NYQ Books™ Announces the Publication of My Tranquil War and Other Poems by Anis Shivani

September 7, 2012 - New York, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the release of My Tranquil War and Other Poems by Anis Shivani. Composed over the last decade, My Tranquil War and Other Poems tackles head-on the question: What is the poet’s special responsibility when terror becomes a general condition of dread, and even beauty and truth assume grotesque masks? These poems constantly rub up against self-limitation, and in the desire to discover a voice appropriate for the times, turn what could have been relentless elegy into a transcendent sphere of holiness and refuge.

“Shivani’s poems are vibrant, new, knowledgeable, daring, and welcome.” — Marilyn Hacker

“I sense everywhere an undercurrent of compassion and identification, a poignant humanity and sense of responsibility underneath the torrential voice of his book.” — Franz Wright


“There is a multitude of voices here, a history of a voice perhaps, documentary and fiction, writing his own language which is also ours.” — Fady Joudah

“My Tranquil War is alert to both the inspiriting and darker consequences of culture on every continent and in a vast range of traditions.” — David Biespiel

“Surrounded by canonical figures old and new, poet-provocateur Anis Shivani has written a book where best and worst are marked by their complicity.” — Claudia Keelan

“Anis Shivani’s writing seeks sanctuary by looking poetry and its makers (and a stray president to boot) squarely in the face.” — Eileen Myles

Anis Shivani is a poet, fiction writer, and critic in Houston, Texas. His books are Anatolia and Other Stories; Against the Workshop: Provocations, Polemics, Controversies; and The Fifth Lash and Other Stories. His work appears in the New York Quarterly, Georgia Review, Southwest Review, Boston Review, Iowa Review, Threepenny Review, Antioch Review, Agni, Denver Quarterly, and many other journals. He has won a Pushcart Prize, and studied at Harvard College.

NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the New York Quarterly poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.