# CLGRO



## **Coalition for**

# Lesbian and Gay Rights

in Ontario

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New from Gutter Press

## THIS IMAGINED PERMANENCE

by nathalie stephens

## Lesbian explorations into the duality of beauty and decay.

This Imagined Permanence captures the many lives of a woman who inhabits the breath that precedes speech, the tremor that precipitates action. She knows the resistance of skin to touch, and tentatively contemplates the distances between and within ourselves, that which makes reaching out so precarious and forbidding.



"...language soaked in richness and beauty."

Clare Bermingham, Excalibur

nathalie stephens is also the author of a book of French language poetry, *hivernale* (Toronto, Éditions du GREF, 1995).

## NATHALIE STEPHENS

#### For Lisé

did you know by the way the rain came the stained glass cracked there our bodies pressed against the wall i wish i could fly and you said yes the bit about the angels snow angels there where your hands gathered me liquid running over you there where we fissured imperceptible no one likes dykes the stained glass cracked fragments you me no rules yes i believe there where the rain forms mirrors on the road you can see the sky there where we hold our breath up to the light look angels

nathalie stephens is a jewish lesbian feminist poet and writer. Her writings have been published in both french and english in various feminist and literary journals across Canada. Her first collection of poetry, hivernale was published in 1995 by les éditions du GREF. This Imagined Permanence, a book of poetic prose, will be published in the summer of 1996 by Gutter Press.