



THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAMME

In conjunction with  Toronto International Festival of Authors

For Immediate Release

PUBLISHER BRIAN LAM NAMED 2018 IVY AWARD RECIPIENT

TORONTO, October 22, 2018 -- The International Visitors (IV) Programme, in association with the Toronto International Festival of Authors, is pleased to announce that **Brian Lam, Publisher, Arsenal Pulp Press**, will be the seventh recipient of the Ivy Award. Given annually to an individual who has made a substantial contribution to Canadian publishing, the Ivy Award will be presented by acclaimed author **Catherine Hernandez** during the International Visitors Award Presentation. The free event, which is open to members of the book industry, will take place at the Toronto International Festival of Authors on Monday, October 22 at 3:30pm and will feature a keynote presentation by **Madeline McIntosh**, CEO, Penguin Random House, U.S. Toronto International Festival of Authors, Canada's oldest and largest festival of words and ideas, is on from October 18–28, 2018, with most events held at Harbourfront Centre.

"I'm thrilled and extremely humbled by this honour," said **Brian Lam, Publisher, Arsenal Pulp Press**. "I'd like to thank the IV Committee for recognizing us, an indie press from the west coast, as well as our brilliant writers, with whom I share this award."

"Brian Lam's breadth of work in Canadian publishing demonstrates that even a small press can wield a large voice," said **Geoffrey E. Taylor, Director, Toronto International Festival of Authors**. "As an editor and publisher, Lam has given a platform to many essential voices in storytelling. The jury is honoured to present him with the 2018 Ivy Award."

Beginning his career at Arsenal Pulp Press in 1984 as a co-op student in creative writing from the University of Victoria, Brian Lam became a co-owner of the publisher in 1992 and a majority shareholder in 2017. Among the books he has personally edited are *Jonny Appleseed* by Joshua Whitehead (longlisted for the 2018 Scotiabank Giller Prize and the 2018 Governor General's Literary Award for English-language Fiction), *God in Pink* by Hasan Namir (winner of the Lambda Literary Award), *Conflict Is Not Abuse* by Sarah Schulman, and ten titles by Ivan Coyote, including *Tomboy Survival Guide*, a finalist for last year's Hilary Weston Writers' Trust of Canada Prize for Nonfiction. Lam is a past President of the Association of Book Publishers of BC and a former board member of the Association of Canadian Publishers and Livres Canada Books.

The Ivy Award jury is composed of **Deborah Dundas** (Books Editor, *Toronto Star*), **Alison Jones** (Publisher, *Quill & Quire*) and **Geoffrey E. Taylor** (Director, Toronto International Festival of Authors).

Past Ivy Award recipients are: Phyllis Bruce (2017), Linda McKnight (2016), David Kent (2015), Dean Cooke (2014), Louise Dennys (2013) and Scott McIntyre (2012).

For more information about the IV Programme, please visit www.ivprogramme.com.

About the Toronto International Festival of Authors

The Toronto International Festival of Authors is Canada's oldest and largest festival of words and ideas. Since 1974, it has hosted over 9,000 authors from more than 100 countries, including 22 Nobel Laureates and countless other award winners. Mandated to cultivate and advance the art of literature, the Festival connects curious readers of every kind with leading international authors, while providing a forum to showcase Canadian talent to the world. The annual Festival takes place every fall (October 18-28, 2018). Year-round activities include a speaker series, the Toronto Lit Up book launch series (supported by the Toronto Arts Council), the annual Forest of Reading® Festival of Trees™ (in partnership with the Ontario Library Association), Ontario and international touring programmes and more. The Festival is based at Harbourfront Centre. To learn more visit FestivalofAuthors.ca.

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