In new release - *Ground Truthing* - historian, writer, philosopher and artist, Paul Carter ‘maps’ Victoria’s Mallee region by exploring the visible and invisible aspects of place.

Using the region as an example, Carter digs deep, unearthing and analysing literature, art, oral history, the historical record as well as his own research.

The result is a complex understanding that brings to life the Mallee area and presents it in the past, present and future.

More broadly, *Ground Truthing* explores the meaning and value of regions in a globalised world, where we now enjoy total visual surveillance of the earth’s surface. This, Carter argues, contributes to the homogenisation of places rather than differentiation.

Indeed the term ‘ground truthing’ comes from the practice of following up aerial surveys with field expeditions designed to reconcile any discrepancies between the aerial photograph of a tract of land and its actual condition - the idea is to identify ‘anomalies’ ahead of their destruction.

*Ground Truthing* is therefore a poetic geography. It is an evocation of a country that defies easy description and because of this invites us to rethink the language we use and the maps we draw to define places.

This new release from UWA Publishing offers a unique take on natural history, mapping and urban planning.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Paul Carter** is creative director of Material Thinking. He is well known internationally for such books as *Parrot* (2006) and *Dark Writing* (2009). Paul collaborates with graphic artists, performers, architects and landscape designers and has received many national and state awards. He holds honorary professorships at the University of Melbourne, RMIT (Melbourne) and the University of Queensland. In 2006 he was George Simpson Visiting Professor at the University of Edinburgh.