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- Free parking passes in the Alley Theatre garage for the five readings held at the Alley and Wortham Center.
- Recognition as a “Season Subscriber” in each reading program.

To purchase season tickets online or for more details on subscriber benefits, visit inprinthouston.org

To pay by check, fill out the form on the back of this flap.
Thank You!

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The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Dear Friends,

Each edition of the Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series is unique, the result of work, magic, and luck. Among our obsessions, we present great writers with new books—this year, Jennifer Egan, Nathan Englander, Aminatta Forna, Nicole Krauss, Claire Messud, and Kevin Prufer. We also, as we enter our 37th season, want to keep it fresh, with at least some marvelous writers we’ve never featured (and have wanted to), such as Paul Auster, and some, such as Samanta Schweblin, who are important international voices. We want each lineup to somehow embrace and reflect the rich diversity of Houston, with extraordinary authors such as Rigoberto González, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Viet Thanh Nguyen. And finally, we very much want each evening to be memorable and accessible, putting literature center stage at some of the city’s top performance venues. Like mad scientists, we hope this concoction will delight and astonish. Of course, none of it would be possible without you—thank you for joining us on the journey. We look forward to sharing the adventure of this new season. See you at the readings.

Cheers,

Rich Levy
Executive Director
The 2017/2018
Inprint
Margarett Root Brown
Reading Series

All readings take place on Monday nights at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 6:45 pm.
Book Sales and Signings

Brazos Bookstore, the official bookseller for the Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series, will be on-site selling books at each reading and offers discounts on featured books by authors appearing in the series. Receive a 10% discount on the featured title by purchasing books online or buying a book at the event. Use the coupon code INPRINT to receive the discount online.

To learn more, visit the “Inprint Bookstore” on Brazos Bookstore’s website: brazosbookstore.com/events/inprint

Please support independent bookstores. We recommend that all new series titles be purchased through Brazos Bookstore.

Parking

Visit inprinthouston.org for details on parking at each of the venues, especially for the two readings taking place at Stude Concert Hall, Rice University.

Tickets /

All readings begin at 7:30 pm, doors open at 6:45 pm. Each reading will be followed by an on-stage interview. Please note that all authors, except Ms. Lahiri, will participate in a book signing at which audience members can meet the authors. For reminders and event updates, join our email list through the Inprint website inprinthouston.org and follow us on: 📡 🐦 📸

Season Tickets on Sale!

Season tickets—on sale until September 1, 2017, unless they sell out in advance—cost $215 (a value of more than $400) and provide reserved section seating for each of the readings (seats held until 7:25 pm), plus parking passes, a signed book, and other benefits. Check the back flap for details.

General Admission Tickets

Tickets for individual readings are sold in advance through the Inprint website for $5 plus a small service fee. General admission ticket holders have open seating and seats are held until 7:25 pm. Check interior pages to see when online ticket sales begin for each reading.

Rush Tickets

If a reading is not already sold out, general admission tickets for $5 will be available for purchase at the door starting at 6:45 pm. If a reading is sold out, all unclaimed seats will be released to the general public as “rush” tickets starting at 7:25 pm. When rush tickets are available, students and senior citizens (65+) will be given free rush tickets for readings that take place at the Alley Theatre and Rice University’s Stude Concert Hall but not for readings at Cullen Theater, Wortham Center.
“NATHAN ENGLANDER”s elegant, inquisitive, and hilarious fictions are a working definition of what the modern short story can do,” according to Jonathan Lethem, and Michiko Kakutani in The New York Times writes, “Englander’s voice is distinctly his own—daring, funny and exuberant.” His story collection What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank was a finalist for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize, won the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, and was named a New York Times Notable Book and an NPR Best Book of 2012. Michael Chabon hailed the collection as “certifiable masterpieces of contemporary short-story art.” Englander’s other works include the story collection For the Relief of Unbearable Urges, the novel The Ministry of Special Cases, and the play The Twenty-Seventh Man. He translated the New American Haggadah (edited by Jonathan Safran Foer) and was co-translator of Etgar Keret’s Suddenly a Knock at the Door. He will read from his new novel, coming out in September, Dinner at the Center of the Earth, a political thriller set in the conflicted Israeli-Palestinian region.

NICOLE KRAUSS, according to The New York Times, is “one of America’s most important novelists.” NPR’s Fresh Air calls her “a fiction pioneer... giving readers the thrill of seeing the novel stretched into amorphous new shapes.” Her bestselling novel Great House was a finalist for both the National Book Award and the Orange Prize, and The History of Love, also an international bestseller, won the William Saroyan Prize and France’s Prix du Meilleur Livre Étranger. She will read from her new novel Forest Dark. Publishers Weekly, in a starred review writes, “Krauss’s elegant, provocative, and mesmerizing novel is her best yet.... Vivid, intelligent, and often humorous, this novel is a fascinating tour de force.” Philip Roth hails it as “a brilliant novel. I am full of admiration.” In 2007 Krauss was named one of Granta’s “Best Young American Novelists” and in 2010 one of The New Yorker’s “20 Under 40.” Her work has been translated into more than 35 languages.
JENNIFER EGAN’s 2011 Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award-winning novel *A Visit from the Goon Squad* was hailed as “a new classic of American fiction” by *Time* magazine. Also a winner of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and named as one of the best books of the year by the *Boston Globe*, *Publishers Weekly*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *The Washington Post*, the novel, according to *The Daily Beast*, cemented Egan’s “reputation as one of America’s best, and least predictable, literary novelists.” Her other works include the national bestseller *The Keep*, the National Book Award finalist *Look at Me, Emerald City and Other Stories*, and *The Invisible Circus*, which was made into a feature film starring Cameron Diaz. Also an award-winning journalist, she writes frequently for the *New York Times Magazine*. Egan will read from *Manhattan Beach*, coming out in October, her first historical novel, set in the 1930s and 40s, as the Brooklyn Naval Yard’s first female diver learns more about the mystery surrounding her father’s disappearance.

CLAIRE MESSUD “has many gifts as a novelist,” writes *The Denver Post*. “She writes well, dramatizes, has a sharp ear, a literary critic’s knack for marshaling and reverberating themes and, most crucially, a broad and deep empathy that enables her to portray a wide range of characters from the inside.” Her fifth novel *The Woman Upstairs*, a *New York Times* Notable Book, was described by *The Guardian* as a “brave and highly risky novel…. Claire Messud should achieve literary giant status.” Her bestselling novel *The Emperor’s Children* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and was named a best book of the year by *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Washington Post*. Her novels *When the World Was Steady* and *The Hunters* were finalists for the PEN/Faulkner Award, and her novel *The Last Life* was a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year and *The Village Voice*’s Editor’s Choice. She will read from her new novel *The Burning Girl*, a compelling coming-of-age story about friendship, family, and community.
VIET THANH NGUYEN’s debut novel *The Sympathizers* garnered international praise, won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize, and was named to more than 30 best books of the year lists. *The Washington Post* calls the novel “extraordinary... surely a new classic of war fiction,” and Alice Walker writes, “If you are an American, of any culture or color, you will benefit from reading this book which offers, in exquisite thought and phrase, the multi-layered experience of a war most Americans have blotted out of consciousness, suppressed, or willfully ignored. I’ve been waiting to read this book for decades.” *The Refugees*, Nguyen’s bestselling story collection, was a *New York Times* Editor’s Choice, an Amazon Best Book of the Month, and an Indie Next Selection. Joyce Carol Oates in *The New Yorker* says the collection is “about people poised between their devastated homeland and their affluent adopted country.... Nguyen [is] one of our great chroniclers of displacement.” His nonfiction book *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and The Memory of War* was a finalist for the 2016 National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. He serves as cultural critic-at-large for the *Los Angeles Times* and is co-editor of the book *Transpacific Studies: Framing an Emerging Field*. Nguyen came to the United States as a refugee from the Vietnam War with his family in 1975.
JHUMPA LAHIRI has captivated readers ever since her debut story collection Interpreter of Maladies was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, the PEN/Hemingway Award, and The New Yorker Debut of the Year. The San Francisco Chronicle calls Lahiri “one of our most beautiful chroniclers of the aching disjunctions of emigration and family,” and Vanity Fair writes, “Lahiri is an elegant stylist, effortlessly placing the perfect words in the perfect order time and again so we’re transported seamlessly into another place.” Her second novel The Lowland was shortlisted for the 2013 Man Booker Prize and the National Book Award. Lahiri’s story collection Unaccustomed Earth received the 2008 Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award and was a finalist for the Story Prize. Her first novel The Namesake was a New York Times Notable Book and was made into a feature film starring Kal Penn. In Other Words (written in Italian and translated into English), her first nonfiction book, published in 2016, is described by The New York Times Book Review as “gorgeous... the most unusual of self-portraits. It is fitting that Italy, a nation with no unifying language for centuries, should inspire a writer of Jhumpa Lahiri’s stature to organize her reflections around the concept of exile.” Among her many honors, she has received the National Humanities Medal, the Asian American Literary Award, and the 2017 PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story.
PAUL AUSTER’s thirty-year career has been astonishing... novels, screenplays, poems, essays, illustrated tales, translations, scholarly editions of French verse. He seems almost a literary decathlete, able to excel in any genre,” writes The Plain Dealer. Auster—author of more than 30 books translated into 40 languages—is, according to The Providence Journal, “without doubt one of the most talented and affecting American writers working today.” His New York Trilogy won the Prix France Culture de Littérature Étrangère, and he received the Prix Médicis Étranger for his seventh novel Leviathan. His other major works of fiction include The Book of Illusions, Timbuktu, Mr. Vertigo, Oracle Night, The Brooklyn Follies, Travels in the Scriptorium, Man in the Dark, Invisible, Sunset Park, and Day/Night, and his nonfiction includes The Invention of Solitude and A Life in Words: In Conversation with I. B. Siegumfeldt, which comes out in October. Among his screenplays is Smoke, and he has written and directed four films. His French translations include works by Mallarmé, Sartre, and Blanchot. In 2006, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Auster will read from his newest novel 4 3 2 1, a New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and Boston Globe bestseller and longlisted for the 2017 Man Booker Prize. The Toronto Star calls it “wonderfully clever.... a heartfelt and engaging piece of storytelling that unflinchingly explores the 20th century American experience in all its honor and ignominy. This is, without doubt, Auster’s magnum opus.”
**Aminatta Forna** “is a born storyteller,” writes *The Boston Globe*. Her novels include *The Hired Man*, named a best book of the year by NPR and the *San Francisco Chronicle*; *The Memory of Love*, winner of the Commonwealth Writers Best Book Award and shortlisted for the Orange Prize and the International Dublin Literary Award; and *Ancestor Stones*, winner of the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and named a *New York Times* Editor’s Choice book. Her memoir *The Devil That Danced on the Water* tells the story of going back to Sierra Leone to investigate the execution of her dissident father. She received the Windham-Campbell Literature Prize and was a finalist for the 2016 Neustadt Prize. Her work has been translated into 16 languages. She will be reading from her novel *Happiness*, coming out in March 2018. Set in modern day London, a chance encounter and a tale of love, loss, cruelty, and kindness raise questions about the meaning of happiness.

**Samanta Schweblin** is one of the most promising voices in modern literature,” according to Mario Vargas Llosa. *Fever Dreams*, her first novel and the first of her books to be translated into English from Spanish, was a finalist for the 2017 Man Booker International Prize. *Kirkus*, in a starred review, calls it “a taut, exquisite page-turner.... In a literary thriller of the highest order, Schweblin teases out the underlying anxieties of being vulnerable and loving vulnerable creatures and of being an inhabitant of a planet with an increasingly uncertain future.” *The New Yorker* says “the book feels as if it belongs to a new literary genre altogether.” She is also the author of three story collections that have won numerous awards, including the prestigious Juan Rulfo Story Prize, and was named to Granta’s list of best writers in Spanish under 35. Her story collection *Pájaros en la Boca* (*Mouthful of Birds*), for which she received the Casa de las Américas Prize, will come out in English in 2018. Born in Argentina, she now lives in Germany.
RIGOBERTO GONZÁLEZ is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. About Unpeopled Eden—his most recent poetry collection, which won the Lambda Literary Award and the Lenore Marshall Prize from the Academy of American Poets—Booklist says, “With what may be his most ambitious collection yet, González reaffirms his role as a preeminent voice in Chicano poetics.” His poetry collection So Often the Pitcher Goes to Water Until It Breaks was a winner of the National Poetry Series, and his collection Other Fugitives and Other Strangers won San Francisco State University’s Poetry Center Book Award. González received the American Book Award for his memoir Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa. His major works of fiction include the novel Crossing Vines and the story collection Men Without Bliss. He writes a monthly column for NBC-Latino online, is a contributing editor for Poets & Writers Magazine, and serves as critic-at-large for the Los Angeles Times.

KEVIN PRUFER’s sixth poetry collection Churches was described by The New York Times as a “gothic extravaganza featuring alligators, avalanches and medical devices left inside bodies, delivered largely in long, musical free verse lines,” and was included on the Times’ list of “Ten Favorite Poetry Books of 2014.” His other poetry collections include In a Beautiful Country, an Academy of American Poets Notable Book for 2011; National Anthem, one of Publishers Weekly’s “Five Best Poetry Books of 2008”; and The Finger Bone, finalist for Academy of American Poets’ James Laughlin Award. The Chautauqua Literary Journal calls him “one of the most forceful, original, and strikingly urgent voices in contemporary American poetry.” Pruffer serves as editor of Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing and co-director of Pleiades Press. His editing projects include Into English: An Anthology of Multiple Translations, forthcoming in November. A faculty member at the University of Houston Creative Writing Program, he will read from his seventh poetry collection How He Loved Them, to be published in 2018.
Inprint
Margaret Root Brown
Reading Series
1980–2017

Alice Adams Kim Addonizio Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Rabih Alameddine Daniel Alarcón
Edward Albee Elizabeth Alexander Sherman Alexie Julia Alvarez Yehuda Amichai
Roger Angell Max Apple Rae Armantrout Margaret Atwood Toni Cade Bambara Russell Banks
John Banville Coleman Barks Julian Barnes Andrea Barrett Donald Barthelme Charles Baxter
Ann Beattie Marvin Bell Diane Gonzales Bertrand Frank Bidart Chana Bloch Amy Bloom
Robert Bly Eavan Boland Robert Boswell T. C. Boyle David Bradley Lucie Brock-Broido
Geraldine Brooks Olga Broumas Rosellen Brown Dennis Brutus Bill Bryden Frederick Busch
A. S. Byatt Hortense Calisher Rafael Campo Peter Carey Anne Carson Raymond Carver
Oscar Casares Nina Cassian Rosemary Catacalos Lorna Dee Cervantes Michael Chabon
Vikram Chandra Nicholas Christopher Sandra Cisneros Amy Clampitt Lucille Clifton
J. M. Coetzee Judith Ortiz Cofer Billy Collins Jane Cooper Robert Creeley Michael Cunningham
Ellen Currie Edwidge Danticat Lydia Davis Amber Dotson
Toi Derricotte Anita Desai Kiran Desai Junot Díaz Joan Didion Annie Dillard
Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni E. L. Doctorow Anthony Doerr Emma Donoghue Mark Doty
Rita Dove Denise Duhamel Stephen Dunn Stuart Dybek Geoff Dyer Jennifer Egan Dale Eggers Deborah Eisenberg Lynn Emanuel Anne Enright Louise Erdrich Martin Espada
Jeffrey Eugenides Irving Feldman Nick Flynn Jonathan Safran Foer Carolyn Forché
Richard Ford Jonathan Franzen Carlos Fuentes Alice Fulton Ernest J. Gaines Cristina García
Lionel Garcia Alicia Gaspar de Alba William Gass Dagoberto Gillb Malcolm Gladwell
Julia Glass Louise Glück Albert Goldbarth Francisco Goldman Mary Gordon Jorie Graham
John Graves Francine duPlessis Gray Lucy Grealy Lauren Groff Allen Grossman Thom Gunn
Marilyn Hacker Kimiko Hahn Daniel Halpern Mohsin Hamid Patricia Hampl Ron Hansen
Amy Hempel Cristina Henriquez Brenda Hillman Edward Hirsch Tony Hoagland John Holman
Garrett Hongo Khaled Hosseini Maureen Howard Richard Howard Marie Howe David Hughes
John Irving Kazuo Ishiguro Major Jackson Marlon James Phyllis Janowitz Gish Jen Ha Jin
Denis Johnson Charles Johnson Mat Johnson Edward P. Jones Donald Justice Mary Karr
Richard Katrovas Janet Kauffman Brigit Pegeen Kelly Tracy Kidder Jamaica Kincaid
Maxine Hong Kingston Galway Kinnell Carolyn Kizer Kenneth Koch Yusuf Komunyaka
Nicole Krauss Maxine Kumin Stanley Kunitz Hari Kunzru Tony Kushner Jhumpa Lahiri
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Czeslaw Milosz David Mitchell Susan Mitchell Mayra Montero Rick Moody Lorrie Moore
Mary Morris Walter Mosley Howard Moss Taha Muhammad Ali Bharati Mukherjee
Paul Muldoon Harryette Mullen Alice Munro Jack Myers Antonya Nelson Marilyn Nelson
Naomi Shihab Nye Téa Obreht Edna O’Brien Tim O’Brien Sharon Olds Mary Oliver
Michael Ondaatje Joseph O’Neill Alicia Ostriker Helen Oyeyemi Ron Padgett Grace Paley
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Mary Robison Richard Rodriguez Patiann Rogers Norman Rush Salman Rushdie
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Lorenzo Thomas Christopher Tilghman Colm Tóibín Thomas Transtromer Natasha Trethewey
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Jay Wright David Wroblewski Kevin Young Adam Zagajewski Gwendolyn Zepeda
About Inprint

A nonprofit organization founded in 1983, Inprint’s mission is to inspire readers and writers in Houston. Inprint, serving more than 14,000 people annually, has helped to transform Houston into a diverse and thriving literary metropolis, where creativity is celebrated and Houstonians come together to engage with the written word. Through the Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series and Cool Brains! Inprint Readings for Young People, thousands of individuals of all ages meet and hear from the world’s most accomplished writers. The Inprint Writers Workshops, Teachers-as-Writers Workshops, Senior Memoir Workshops, and Life Writing Workshops for healthcare providers help individuals of all backgrounds to become better creative writers and to better understand the world and their place in it. The Inprint Poetry Buskers, with typewriters in hand, demystify and increase appreciation for poetry in communities throughout the city. Inprint’s support since 1983 for the nation’s top emerging writers at the University of Houston Creative Writing Program—more than $4 million in fellowships, prizes, and employment—has enabled more than 500 graduate students to impact their communities and the nation through writing, teaching, and more. Finally, Inprint’s collaborations with other institutions and support of writers throughout the years have resulted in a blossoming of workshops, readings, and grassroots literary initiatives across and beyond Houston.

About the Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series

The Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series is generously underwritten in large part by The Brown Foundation, Inc. An educator and lover of good books, Margarett Root Brown was one of the Foundation’s directors when it was formed in 1917. Inprint is proud to honor Mrs. Brown’s service to Houston and her philanthropic support of the arts. To date, the Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series, now in its 37th season, has presented more than 350 of the world’s great writers, including winners of 8 Nobel Prizes, 61 Pulitzer Prizes, 55 National Book Awards, 48 National Book Critics Circle Awards, and 14 Man Booker Prizes, as well as 18 U.S. Poet Laureates. The Series ranks among the nation’s leading literary showcases, with a modest general admission price unchanged since 1980, ensuring the readings are accessible to all.
Thank You!

To purchase season tickets by mail, send this form and a check payable to Inprint to:

Inprint
1520 W. Main
Houston, Texas 77006

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The 2017/2018 Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series

Paul Auster / Jennifer Egan / Nathan Englander / Aminatta Forna / Rigoberto González / Nicole Krauss / Jhumpa Lahiri / Claire Messud / Viet Thanh Nguyen / Kevin Prufer / Samanta Schweblin /
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Street address

City zip

Email addresses for others in your party (important for weather or other emergency event changes)

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