

Ian Thomson

Ian Thomson - 'a chronicler of formidable power' (*Guardian*) - is the author of *BONJOUR BLANC*, an acclaimed book about Haiti, and of *PRIMO LEVI* ("one of the best literary biographies of the year", *Observer*).

He lives in London with his wife and children. His latest book *THE DEAD YARD* won The Royal Society of Literature's 2010 Ondaatje Prize.



Forthcoming publication SHOT FROM BOTH SIDES - Faber & Faber

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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
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PRIMO LEVI	The extraordinary biography of a major twentieth-century literary figure and scientist; an Auschwitz survivor who more than any other revealed the truth about Nazi genocide. Levi's account of Auschwitz, <i>IF THIS IS A MAN</i> is now recognized as one of the essential books of mankind. No other work conveys the horror of the Nazi genocide more directly and profoundly. Ian Thomson spent over five years researching this book in Italy and elsewhere. His rich and fascinating biography draws on Fascist documents, police reports, autopsies and other archive material hitherto unknown. Vital information has been uncovered on the writer's premature death, and this biography of Primo Levi is destined to become a classic.
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BONJOUR BLANC 1992 VINTAGE	Haiti: one thinks of voodoo, Papa Doc, political violence and desperate poverty. In BONJOUR BLANC , Thomson explores all of the dread demons and eccentricities of this unhappy republic. He is initiated into the feared Bizzango religion, an African animist cult whose associates venerate a coffin and human skulls; he talks to zombies, the walking dead. Part history, part personal travelogue, Thomson introduces us to a lively gallery of eccentrics; a Russian Cossack, a Swiss chess champion who studied Einstein and an ancient voodoo priest. Yet Haiti is also noted for its history as a retreat for writers, Anthony Trollope, Ian Flemming, Alexandre Dumas, Graham Greene and Eugene O'Neill - and Thomson wonderfully explores their Haitian adventures.
