

Robert Seydel *Songs of S.*

Shortly before he died in 2011, at the age of 51, the reclusive artist Robert Seydel submitted a manuscript of poems to Ugly Duckling Presse. He was uncertain whether to pair these “songs” of S., one of his many invented personae, with collages and drawings, or to seek a publisher that would let the poems stand on their own.

This edition presents the cycle of poems in its entirety and uninterrupted, with an afterword by Peter Gizzi, and an additional booklet—*Maybe S.*—composed of visual materials that at different times were meant as an accompaniment to the text.

To my eye, Robert is a poet, by which I mean to say that he has established an idiom and vocabulary and a syntax among his images. He has a poet’s sense of form, a tightly coiled energy of Possibility (in the Dickinsonian sense), a love of metamorphic intensity and of mysteries on the verge of being revealed.

—Peter Gizzi



ROBERT SEYDEL (1960-2011), a professor at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts, was an artist and writer who left behind a layered and original body of work. Seydel’s interrelated series incorporated collage, drawing, photography, narrative and lyric writing, often using various personae and fictional constructs, such as Ruth Greisman whose works are collected in *Book of Ruth* (Siglio, 2011) and *A Picture Is Always A Book* (Siglio, 2014). *Songs of S.* is marked by an unrelenting sense of play and embedded with eclectic knowledge.



Poetry/Visual Art | \$24
Perfect bound | 112 pp | 6" x 8.375"
Release Date: November 1, 2014
ISBN 978-1-938221-05-7
Co-published with Siglio Press
Distributed Art Publishers

UGLY DUCKLING PRESSE

is a nonprofit publisher of poetry, translations, performance texts, lost works and books by artists.

For more about UDP, visit www.uglyducklingpresse.org

Media contact: Matvei Yankelevich • matvei@uglyducklingpresse.org