

# TotalBank Distinguished Speaker Series

Spanish and Mediterranean Studies Program



## *La Memoria Varada*

**Book Presentation by Rafael Adamuz, Journalist and Author**

Thursday, February 25, 2016 | 8 PM | Books & Books | 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables

Despite the passage of nearly eight decades, the echoes of the Spanish Civil War continue to reverberate throughout Spain. Current engagement with the war by historians, artists, writers, journalists and others reveal a longing to deal with an unsettled past. The ferocity of the conflict, its attendant atrocities and the repression that ensued afterwards under the Franco regime compel us to revisit the narratives of the war and reassess the collective memory of the conflict.

In *La Memoria Varada*, author Rafael Adamuz uses a vivid literary style to tell the story of the men incarcerated on the Francoist prison ship the *Cabo Carvoeiro*. Luis Marin Bermejo, one of 70 prisoners on the ship, managed to communicate his experiences with the outside world through a series of letters. These texts remained hidden until the death of his only son, who safeguarded his father's correspondence for decades. The letters reveal the ordeal endured by Bermejo and the other prisoners, underscoring the fearsome brutality of the war and the need to uncover the stories of its victims.

This event will feature excerpts from *La Memoria Varada* read by the author and juxtaposed with music by guitarist Jose Luis Rodriguez.

**Rafael Adamuz** began his career at age 19 writing for the newspaper *El Correo de Andalucía*. He has published articles in several newspapers and magazines of Grupo Prisa, one of the most important publishers of periodicals in Spain. He has worked as editor for the *Odiel Información*, where he served as coordinator (and later director) of research. Today, he writes for the digital newspaper, andalucesdiario.es. Adamuz has been awarded the Huelva Journalism Award in the category of Radio, as well as the Huelva Young Journalist Award. *La Memoria Varada* is his first novel.

**Jose Luis Rodriguez** is a flamenco guitarist and co-founder of Nu Flamenco Collaborative, an organization that aims to introduce U.S. audiences to the cultural heritage of flamenco and its emerging artistic expressions. Rodriguez has performed throughout the world and has won numerous prizes for his work, including the Premio Jóvenes Interpretes-Bienal de Sevilla, Premio Asociación de la Prensa-Huelva, and Cuarto Cables among others. In 1995 he appeared in Felix Grande's book *Agenda Flamenca* as one of the 20 best guitarists in Spain.

Wine reception will precede the presentation. The presentation will be in Spanish.

This event has been generously sponsored by **TotalBank** and co-sponsored by the **Department of History, European and Eurasian Studies Program**, and **Václav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy**.

This event is free and open to public. To RSVP, please [click here](#).

For more information, call 305-348-7266.

