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Arsenal Pulp Press

30 years

dancing in the dark



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New Star Books

AN INVITATION TO HEAR TWO EXCITING NEW WRITERS

Arsenal Pulp Press, New Star Books, and Nightwood Editions are pleased to present the Toronto launch of two exciting new writers whose fiction and poetry traverse the queer multicultural landscape. Francisco Ibañez-Carrasco, author of the novel *Flesh Wounds and Purple Flowers*, and Andy Quan, author of the short fiction collection *Calendar Boy* and the poetry collection *Slant*, will be performing at a reading on Saturday, June 30 at Victory Café (681 Markham Street).

from arsenal pulp press

An extravagant, tragicomic novel, *Flesh Wounds & Purple Flowers* takes us into the world of Latino *machos* and cha-cha divas of Santiago's gay underground, full of dreamers and schemers looking for salvation abroad. Told in the musical lilt of Spanglish, Camilo tells his story as he lays dying in his hospital bed, recalling a life of sequins, disco, and a plague that is at the same time debilitating and liberating. Fresh, funny, and full of colour and verve, *Flesh Wounds & Purple Flowers* reads like a gay Latino version of *Valley of the Dolls*.

from new star books

On the edge of adulthood, self-discovery, coming out; in university towns, Europe, Vancouver, Toronto, Sydney, the protagonists of *Calendar Boy* unravel cultural heritage, community, identity on the road to – they hope – love, happiness, and self-acceptance. Quan shifts gears effortlessly from street-smart colloquial voice to rapid-fire monologue to the bemused, exhilarated tone of immigrants new to Canada or to gay male culture. *Calendar Boy* will hit home even as it makes you see the world in new ways.

from nightwood editions

Sharp, accessible and witty, *Slant* offers a fresh exploration of issues of race, sexuality, and life in the global village. The collection alternates between three main themes of childhood and family in the Chinese diaspora; gay sexuality, community and rites-of-passage; and voyages literal and metaphorical. *Slant* asks “how do we belong?” and answers in a voice that is compelling and unique.

free book launches with
Andy Quan and Francisco Ibañez-Carrasco

SATURDAY, JUNE 30
8:30pm

Victory Café
681 Markham Street

