Inprint offers diverse author series

Aug. 30 — Rita Dove: A Pulitzer Prize winner and U.S. poet laureate, Dove in August released "Rita Dove for the Apocalypse," her first new collection of poems in 12 years. She’ll read and join in conversation with fellow Pulitzer winner Jericho Brown, an alumna of the University of Houston creative writing program.

Sept. 20 — Lauren Groff: Author of the acclaimed novel "Florida" and bestselling "Fates and Furies," Groff dropped a brilliant short-story collection in 2020, "Hillbilly," a piece of historical fiction set in the 19th century, her first novel in six years and arrives this month. She’ll read and appear in conversation with Brenda Peynias, an assistant professor at the University of Houston’s creative writing program and author of "The Rob Gators."

Sept. 27 — Ruth Ozeki: Ozeki isn’t the only Zen Buddhist priest among this year’s Inprint guests; she’s certainly the only Zen Buddhist priest novelists(formerly a Buddhist monk who founded the Zen Hospo Institute). She’ll be in conversation with the Viet Dac Brian Price and the National Book Critic Circle Award winner for her fifth novel, "The Book of Form and Emptiness," published this month. She will read and speak with "The Gaits’ House" author Elizabeth McCracken.

Oct. 16 — Anthony Doerr: Doerr enjoyed enormous commercial success with his second novel, "All the Light We Cannot See," which also earned him a Pulitzer Prize. His "Cloud Cuckoo Land" is dedicated to libraries; at 850-plus pages, they may need back support to get it to the shelves. But the buzz around the book, one of the most anticipated of the year, is such that Doerr will read and participate in a discussion with former Houstonian Christy book editor Maggie Galehouse.

Oct. 25 — Jonathan Franzen: Twenty years after "The Corrections," which saw the stratosphere, Franzen returns with his sixth novel, "Crossroad," which appears to be the first in a trilogy, underwriting the author’s claim that his next novel wouldn’t be his last. He reads from his latest and speaks with short-story author David Means.

Inprint Houston has endured an unprecedented and difficult 2020-21 season for its Margaret Root Brown reading series, thanks to a pandemic that shut down the author appearances. But the organization found a way to muddle through with a smartly as- sembled series of virtual readings and discussions by authors who released notable books over the past year. "We try to create a lineup that feels diverse like Houston," says executive director Rich Levy. "And I think we have a group of writers who say things worth saying, who engage our readers in conversations. Maybe they piss off some people, maybe they fill them with joy. That’s what we want to do."

The readings series will offer programs for subscribers: a $400 tier that includes every book by every author in the series and a $225 tier that includes books by four of the authors. Individual tickets for the events, without the book, remain $5. Currently all of the events except two — Jan. 24 and May 9 — will take place via Inprint’s “virtual studio.”
History and mortality are in play in ‘Playlist for the Apocalypse’

By Dwight Garner

It's incumbent on the author of a good book to provide an apt title. Worked in that vein, the exact same way Faulkner's "The Sound and the Fury" was once called, as he once commented, "to practice the old practice of making a good book."

"Playlist for the Apocalypse." Rita Dove has done her part. This book's title stands on the backlist: It's about life in what she calls the "dead space." It's about the worth of American history, which Dove treats as news we've still actively responded to about mortality. This book is the first time the poet has dealt with a topic: It's about "surprising us to find many stories as..." - poets and music. "Playlist for the Apocalypse."

Dove has written about how she feels she's losing her way at night, which is the very thing she's been trying to lift: She must face her relationship. She's three adult children. She's half siblings. She's an Easter dinner with their band and bonds with his. She's a daughter out for a walk, squints into the edge of the universe that finds a library beyond the. She's a teenage daughter. She's a multiple possibilities of the lives one could have lived.

"Playlist for the Apocalypse." The title makes it leap from the bookcase. It's about life in what she calls the "dead space." It's about the worth of American history, which Dove treats as news we've still actively responded to about mortality. This book is the first time the poet has dealt with a topic: It's about "surprising us to find many stories as..." - poets and music. "Playlist for the Apocalypse."

Dove, the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and former U.S. poet laureate, will make a livestream appearance with Inprint Houston at 7 p.m. Aug. 11. For more information, visit inprinthouston.org for details.

"Playlist for the Apocalypse: Poems" by Rita Dove. W.W. Norton & Co. Pp. 84, $20.95

1. American Marxism: A History of a Discredited Idea
2. I Alone Can Fix It: A Memoir of the Presidency
3. The Last Thing He Told Me
4. Malibu Rising
5. The Cellist
6. Landslide
8. Greenlights
9. Untamed

BESTSELLERS

Fiction
1. The Last Thing He Told Me (London Times) by Paula Hawkins: Says a gripping thriller about a teenage daughter.
3. The Last Thing He Told Me
4. Malibu Rising
5. The Cellist
6. Landslide
7. Greenlights
8. Untamed
10. Untamed

Nonfiction
3. The Last Thing He Told Me
4. Malibu Rising
5. The Cellist
6. Landslide
7. Greenlights
8. Untamed
10. Untamed

1. The Last Thing He Told Me
2. Malibu Rising
3. The Cellist

"Playlist for the Apocalypse." It's about the worth of American history, which Dove treats as news we've still actively responded to about mortality. This book is the first time the poet has dealt with a topic: It's about "surprising us to find many stories as..." - poets and music. "Playlist for the Apocalypse."
Review: In ‘Matrix,’ piety and poetry break through bleak life of England’s medieval nuns

Author of the award-nominated and bestselling “Fates and Furies,” Groff dropped a brilliant short-story collection in 2018. “Matrix,” a piece of historical fiction set in the 12th century, is her...

“This Matrix,” Lauren Groff’s first novel since 2015’s acclaimed “Fates and Furies,” takes readers to a dank English island during the late 12th and 13th centuries in the spirited company of a woman inventively based on poet Marie de France. Exiled from Westminster Court at 17, Marie rides hard for 30 hours to the derelict abbey where Eleanor of Aquitaine has sentenced her to a bleak life of holy service.

Outside the almost deserted abbey, young Marie finds 14 fresh graves; inside, she meets several nuns — hostile, addled, sick or awestruck — and the blind Abbess Emme, who sings instead of speaking. Marie, the illegitimate child of Henry II, ultimately embraces her arduous task, straining body and soul to nurture the nuns and expand the abbey. Her enduring love (a fusion of filial and romantic) for Henry’s wife Eleanor casts shadow and light on her grand project.

“Eleanor will be a model, then, Marie thinks, for her own purpose on Earth, at this abbey she hates so much. She will build around herself walls of wealth and friends and good clear reputation, she will make her frail sisters safe within. Marie will mold herself in the queen’s form, she thinks.”

Groff’s curious narrative style, relying on summary over scene and indirect dialogue over conversation, may deter some readers, while others may imagine the rhythm of an Angevin
raconteur. She nimbly navigates the bilingual, cross-cultural Plantagenet reign when English kings ruled over half of France as well as England.

**Matrix**

By Lauren Groff

(Riverhead Books; 272 pages; $28)

Inprint Houston author appearance

Lauren Groff will read and appear via livestream in conversation with Brenda Peynado, an assistant professor at the University of Houston's creative writing program and author of "The Rock Eaters."

**When:** 7 p.m. Sept. 20

**Details:** $5; for details about the Margarett Root Brown reading series or other programs, visit Inprinthoustnon.org.

Although born of rape, Marie is exiled more for her androgynous looks than her parentage. According to Empress Matilda, "Marie would not do at all would she, not at all, so tall, it was frankly obscene. Three heads taller than any woman should be ... bony as a heron ... No it was right Marie was going over to Angleterre, which, to be absolutely clear, if not for the empress would be a country entirely lost to the wild pigs and Celts and the devil."

After 18 years, "the nuns have gone from pitiful skeletons to gamboling like spring lambs."

Through discipline and hubris, Abbess Marie eventually attracts 180 nuns who flourish in the fortified abbey, nourished by the fecund gardens, swelling grapevine and thriving barnyard.

The women mark each day with eight hours of prayer: "Matins in the deep night, Lauds at dawn, followed by Prime, Terce, Sext, chapter, None, Vespers, collation, Compline, bed. Work and silence and contemplation throughout." Such piety is seasoned with moments of passionate sex, violent assault and political intrigue. Heresy has its place, too, as Marie begins saying Mass and hearing confessions.

Marie de France is celebrated as the first francophone female poet; some of her work survives, but her life remains a mystery. Groff imagined Marie in an abbey after attending a lecture on medieval nuns. While historical novels do take liberties with recorded events, "Matrix" creates an entire life for the illusive poet. Does the abiding enigma of the real Marie encumber or enhance the novel? Probably both.

Valerie Miner is the award-winning author of 15 books including the new story collection, "Bread and Salt." She teaches at Stanford University. Her website is valerieminer.com
Lauren Groff among the authors at Houston book events this week

Other featured authors include Soman Chainani, Eliza Jane Brazier, Andrea Bartz, Julia Dahl and William Kent Krueger.

Ana Khan | September 19, 2021 Updated: September 21, 2021, 9:19 am

MONDAY

Lauren Groff: Author will read from her new novel "Matrix," followed by a conversation with Brenda Peynado, as part of Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. Tickets $5; the event will be streamed. 7 p.m., inprinthouston.org
World cinema, local history, and crowd-pleasing performances all make this week’s list of best bets. Some events are in-person, some are virtual, but we think all are worth a little bit of your time over the next few days. Keep reading for the full list of this week’s best bets.

Recently, The Atlantic described National Book Award winner Jonathan Franzen as someone who "writes big books about small lives." His latest novel, Crossroads – nearly 600 pages long – is the first installment of “a trilogy rooted in generation portraiture.” And though the story begins in the 1970s, the “novel’s emotional dishevelments—and its aura of apprehensive urgency—feel viscerally contemporary.” On Monday, October 25, at 7 p.m. Franzen will join writer David Means in conversation, as well as read briefly from his new book, during the latest livestream entry in the Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. General admission tickets to view the livestream can be purchased here for $30 and include a copy of Crossroads.
Very Artsy News: Kanye at the Menil, Murals and more

A weekly brief on what’s happening in Houston’s arts and culture scene.

By Amarie Gipson • November 9, 2021

Inprint Houston Welcomes Nigerian Literary Giant Wole Soyinka for a Public Appearance

Inprint is hosting a reading by Wole Soyinka, the first African writer to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature, in celebration of his first novel in 48 years, *Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth*. The distinguished poet, essayist, playwright, and activist has authored a number of memoirs, novels and collections of shorter works. The virtual event will also feature a conversation with the Houston Museum of African American Culture’s Chief Executive Officer, John Guess.

*To register for the reading, visit [here](#).*
Britney Winters owns Upgrade Boutique, a salon on Almeda with customized hair options.

**Stylist Tiffany Faber**

You drive a client's eye that she colored at Upgrade Boutique.

**T. Washington High School for Engineering Preparatory:** Teacher, Vicki Flanery, who had

**Cuney Homes, the same public housing project:**

**Britney Winters owns Upgrade Boutique, a salon on Almeda with customized hair options.**
ON JAN. 24, HOUSTON nonprofit Inprint continues its Margaret Root Brown Reading Series with a livestreamed event featuring two rising stars on the literary scene.

Honoree Fanonne Jeffers, whose debut novel *The Love Songs of W.E.B. DuBois* was selected as an Oprah Book Club pick, and former Houstonian Tiphanie Yanique, whose latest novel *Monster in the Middle* was named a most anticipated book of the fall by *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Kirkus* and *Lit Hub*. Jeffers and Yanique will each give a short reading followed by a conversation with *Houston Chronicle* Lifestyle and Culture columnist Joy Sewing.
Yanique grew up in the U.S. Virgin Islands and came to Houston to pursue her MFA at UH’s nationally acclaimed Creative Writing Program. Her first novel, *Land of Love and Drowning*, is a multigenerational tale of colonialism and incest set in the West Indies, with elements of magic realism and references to Afro-Caribbean spiritual practices.

*Monster in the Middle* similarly explores the inescapable pull and weight of our ancestors as we try to negotiate healthy relationships with friends, lovers and the world at large. Early on, we are introduced to Fly and Stela, a young Black couple who meet in New York during the first crescendo of Covid-19 pandemic. But before we get to their story, Yanique takes us back to the history of their respective parents, beginning with Fly’s biological father, a spiritual seeker who hears voices as he travels throughout the South with his white girlfriend Eloise.

Yanique’s writing throughout is lyrical and compelling (she is also a published poet) and allows the reader to gradually digest the complexity of Fly and Stela’s relationship, summed up in a warning from their parents in book’s prologue: “When you meet your love, you are meeting all the people who ever loved them or who were supposed to love them but didn’t love them enough or, hell, didn’t love them at all.”

And maybe, Yanique seems to imply, you also meet your monster.

Access to this event will be available on the Inprint website.
Honorée Fanonne Jeffers among the authors at Houston book events this week

Other featured authors include Jacquelyn Mitchard, Danya Kukafka, Fiona Davis and Gordon Korman.

MONDAY

Honorée Fanonne Jeffers and Tiphanie Yanique: Authors will give brief readings from their new novels “The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois” and “Monster in the Middle,” followed by a conversation with Chronicle Columnist Joy Sewing. 7 p.m., tickets $5; inprinthouston.org
By Jef Rouner
CORRESPONDENT

bled, but we would also see the saw a lot of the prostitution and anything about it except exploit criminal world operated. It was remembers from growing up in and now you see their kids doing "there’s a sense of delay present ZEST swaths of the book. But because anything gritty that told of the keeps on turning, crushing them anything on comic store shelves lyrical style. Some of it is instinct. Olga, who has such a beautiful, you think a lot about rhythm, says. “Individual translators have the book into English. Translators than ascience. Every process is different, but the space between religious and cult authors.”

Frustrated that he couldn’t find Fyodor Dostoevsky’s novel, frequently titled “The Possessed” devil. ‘Runners’ didn’t sound anything like that, “he said. “I want— another native Houstonian, Another native Houstonian, who treads in a mystical between Tokarczuk and former working thematically with topics another Costa Rican poet María Guez last month received a grant to translate “La mano)==' by far her most ambitious another Costa Rican poet María Guez last month received a grant to translate “La mano” by Costa Rican author Karen Maria Echeverría. “I want to read this,” Croft says. “Because as a translator, we’re translators to make sense of language. We have to find the right words in another language to capture the same meaning.” But that process is much more difficult than finding the right words in one’s own language, Croft says. “There’s a huge gap to fill.”

One thing Michael Cortez comes from a graphic that the book on religions and cult

But Tokarczuk published the book in Poland in 2016 and gained wealthy and famous status around the world despite their uncle’s losing her family a generation who reckon with a sense of delay present the book. “The Travellers”, a novel that is set in the streets of southeast Houston.外包, and his prayer-petitioning and prayer-petitioning punk-dominated by darkness. The story is short, catchy, compelling. Both Ritchy and Dami are dislike young men who look like they might be able to walk the straight and narrow. For Damian, the path is repeated by he is punished by tragedy and by the book. “They killed happened. I’d do a

“AViolent New World” is set in the streets of southeast Houston.

Houston Chronicle | HoustonChronicle.com | Sunday, February 27, 2022
Here are the top 14 things to do in Houston this weekend

By Craig D. Lindsey   Feb 24, 2022, 6:00 am

Sunday, February 27

Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series: Olga Tokarczuk
A bestselling author in her home country of Poland, whose work has been translated into more than 50 languages, Olga Tokarczuk has published nine novels, two story collections, five nonfiction works, a collection of poetry, and a children’s book. In this virtual event, Tokarczuk’s translator Jennifer Croft will give a brief reading from Tokarczuk’s new novel, *The Books Of Jacob*, followed by a conversation between Tokarczuk and a fellow writer. 3 pm.
The opening of HPE's DREAMS A2 represent “something special” in Poems, 2007-2020,”respectively. They’ll be reading Poetry Month with a live poetry event, whose book “Here is the Sweet Life” gives to the medical community, hosting workshops at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s and Ben Taub Hospital.

For Levy, writing is a means for him to understand the world and his place within it. He said Inprint helps to share it, and get some thoughts from other people. You have a more objective sense of him to understand the world and his place within it. He said Inprint helps to share it, and get some thoughts from other people. You have a more objective sense of lowing advice: According to Levy, Inprint has given over $4 million in prizes and fellowships to young writers at the University of Houston creative writing program since 1983. It also gives to the medical community, hosting workshops at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s and Ben Taub Hospital.

The Inprint Margarett Root Reading Series, whose book “Here is the Sweet Life” gives to the medical community, hosting workshops at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s and Ben Taub Hospital.

Inprint also hosts a separate reading series, whose book “Here is the Sweet Life” gives to the medical community, hosting workshops at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s and Ben Taub Hospital.

According to Levy, Inprint has given over $4 million in prizes and fellowships to young writers at the University of Houston creative writing program since 1983. It also gives to the medical community, hosting workshops at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s and Ben Taub Hospital.
Robin Roberts among the authors at Houston book events this week

Other featured authors include Sally Hepworth, Alice Oseman and Erin Entrada Kelly.

Ana Khan | April 10, 2022 Updated: April 11, 2022, 4:46 pm

More Information

MONDAY

Yusef Komunyakaa and Carl Phillips: Authors will give brief readings from their new poetry collections "Everyday Mojo Songs of Earth" and "Then the War" followed by a conversation with Francine J. Harris as part of Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. This is a livestream reading and will be accessible from the Inprint website. 7 p.m., tickets $5; inprinthouston.org
Houston’s Art Scene This Spring Is Buzzing With Entertainment

A guide to all things arts and entertainment this spring.

By Amarie Gipson and Chris Gray • March 15, 2022 • Published in the Spring 2022 issue of Houstonia Magazine

This season, attend a gala featuring comedian Mike Birbiglia or visit an art exhibit made up entirely of discarded materials. Catch a performance of Romeo and Juliet at the Houston Grand Opera or take the kids to a performance of Charlotte’s Web. The city’s music scene is also at the height of what spring in Houston is all about as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo returns with the 90th anniversary of Rodeo Houston. Artists joining the celebration are Cody Johnson, Gwen Stefani, Maren Morris, Bun B and more.
**Books**

**MONSTER IN THE MIDDLE BY TIPHANIE YANIQUE**

In this critically acclaimed novel by former Houstonian and award-winning writer Tiphanie Yanique, a new couple’s budding love story is mapped across generations and geographies. *Monster in the Middle* is an electric exploration of emotional inheritances, desire and identity. $27.

**AFRO-ATLANTIC HISTORIES**

Named one of the best art books of 2021 by *Art News*, this catalog is a beautifully designed record of the historic *Afro-Atlantic Histories* exhibition that took place at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Building on a project that originated at Museu de Arte de São Paulo in Brazil, the exhibition and its accompanying catalog explore the geographic and cultural intersections between Africa, the Americas, the Caribbean and Europe. $65.

**MAY 9 AT 7:30 PM HERNAN DIAZ AND ALEJANDRO ZAMBRA READING AT INPRINT HOUSTON**

The Margaret Root Brown Reading Series remains one of the nation’s leading literary showcases for poets, essayists and more. For the conclusion of the showcase’s 41st season, Argentinian fiction writer Hernan Diaz and Chilean poet Alejandro Zambra will read from their new novels. $5. Brockman Hall for Opera, Rice University, 6100 Main St.
Claudia Gray among the authors at Houston book events this week

The New York Times bestselling author of science fiction and paranormal fantasy books, will discuss her new novel at Murder By The Book.

MONDAY

Hernan Diaz and Alejandro Zambra: Authors will give a brief reading from their new novels, “Trust” and “Chilean Poet,” as part of Inprint’s Margarett Root Brown Reading Series, followed by an onstage conversation with Mark Haber, a book sale and signing. 7:30 p.m., tickets $5, Brockman Hall for Opera, Rice University, 6100 Main, inprintheumont.org