

P R E S S R E L E A S E

EKSTASIS EDITIONS CELEBRATES THE RELEASE OF STEPHEN SCOBIE'S RLS: AT THE WORLD'S END

In RLS: At the World's End, award-winning Canadian poet Stephen Scobie charts an imagined course through Stevenson's writings and travels.

Scobie, himself a Scot living abroad, presents an extended dialogue between his own, contemporary voice and a poetic image of RLS: forever seeking a treasure island, forever longing to return home, living and dying at the world's end.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) was one of the most popular authors of the late 19th century. He is known for such classic works as *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped*, *A Child's Garden of Verses* and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* — but also for the romantic tale of his tragically short life, from his childhood in Scotland to his death in the South Seas.

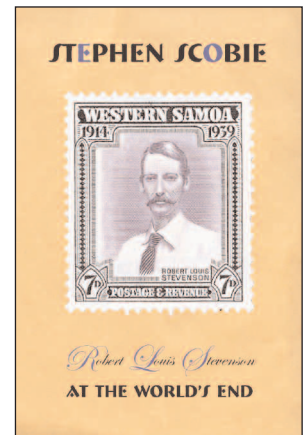
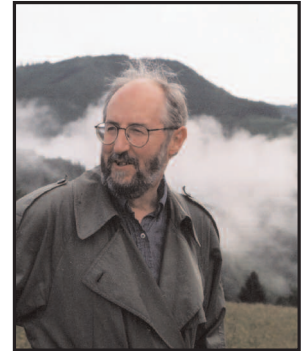
Stephen Scobie, whose McAlmon's Chinese Opera pushed him into the top rank of narrative poets, has turned his sights on Robert Louis Stevenson, one transplanted Scot pondering another, meditating on love, the meaning of home, and the tropics of illness and death. It's a jagged, moving, cryptic circumnavigation of the creative life.

Gary Geddes

Stephen Scobie has never been known for timid subjects. Here he lets out the stubborn Scot in him, full stop, in the voice of his ancestral literary countryman, Robert Louis Stevenson, growling and howling and whooping at the mad world, inner and outer, wrestling it into the possibilities of love, the seas calming, a woman smiling at the door. Past, present and future meld in this fierce hymn to loss of innocence, and old age, and grace under fire. A magnificent read.

Di Brandt

Stephen Scobie is a Canadian poet, critic, and scholar. Born in Carnoustie, Scotland, Scobie relocated to Canada in 1965. He earned a PhD from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver after which he taught at the University of Alberta and at the University of Victoria, from which he recently retired. Scobie is a founding editor of Longspoon Press, an elected member of the Royal Society of Canada, and the recipient of the 1980 Governor General's Award for *McAlmon's Chinese Opera* (1980) and the 1986 Prix Gabrielle Roy for Canadian Criticism.



Available now
ISBN 978-1-897430-32-3
Poetry
88 Pages
\$19.95
6 x 9

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