

# Miami Herald

## Celebrated authors highlight book fair's final day

BY MIAMI HERALD STAFF

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Krystal Jerez, 14, and Martina Maurici, 14, both students at MAST Academy FIU campus, make their way through the crowd of students at the Miami Book Fair International's street fair on Friday, Nov. 21, 2014. EMILY MICHOT / MIAMI HERALD STAFF

John Cleese joins a cast of top authors to close the Miami Book Fair International on Sunday with works that touch on everything from the satire of Monty Python and the delicacies of Cuban cuisine to the fall of Gary Hart and the music of George Clinton.

Held at Miami Dade College in downtown Miami, the last day features more than 40 writers who will discuss their books in sessions that run from 10 a.m. through 7 p.m.

While Cleese's *So Anyway* traces the groundbreaking origins of Monty Python's Flying Circus at 7 p.m., journalist Tom Shroder joins former colleague, Dave Barry, Miami Herald columnist, for a lively discussion on Shroder's *Acid test: LSD, Ecstasy and the Power to Heal* at 11 a.m. Cleese's session is expected to be sold out, but tickets may be available at a "standby" line.

At 11:30 a.m., New York Times bestselling author Azar Nafisi discusses *The Republic of Imagination*, a tribute to three American literary classics and a celebration of the novel in American life. At noon, former New York Times writer Rick Bragg presents *Jerry Lee Lewis: His Own Story*.

Other sessions at the 31st annual fair include:

- 10.a.m., Beverly Donofrio, *Astonished: A Story of Evil, Blessings, Grace, and Solace*; John W. Evans, *Young Widower: A Memoir* and Janet Burroway, *Losing Tim: The Life and Death of an American Contractor in Iraq*.
- Noon, Joanna Rakoff, *My Salinger Year*, Jacob Maymudes on *Another Side of Bob Dylan: A Personal History on the Road and off the Tracks* and Scott Eyman on *John Wayne: the Life and Legend*.
- 12:30 p.m., Matt Bai: the *The Week Politics Went Tabloid*, which chronicles the critical changes in American journalism that began with The Miami Herald's expose of presidential aspirant Gary Hart in 1987.
- 2 p.m., Charles M. Blow, *Fire Shut Up In My Bones: A Memoir* joins in a discussion with Richard Blanco, *The Prince of Los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood*;
- 3 p.m., T.J. Mitchell and Judy Melinek, *Working Stiff: Two Years, 262 bodies, and the Making of a Medical Examiner*.
- 4 p.m. Ana Sofia Pelaez, *The Cuban Table: A Celebration of Food Flavors and History*. This session requires a \$15 ticket.
- 5 p.m., Ben Greenbaum with Questlove on *The World According to Questlove* and musician George Clinton, *Brothas Be, Yo Like George Ain't That Funkin' Kinda Hard on You?*

For seating purposes, free tickets are required for many of the sessions. Check the book fair's website for a complete schedule: [www.miamibookfair.com](http://www.miamibookfair.com) (<http://www.miamibookfair.com/>).