

Small Press Profiles

by Ed Gorman

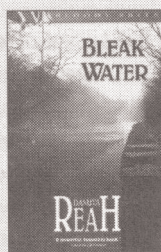
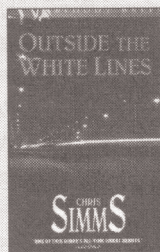


In addition to her own writing, Val McDermid is the editorial director of the new Bloody Brits Press which is bringing the work of overlooked UK writers to American bookstores.

BLOODY BRITS PRESS

Publisher Kelly Smith had the idea for Bloody Brits Press when she moved to the UK in 2004. A lover of mysteries, she was amazed to find how many British authors she had never heard of. "There's a treasure trove of mystery fiction that had been ignored by US publishers. I decided to set up an imprint that would do something to put that right." Kelly recruited her partner, British mystery star Val McDermid, as Editorial Director, and Bloody Brits was born. They plan to publish in trade paperback a mix of titles new to the US alongside what Val calls "books we think shouldn't be out of print."

Bloody Brits press launched in September, 2006 with Dagger-winner Danuta Reah's *Bleak Water*, a chilling psychological thriller. Other recent titles include Chris Simms' *Outside the White Lines*, Sarah Diamond's *The Spider House* and McDermid's own Kate Brannigan



series. Authors who feature in their future plans include Dagger winners Ann Cleeves and John Harvey. "We're publishing the best of British," Kelly said. "And thanks in large part to the network of independent mystery booksellers, we think we are on to a winner."