowed by a castle. That's where the bureaucrats live but K. finds getting access to them is an impossible battle of endless paperwork, rules and regulations that dictate daily life in the village. His efforts lead to misunderstandings and transgressions that bring him into increasing conflict with the authorities. *The Castle* is a surreal parable that explores Kafka's familiar themes of solitude, bureaucracy and alienation.

The Castle is adapted by writer/ playwright David Zane Mairowitz whose previous work for SelfMadeHero includes *Crime and Punishment* and *The Trial*, and it is illustrated by Prague-born singer/artist Jaromír 99.



About the adaptor

David Zane Mairowitz is an author, playwright, radio director and translator who has published numerous books, including *Introducing Kafka* (with Robert Crumb), *Introducing Camus*, and *Wilhelm Reich for Beginners*. His theatrical plays include a critically acclaimed version of Kafka's *The Trial*. He previously adapted Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* and Kafka's *The Trial* for SelfMadeHero.

About the artist:

Czech-born Jaromír 99 is an accomplished singer, songwriter, and artist who is best known for his work with Jaroslav Rudis on the comics trilogy *Alois Nebel*. *Alois Nebel* was turned into an animated feature of the same title that premiered to great acclaim at the Venice Film Festival, and was selected as the Czech entry for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2011. *Alois Nebel* won Best Animated Feature at the 2012 European Film Awards.

About the original author

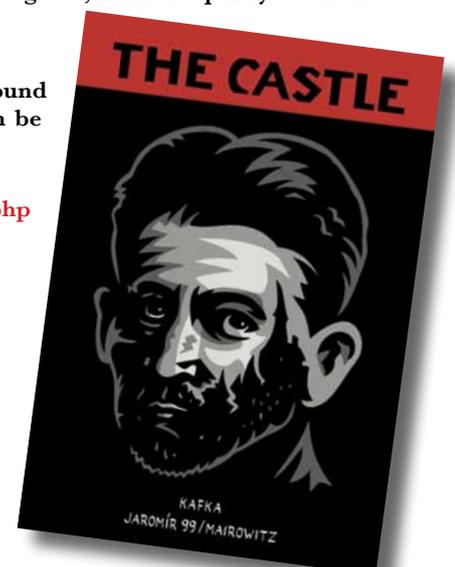
Franz Kafka (1883–1924) is considered one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. Born in Prague, Bohemia (now the Czech Republic), most of his work was published posthumously including *The Trial* and *The Castle*, his final work, which was left unfinished at the time of his death.

SelfMadeHero aims to publish works that provoke, entertain, inspire, and inform through the medium of the graphic novel. We are proud to publish ground-breaking and beautiful work by authors and artists from across the globe, from the quirky and humorous to the political and profound.

Interviews & Call Ins: The author is available for emailed, recorded and live interviews around publication. Access to the full book online and physical review copies of *The Castle* can be arranged along with interview requests via Paul Smith: paul@selfmadehero.com

Images: web and print images can be downloaded from www.selfmadehero.com/press.php with alternative images available on request

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Artist: Jaromír 99
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Press contact: Paul Smith **T:** 0207 487 4395 **M:** 07970 878 802 **E:** paul@selfmadehero.com