

NIGHTBOAT BOOKS

PRESS RELEASE

# PARAGUAYAN SEA

WILSON BUENO

TRANS. ERÍN MOURE

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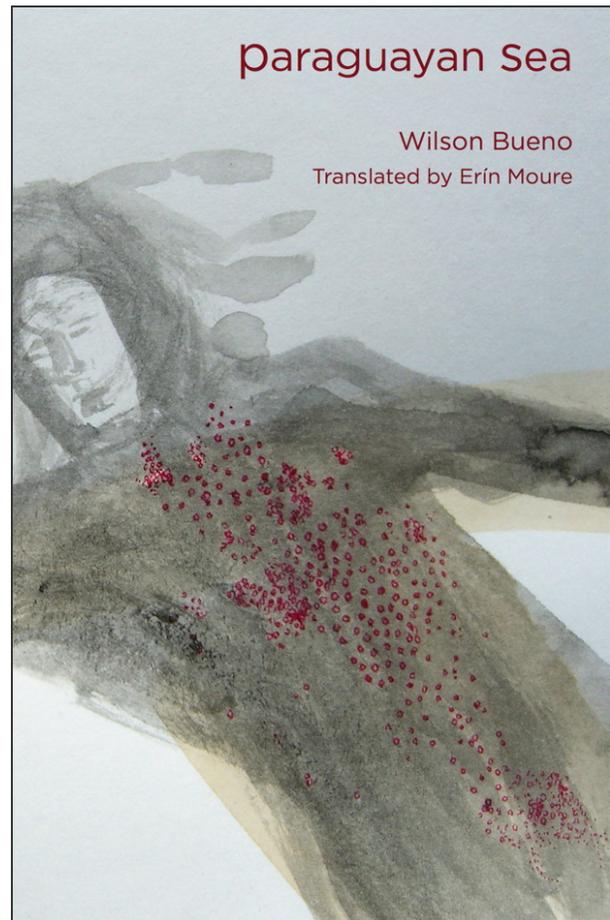
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*Paraguayan Sea, a sublime love tale of border and gender travestias, moves in a language that defies immigration regulations*

Originally written in Portunhol—a Spanish-Portuguese mix from where Brazil and Argentina border Paraguay—with Guaraní, Bueno's *Paraguayan Sea* is a homage to life, to being embodied, to border crossing, and to language itself. Who is its Paraguayan narrator who has loved two men, old and young, in a hot/cold beach town in Brazil? A woman, as she says? A gay man switching pronouns? *Paraguayan Sea* is a river-to-the-sea of identities and migrations, its Portunhol translated into Frenglish by the polylingual poet Erin Moure.

Reader, open this book and you'll be ensorcelled by a signal linguistic music, through which the sounds of national, intra- and cross-national languages scurry pell-mell alongside and through each other, *oh world with its borders thrown open*, giving rise to one of literature's unforgettable poetic seductions. The curious noises that issue (silently or not) from your reading lips, the novel muscular contractions of your throat and mouth, will startle your being into thrilled wakefulness. The poet-translator born to invent Wilson Bueno's work in a version satisfying enough to infect English with living, visionary generosity and such intimate foreignness is certainly Erin Moure.—**FORREST GANDER**

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**WILSON BUENO** was one of Brazil's most influential and beloved contemporary writers, editors, and journalists. His *Mar Paraguayo* is a sensation constantly republished in Latin America since its first appearance in Brazil in 1992.

**ERÍN MOURE** is a poet and translator. She has published over 30 books of poetry, essays, memoir, and translations from French, Spanish, Galician, and Portuguese. She lives in Montreal.