Press Clippings
INPRINT MARGARETT ROOT BROWN READING SERIES

MOHSIN HAMID
AUGUST 1, 2022

ERIKA L. SÁNCHEZ
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

ABDULRAZAK GURNAH
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

JAVIER ZAMORA
OCTOBER 3, 2022

MAGGIE O’FARRELL
OCTOBER 10, 2022

JOY HARJO
NOVEMBER 14, 2022

YIYUN LI & MATTHEW SALESSES
JANUARY 23, 2023

ADA LIMÓN
MARCH 6, 2023

LEILÀ MOTTLEY
APRIL 17, 2023

ABRAHAM VERGHESE
MAY 8, 2023

READINGS BEGIN AT 7:30 PM

TICKETS, LOCATIONS, & DETAILS
inprinthouston.org
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“INPRINT’S WORK IS TRANSFORMATIONAL, WHOLLY IMPORTANT, NECESSARY FOR THESE TIMES.”

— Sandra Cisneros

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THE BROWN FOUNDATION, INC.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

FAMILY FOUNDATION

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT

BRAZOS BOOKSTORE

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

THE CITY OF HOUSTON

40 YEARS
Inprint series includes Nobel winner, two poets laureate

By Andrew Dansby

Perhaps as exciting as the list for Inprint’s Margaret Root Brown Reading Series is the fact that its 2022-23 season is a full return to in-person status for the much-loved book events after the pandemic forced programming into a streaming series for two years.

Events begin Aug. 1 with British-Pakistani novelist Mohsin Hamid, who will discuss his latest book, “The Last White Man.”

Eight dates are set for the 42nd season, two of them featuring U.S. poets laureate. Joy Harjo served as poet laureate starting in 2019. This week, her successor, Ada Limón, was named. Inprint brings Harjo to town Oct. 14 and Limón on March 6, 2023.

Also announced for the season will be Abdulrazak Gurnah, a Tanzanian native living in Britain who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2022. He will read and discuss his work on Sept. 19.

The season concludes May 8 with Abraham Verghese, whose 2006 novel, “Cutting for Stone,” has sold more than 1 million copies.

More information on the 2022-23 Margaret Root Brown Reading Series, including subscription and ticket sales, go to inprinthouston.org.

Aug. 1: Mohsin Hamid
Sept. 19: Abdulrazak Gurnah
Oct. 10: Maggie O’Farrell
Nov. 14: Joy Harjo
Jan. 23, 2023: Yiyun Li and Matthew Salesses
March 6: Ada Limón
April 17: Leila Mottley
May 8: Abraham Verghese

Mohsin Hamid’s fifth novel, “The Last White Man,” is being published in 2022.

Ada Limón has been named the 24th U.S. poet laureate.
It’s not quite fall yet and it certainly doesn’t feel like autumn, so all of this week’s best bets will keep you out of the heat, though not necessarily indoors. Discovery Green and Miller Outdoor Theatre will offer some evenings of can’t-miss dance and music for those courageous enough to brave the mosquitoes, while others can find cool air-conditioning around town at places like the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Stages, and the Wortham Theater Center. Keep reading for our list of the coming week’s best offerings.
Upcoming Houston Book Events You Won’t Want to Miss

Nobel Prize winners, local authors, and book conventions await you.

By Alexia Partouche • Updated August 11, 2022

With school starting and fall just around the corner, we’re putting on our thinking caps and hitting the books. If you’re counting down the days until cooler weather so you can cozy up with a good story, Bayou City bookworms will find lots to love this season in Houston’s literary scene. With a reading from a Nobel Prize winner, a romance book convention, and a visit from the London author dominating the psychological thriller shelves all on the near horizon, H-Town has what it takes to quench your thirst for good literature.

Here’s our guide to the best book events Houston has to offer over the next couple of months:

**Erika L. Sanchez | Inprint | September 12**

The National Book Award finalist and author of *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* is back with an exploration of self that is equal parts cutting and comedic in her new memoir, *Crying in the Bathroom*. Hear her read from the book and discuss it with Jasminne Mendez, winner of an International Latino Book Award.
Abdulrazak Gurnah | Inprint | September 19

It’s not every day that Houston gets a visit from a winner of the Nobel Prize in literature, so make sure you tune in for this reading from Abdulrazak Gurnah. Awarded the Nobel Prize for his writing on the effects of colonialism, the author will be reading from his newest book, *Afterlives*, which tells a multigenerational story set on the Swahili coast during German colonial rule.

Javier Zamora | Inprint | October 3

The renowned poet continues his exploration of the Salvadoran Civil War’s impact on his life through his new memoir, *Solito*, which chronicles his 3,000-mile solo migration from El Salvador to the US. The event will include a reading, an on-stage conversation with University of North Texas assistant professor of English Daniel Peña, and a book signing.

Maggie O’Farrell | Inprint | October 10

Master of historical fiction Maggie O’Farrell will be reading from her new novel, *The Marriage Portrait*, which explores the courts of Renaissance Italy through the eyes of young duchess Lucrezia de’ Medici as she is thrown suddenly into marriage. The reading will be followed by an on-stage conversation with Maggie Galehouse, the former book editor at the *Houston Chronicle*. 
Javier Zamora among the authors at Houston book events this week

The renowned poet and activist will read from his new memoir, in a program presented by Inprint Margaret Brown Reading Series:

MONDAY

Javier Zamora: Author will read from his new memoir "Solito," followed by an on-stage conversation with Daniel Peña, award-winning author of "Bang." The evening will conclude with a book sale and signing. 7:30 p.m., tickets $5. Ballroom at Bayou Place, 500 Texas; inprinthonstion.org
Gov. Abbott and Beto O’Rourke set to debate, and a controversial rail company merger (Sept. 30, 2022)

On Friday’s show: We preview tonight’s debate between Gov. Greg Abbott and his challenger, Beto O’Rourke, and discuss whether such events influence the outcome on Election Day. And we learn more about a proposed merger of rail companies and some people’s concerns about it.

Michael Hagerty | September 30, 2022, 7:00 AM

On Friday’s show: We preview tonight’s debate between Gov. Greg Abbott and his challenger, Beto O’Rourke, and discuss whether such events influence the outcome on Election Day. The debate will air at 7 p.m. on Houston’s CW Ch. 39 and here on News 88.7.

Also this hour: We discuss the controversial merger of Canadian Pacific Railway and Kansas City Southern Railway and how it might affect rail traffic here. Hearings on the matter have been taking place this week in Washington, D.C. Residents can submit public comments on the merger through Oct. 14.

Then, we break down The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of the week.

And writer Javier Zamora discusses his memoir, Solito, which chronicles his journey from El Salvador to the United States at the age of nine. Zamora will speak Monday night at an event from Inprint at the Ballroom at Bayou Place.
Renaissance page-turner

‘The Marriage Portrait’ brings a murdered duchess back to life

By Chris Vograr

Robert Browning’s 1842 poem “My Last Duchess” is a mini marvel of literature, a perfectly calibrated dramatic monologue with a dark undertone. The speaker is a duke who pulls back a curtain to reveal a portrait of his former wife, whom, we gradually realize, he has murdered. He explains all of this to an emissary from his potential next wife, suggesting his anxiety over the matter is nil.

Maggie O’Farrell, the Northern Irish novelist whose 2020 novel “Hamnet” won the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction, had always loved the poem. One day, just before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, she decided to find out if it was based in reality. What she discovered would lead her to her new novel, “The Marriage Portrait,” a Renaissance page-turner that brings the duchess back to life.

O’Farrell will read from and discuss the novel Oct. 10 at the University of Houston as part of the Inprint author series.

“She’s dead, but also she’s behind that curtain, and he controls who sees her in the poem,” O’Farrell says from her home in Edinburgh. “I thought it was time to pull back that curtain and lead her out and say, ‘OK, it’s your turn to speak now. What’s the story? What story do you have to tell us?’

The real-life duchess was Lucrezia di Cosimo dei Medici of Florence, married to Alfonso II d’Este, Duke of Ferrara, at age 16 in 1560. The duchess died less than a year later; the cause given was “putrid fever,” or typhus. But the rumors of murder began almost immediately.

We know little detail of Lucrezia’s existence. What O’Farrell has done is give her an interior life: shy but also quite intuitive and cerebral. She’s an animal and underdog.

She’s the rent of the litter in her own family, chosen to marry Alfonso only when her older sister dies. As her husband imposes his will on the portrait painter, she makes friends with the artist’s apprentices. She’s also quite intuitive and certain that her death is close at hand, largely because her husband is unable to sire a child (a circumstance, which, naturally, he blames on his wife).

There is in fact no known marriage portrait; the painting of Lucrezia that survives was commissioned by her parents before her nuptials.

That, along with Browning’s poem, was enough to capture O’Farrell’s imagination. She recalls the day she waited for the portrait to download on her “rubbish phone.”

“This headdress and then her forehead, and then these eyebrows and gradually her face appeared,” she says. “As soon as I saw it, I just knew that I had my next book, that I wanted to tell the side of the story that I imagined she might tell if she was able to.”

It’s a marvel of a novel, propulsive in narrative and acutely attentive to minute detail. Lucrezia is blessed with the eye of a painter and, thanks to O’Farrell, a poet. Here she is on her long-dreaded wedding day: “A long triangle of light, an exact yellow replica of the window behind it, makes a sudden appearance at her feet, spreading itself out across the floor, as if reaching for her ankle. Lucrezia observes how it bends around objects in its path, drapes over a pair of shoes, a dropped cloth, a discarded shift.”

Through her novel, O’Farrell grants Lucrezia a spirit that transcends her fate in an arranged marriage, in a time and place when women of a certain social and political standing were but convenient tools to extend their families’ dynastic power.

O’Farrell was determined to push beyond the exterior image and arrive at a greater truth.

Those Renaissance portraits are so perfect,” the author says. “Their surfaces are so flawless, and their expressions are often very neutral. I just always got the sense that behind the very polished veneer of these portraits are other lives and an immense psychological depth.”

Chris Vognar is a Houston writer.
Top 11 Book & Author Events in Houston: October 2022

By Holly Beretto • Sep 27, 2022

Dig into virtual and live book events, the latest appearances by authors, and more with our roundup of book and literary events taking place in Houston in October 2022.

- **Inprint presents Maggie O’Farrell at Cullen Performance Hall at University of Houston | Monday, October 10** – The author of the best-selling *Hamnet* is in town as part of Inprint’s Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. She’ll read selections from her latest best-seller, *The Marriage Portrait*, followed by a discussion with former Houston Chronicle book editor Maggie Galehouse. $30; includes a signed copy of the book. 7:30pm.
Inprint, Houston’s premier literary arts nonprofit organization, presents the 42nd season of the 2022/2023 Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series, one of the nation’s leading literary showcases. The 2022/2023 season features 10 readings with an inclusive array of award-winning authors, all with new books – including Abdulrazak Gurnah, Mohsin Hamid, Joy Harjo, Yiyun Li, Ada Limón, Leila Mottley, Maggie O’Farrell, Matthew Salesses, Erika L. Sánchez, Abraham Verghese, and Javier Zamora – from August 2022 through May 2023. Each event includes a reading by the featured author(s) and an on-stage interview with a local writer, followed by a book sale and signing. In-person readings will take place on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm CT, with an online rebroadcast of each event available 3 days later. For tickets, the full schedule, and more information, visit inprinthouston.org or call 713.521.2026.
Public enthusiasm to return to the theatre remains high, and 3 different season ticket levels are now available: a premium subscription for $450, which includes signed books by all 11 of the season’s featured authors, reserved section seating, free parking, and other benefits; a premium + partner subscription for $575, which provides a household with two seats, one set of books, and other benefits; and a classic subscription for $225, which includes a signed copy of New York Times bestselling author Maggie O’Farrell’s new novel The Marriage Portrait and other benefits. General admission tickets for individual readings are $5 (unchanged since 1980), except for the Inprint Maggie O’Farrell Reading, which includes a book purchase as part of the ticket price. General admission tickets for in-person readings and online rebroadcasts will go on sale on the Inprint website a few weeks in advance of each event.

“What a thrill to be returning to the theatre for a full season of Inprint Brown Reading Series events, with a brilliant, diverse, international group of authors, whose work is stimulating, engaging, and fused to the zeitgeist of the current moment,” says Inprint Executive Director Rich Levy. “With the online rebroadcast option as well, we are delighted to stay connected with fellow book lovers across the country and around the globe.”

The authors to be featured in the 2022/2023 Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series include:

- **August 1, 2022** – Mohsin Hamid, Booker Prize finalist and New York Times bestselling author of Exit West, with his new novel *The Last White Man*
- **September 12, 2022** – Erika L. Sánchez, National Book Award finalist, with her new memoir *Crying in the Bathroom*
- **September 19, 2022** – Abdulrazak Gurnah, 2021 Nobel Prize winner, with his new novel *Afterlives*
- **October 3, 2022** – Javier Zamora, renowned poet and activist, with his new memoir *Solito*
- **November 14, 2022** – Joy Harjo, three-term U.S. Poet Laureate, with her new collection *Weaving Sundown in a Scarlet Light: 50 Poems for 50 Years*
- **January 23, 2023** – Yiyun Li, MacArthur Fellow, with her new novel *The Book of Goose*, and Matthew Salesses, Inprint Fellow and Prize winner and PEN/Faulkner Award finalist, with his new novel *The Sense of Wonder*
March 6, 2023 – Ada Limón, 2022–2023 U.S. Poet Laureate, with her new collection *The Hurting Kind*

April 17, 2023 – Leila Mottley, breakout literary star, with her debut novel *Nightcrawling*

May 8, 2023 – Abraham Verghese, National Humanities Medal recipient and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Cutting for Stone*, with his new novel *The Covenant of Water*. The series is presented by Inprint, a Houston-based literary arts nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring readers and writers. Since 1980, the Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series has featured close to 400 of the world’s greatest writers from 38 countries, including winners of 12 Nobel Prizes, 70 Pulitzer Prizes, 65 National Book Awards, 54 National Book Critics Circle Awards, and 17 Booker Prizes, as well as 21 U.S. Poet Laureates. The series and Inprint receive generous underwriting support from The Brown Foundation, Inc., the National Endowment for the Arts, The Jerry C. Dearing Family Foundation, the Houston Endowment, The City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, and the Texas Commission on the Arts. The series is presented in association with Brazos Bookstore (which offers Inprint patrons a discount on books by the season’s featured authors) and the University of Houston Creative Writing Program. Special thanks also to Winpark, and the Four Seasons Hotel Houston.
Joy Harjo, US poet laureate, talks career and new poem collection

By Andrew Dancy

The entire notion of a volume of collected poems is precious—mix it for veneration and venerable—post—poetry about volume. Typically, poetry anthologies are comparable to the more slight collection that poets produce every few years.

Joy has always cut her path. So the new “Weaving Sundown in a Scarlet Light” isn’t like other poetry retrospective volumes. It includes a Sandra Cisneros foreword, which is the prologue and other pages without poems—which is the devotional career, not to, with a curated content.

The council for “Weaving Sundown” is the thirty-three-year U.S. poet laureate, would select to reprise forty years of writing them. At 69, Harjo, doesn’t want to be an anthropologist or a tombstone, but rather as a canvas form of barbeque.

The legend of Texas barbecue is alive and well

The smell of post oak smoke wafts through the dining room.

In the movie “The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance” the senator (played by Jimmy Stewart) gives a speech to a group of reporters with stories of actual and embellished accounts. When asks what they plan to write about, one of the reporters asks if the senator has ever been“ a bad singer? It was unpleasant, but I think it has helped me find a way to sing in the car. Whatever is singing. That’s what matters. It’s absolutely everything when you consider that kind of time versus things related to money.

Joy Harjo

Q: I was intrigued by the comment “This is the sing along. It’s a poetry untethered to Eurocentricity. But I think there’s a world in the collection condenses a verse to make a statement. It was a hard time finding a shape for the end were revelatory, even in trouble with any sort of poetry clique because I know nobody’s supposed to explain all poems more than you’ve supposed to explain anything. But the notes at the end were reverential, even just as context. Was there Vernon about offering too much information?”

A: That started with my book “The woman who fell from the sky,” where I was trying to make a statement about mortality. When I perform with a band or without.—there’s no way to explain. These stories are not exactly about the poems. It’s not my practice to say what a poems means, or what’s going on in it, what the contextual things are. So far that’s started. My friend (author) Brenda Herrera patented her approach that book for me when I was having a hard time finding a shape for the poems. She suggested the notes. It’s important to me that I don’t have to analyses poems, or you’re not supposed to explain anything. I’d end up working with poetry—a bad singer. It was unpleasant, but I think it has helped me find a way to sing in the car. Whatever is singing. That’s what matters. It’s absolutely everything when you consider that kind of time versus things related to money.

Brenda Herrera

Photo by: Eric Gay / El Paso Times

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This is the first time in a different way.

poem made me think about the Earth and to think about our place. To read her work is to find a revelatory wonder in the place. To read her work is to find a revelatory wonder in the place.

Joy Harjo

The conceit for “Weaving Sundown” is a poetry untethered to Eurocentricity. The entire notion of a volume of collected poems is precious—mix it for veneration and venerable—post—poetry about volume. Typically, poetry anthologies are comparable to the more slight collection that poets produce every few years.

Joy Harjo

Though we’re up to something, the older I am. But your relationship changes. Some we still love for more than a decade.

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Brenda Herrera
Now in its 42nd season, the Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series is still going strong, bringing award-winning writers from around the world to Houston to read from their work and engage in a lively, onstage discussion with Texas-based authors, journalists, and poets.

On Monday, Nov. 14, at Rice University’s Brockman Hall for Opera, the series brings U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo to the stage for a reading and discussion with Texas Poet Laureate Lupe Mendez, who was born in Jalisco, Mexico, in 1976, grew up in
Galveston, and is one of the Houston’s best known poets and activists. (Mendez is one of several poets featured in our 2017 article about Houston’s thriving poetry scene.) Harjo, who lives in Tulsa, is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is the first Native American to hold the position of U.S. Poet Laureate.

It’s a logical and inspired pairing, as Texas culture is so strongly rooted in that of indigenous tribes who have lived on the land going back thousands of years ago and on up to the present day. Harjo’s writing connects back to the legacies of her ancestors and displacement, drawing inspiration from Navajo horse songs and the rhythms of jazz, and is described by author Sandra Cisneros as “light and elixir, the very best prescription for us in wounded times.” She is the author of nine books of poetry, several plays and children’s books, and two memoirs. And if that weren’t enough, Harjo is also a talented performer, who also plays saxophone and has released seven albums of original music. Her new book, titled *Weaving Sundown in a Scarlet Light*, is an annotated compilation of poems written over the past 50 years, addressing such profound life events everyone can identify with, such as losing a parent, becoming a mother, and falling in love.
Celebrate Indigenous heritage in HTX

This November is Native American Heritage Month, and places both near and far from campus in the greater Houston area are hosting several events. Ranging from intimate readings to lively performances, this list includes representation from many of the tribes, not only regionally, but also from across the United States. Learn about several of the many things coming to Houston for this heritage month and be sure to check out your favorites.

Native American Championship Pow Wow
Traders Village, as mentioned in the Thresher’s local markets article, not only has great steals on the market scene, but is also hosting the 32nd Annual Native American Championship Pow Wow. This is a two day event happening Nov. 12 and 13 that will have tribal dance contests, an arts and crafts show, music and more. Hundreds of Native Americans from across the country will be there to represent their heritage with authentic food and other offerings. Authentic tips will also be on display with more information about various tribal histories. This event has something for everyone, whether you want to learn about the history, see and taste authentic traditions or stroll among the many shops selling goods from the represented tribes.

Inprint at Brockman Hall

Within the hedges of campus, Brockman Hall will host Inprint, a literacy arts nonprofit, on Nov 14. Guest speaker and three-term U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo will be reading her new poetry collection “Weaving Sundown in a Scarlet Light: 50 Poems for 50 Years.” She was the first Native American to hold the U.S. Poet Laureate position, and is part of the nonprofit Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. Rice students can receive free tickets upon request, otherwise tickets are $5.

American Indian Center of Houston

This cultural center is “devoted to enhancing the Native American community in the Greater Houston area through personal, social, health and cultural development.” They have been open since early 2020 and seek to serve the over 60,000 Native Americans that call Houston home. While they have no upcoming events hosted by them listed on their website, they do have great resources about Native American culture.

Book of the Month Club

This virtual book club hosted by Bel Canto Books has monthly Zoom meetings to discuss the latest book on their list. To honor Native American Heritage Month, the club will be reading “Calling for a Blanket Dance” by Oscar Hokeah, with the following meeting set for Dec. 13. The book is about a young Native American man learning more about finding strength in his familial identity, and the author is a regional Native American fiction writer. If you’re looking for a great book to read and then get to discuss once the dust of finals season settles, this is a great club to try out.

MORE FROM THE RICE THRESHER
Top 8 Book & Author Events in Houston: January 2023

By Holly Beretto - Dec 28, 2022

Inprint hosts live author discussions in January 2023 | Courtesy of Inprint

- **Inprint presents Yiyun Li & Matthew Salesses Reading at Congregation Emanu El | Monday, January 23** – The authors will read from their new novels, *The Book of Goose* and *The Sense of Wonder*. Following the reading, the pair will discuss their works and approaches to writing with Brenda Paynado. $5. 7:30pm.
On Monday, January 23, at 7:30 p.m. Inprint will welcome authors Yiyun Li and Matthew Salesses to Congregation Emanu El as part of the 2022/2023 Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series. Li most recently authored The Book of Goose, named by Time as one of the must-read books of 2022, about the “obsessive friendship” between two teens “in rural 1950s France in the grim
aftermath of World War II.” Saleses, a University of Houston Creative Writing Program grad recently released the Linsanity-inspired The Sense of Wonder, which has been described as “a remarkable feat of artistic prowess that somehow blends the themes of K-drama with the spectacle of sports drama in a way that resets our frame of reference for the Korean American experience.” Both will read from their new books, and then engage in a conversation with Brenda Peynado before ending the evening with a book sale and signing. Tickets can be purchased here for $5.
Julia Cameron among the authors at Houston book events this week

Ana Khan | January 23, 2023 Updated: January 24, 2023, 12:52 pm

Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series present Yiyun Li and Matthew Salesses.

Photo: Courtesy of Inprint

MONDAY

Inprint Margarett Root Brown Reading Series: MacArthur Fellow Yiyun Li and Inprint fellowship and prize recipient Matthew Salesses will read from their new novels "The Book of Goose" and "The Sense of Wonder," followed by an
on-stage conversation with Brenda Peynado, author of "The Rock Eaters" and UH Creative Writing Program faculty member. The evening will conclude with a book sale and signing. 7:30 p.m., tickets $5. Congregation Emanu El, 1500 Sunset: inprinthiston.org
Inprint adds newly-named U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón to its 2022-23 season

As organizers at Inprint were finalizing the details of its upcoming 42nd season of its Margaret Root Brown Reading Series, one slot in the line-up was still open.

Then Ada Limón was awarded the country’s highest honor in the field of poetry – the position of U.S. Poet Laureate – as announced on July 12 by the Library of Congress.
NEWS: Ada Limón (@adalimon) is the next U.S. Poet Laureate & will take up her duties in the fall, opening the Library’s annual literary season on Sept. 29 with a reading of her work in the Coolidge Auditorium.

newsroom.loc.gov
Librarian of Congress Names Ada Limón the Nation's 24th U.S. Poet L...
Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden announced the appointment of Ada Limón as the nation’s 24th U.S. Poet Laureate for 2022-2023.

6:58 AM · Jul 12, 2022

Read the full conversation on Twitter
Acting quickly, Inprint reached out to Limón to invite her to come to Houston next season, adding her to the 2022-23 roster, which also includes six award-winning novelists and current U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo.

“We were thinking of including Ada in the upcoming season since her fantastic new collection The Hurting Kind was released in May – and I was just about to invite her, when we received the news,” said Rich Levy, Inprint’s Executive Director.

“All the joy in the community about her appointment sealed the deal! We were lucky she was available. A brief email exchange, and we were set,” he said.
You asked, we answered — Ada Limón, the newly appointed 2022-2023 U.S. Poet Laureate, is now part of next year's lineup! Get the details here: inprinthouston.org/for-readers/in... 🙌🙌🙌🙌
Days later, Inprint announced its 2022-23 season – its first full, in person season since the pandemic – with Limón scheduled to appear in a poetry reading and on-stage interview on March 6, 2023, the venue still to be determined at this time.

Levy says he is “thrilled and delighted” at Limón’s new national role.

“Personally, I am a great admirer of Ada’s work – “The Raincoat,” from The Carrying, is I think one of the most moving and concise tributes to the unselfish energy and love of mothers that I have ever read,” said Levy.
My god,
I thought, my whole life I’ve been under her raincoat thinking it was somehow a marvel that I never got wet.

—Ada Limón

poets.org/poem/raincoat

#MothersDay

Limón begins her term as U.S. Poet Laureate on September 29, succeeding Harjo, who will appear on Inprint’s upcoming season on November 14, 2022 at Rice University’s Brockman Hall for Opera.

“I really truly believe with my whole body in the power of poetry and in the power of poetry to heal and bring together communities and celebrate the interconnectedness that we all have with each other,” said Limón in an
interview with the Library of Congress. “And I think this is a huge opportunity to really honor those beliefs.”

Organizers at Inprint say that they loved the idea of presenting both the 23rd and 24th U.S. Poet Laureates in the same season, as part of their mission of championing poetry and nurturing writers everywhere – but also at this moment when poetry may be on the rise.

“It seems in the U.S. and elsewhere that more and more people are reading poetry, and feel empowered to write poetry. And if the pandemic has introduced some folks to the joys of poetry, then I am grateful for that salubrious effect,” said Levy.

“For too long, poetry was an elitist enterprise. I think both Joy and Ada are part of the trend among our Poet Laureates and in general to enlarge and enrich the canon and the field,” he said.
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Complete information about Inprint’s season, which includes virtual options, is available here.

Since 1980, the Inprint Brown Reading Series has featured more than 400 award–winning writers of fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry from 37 countries, including 19 U.S. Poet Laureates. Limón previously appeared in a joint reading with Pulitzer Prize–winning poet Gregory Pardlo in 2017.
HOUSTON MATTERS

Public defender costs and caseloads (Feb. 27, 2023)

On Monday's show: We discuss the money Harris County spends for court-appointed defense attorneys and the caseloads of those public defenders. And U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón talks about how nature plays a role in her work and her love of Houston's grackles.

MICHAEL HAGERTY | FEBRUARY 27, 2023, 7:00 AM

Share

Listen

On Monday's show: Harris County taxpayers are spent more than $60 million last year for court-appointed private attorneys to represent low-income defendants. And some of those lawyers are taking on far too many cases. We learn more from Harris County Chief Public Defender Alex Bunin and Houston Chronicle investigative reporter Neena Satija, who's been looking into this.

Also this hour: U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón talks about the role nature plays in her work and her love of Houston's grackles. She's coming to Houston for an event with Inprint on March 6.

Then, columnist Dwight Silverman discusses some of the latest developments in consumer technology.

And we get an update on Houston sports from Jeff Balke, who writes for Houston Press and co-hosts the Bleav in Astros podcast.
Shana Ross, Laura Murillo among the authors at Houston book events this week

By the Book celebrates women's stories with a special event at Discovery Green, featuring Laura Murillo, Shana Ross and Houston Chronicle’s Culture Columnist Joy Sewing.

U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón.
Photo: Photo by Lucas Marquardt
MONDAY

Ada Limón: The U.S. Poet Laureate will read from her new collection, "The Hurting Kind," followed by an onstage conversation with Roberto Tejada, author of the poetry collection "Why the Assembly Disbanded." The evening will conclude with a book sale and signing. 7:30-9 p.m., tickets $5, the Ballroom at Bayou Place, 500 Texas; inprintheastoun.org
Top 12 Book & Author Events in Houston: April 2023

By Holly Beretto - Mar 30, 2023

- **Inprint Houston presents Leila Mottley at Alley Theatre | Monday, April 17** – The Booker Prize finalist will read selections from her new debut novel, *Nightcrawling*. A conversation with ABC-13’s Melanie Lawson follows. Books will be available for purchase at the event. $5. 7:30pm.
Abraham Verghese will join Houston writer-physician Ricardo Nuila to close the 2022/2023 Inprint Margaret Root Brown Reading Series on Monday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. when the bestseller swings by the Alley Theatre to read from his latest novel, *The Covenant of Water*. NPR has said “the literary feats” of the novel, “about the ebbs and flows of lives across three generations,” “deserve to be lauded as much as those of such canonical authors” as Anton Chekhov, Charles Dickens and George Eliot. The novel also features “reflective musings about what genetic inheritance means beyond the body, the necessary place of art in our lives, how social hierarchies determine far-reaching life trajectories, and how we must understand the past to live in the present.” Tickets for the reading can be purchased here for $5. If you can’t make the event, you can instead buy access to the online rebroadcast here for $5.
Top 20 Festivals & Events This Week in Houston: May 8 to 14, 2023

By Justin Jerkins - May 7, 2023

- **Inprint Houston presents Abraham Verghese at Alley Theatre | Monday, May 8** – The best-selling author will read from and discuss his latest work, *The Covenant of Water*, as part of the organization’s Margaret Root Brown Reading Series. Following the program, books will be available for purchase and the author will sign them. $5. 7:30pm.
Abraham Verghese among the authors at Houston book events this week

Abraham Verghese: The New York Times bestselling author will read from his new novel "The Covenant of Water," followed by an on-stage conversation with Houston author and physician Ricardo Nuila. The evening will conclude with a book sale and signing. 7:30 p.m., tickets $5, Alley Theatre, 615 Texas; inprinthonstion.org