CityLit Project & The Johns Hopkins University Master of Arts Program present

CYNTHIA BOND
in Conversation with Joyell Arvella

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017
5 - 6:30 PM

at the Baltimore Book Festival, Inner Harbor
CITYLIT Stage (Near the Maryland Science Center)

Cynthia Bond is a New York Times Best-Selling author. Ruby was chosen to be an Oprah Book Club 2.0 selection in 2014, a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, and an Indie Next Pick. Ruby, the epic, unforgettable story of a man determined to protect the woman he loves from the town desperate to destroy her, heralded the arrival of a major new voice in literary fiction. Bond recently completed the screenplay with Harpo Productions.

The second novel in the Ruby Trilogy follows the frenzied, rapturous and and tragic lives of Ephram and Ruby, married and living in Liberty, a small all-black Township in East Texas in 1975. Their story boils over with racism, the horrific mysticism within the KKK, the rape of the piney woods, the searing echo of magic, petty, cutting jealousies and the bloody roots of slavery that snake through every inch of Liberty. From James Baldwin’s Paris in the 1950’s where Ruby ran with the Black café society of artists and musicians, to a beloved mother passing for white in New York in the 1930s, to an Irish family of trapeze artists traveling the world — hurricanes off the Gulf of Mexico, fires in Arizona, all linked, bound to a tiny patch of land in Liberty where Ruby and Ephram fight to survive and love in the eye of the storm. Cynthia will be discussing the challenges and solutions of creating three books out of one and of living with a piece of writing for over 15 years.

Joyell Arvella’s love affair with activism, language, and literature motivated her to earn an undergraduate degree in Black Studies from Washington College and a law degree in international human rights from New England Law Boston.

http://www.baltimorebookfestival.com/schedule/location/3/CityLit-Stage

CityLitProject.org