5 THINGS TO DO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Creative Loafing Atlanta

The National Center for Civil and Human Rights - 100 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd. N.W. Atlanta, GA 30313 Free. 6 p.m.

Dr. Beverly Tatum (president emerita of Spelman College) and Dr. C. Nicole Mason (executive director of the Center for Research and Policy in the Public Interest) hold an open conversation about race in America. In the time of numerous social justice movements, the discussion aims to raise awareness concerning the constant barriers to racial progress in the U.S.

The Masquerade - 50 Lower Alabama St. S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303 $10. 7 p.m.

Black Marble's latest album of synth pop and coldwave inspired numbers, It's Immaterial (Ghostly International), is markedly more radiant than its dejected predecessor, A Different Arrangement. It's not quite pop, though. Let's call it cautiously upbeat, and the departure is striking. Founding member Chris Stewart recorded It's Immaterial after his move from New York to L.A. The differences in production make sense: The warm glow of the evening pollution leaves behind a lustful haze, morning windshields yawning with SoCal abandon. Think the Drive soundtrack without as much romantic pining.

A Page from the Book Festival

Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta - 5342 Tilly Mill Road Dunwoody, GA 30338 $18-$24. 7:30 p.m.

The Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta welcomes Thomas L. Friedman to discuss his book *Thank You for Being Late*. Friedman explores the 21st centuries successes, failures and informs his audience how to thrive and adapt in this ever-changing world. The event features a discussion of the book, Q&A session and book signing.

Marlon Riggs at 60: A Retrospective

Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American Culture and History - 101 Auburn Ave. Atlanta, GA 30303 7 p.m.

The retrospective celebrates the 60th birthday of black gay filmmaker Marlon Riggs. Attendees will view documentaries that analyze the anti-black stereotypes in pop culture and the black gay identity. Discussions will follow each screening.

Austra, Range, DOT.S.

Terminal West - 887 W. Marietta St. N.W., Studio C Atlanta, GA 30318 $17-$20. 7:30 p.m.

Austra, the recording project and live band fronted by Katie Stelmanis, who may be a robot from the future, commands swirling synthwave and vocals beamed in from space and converted into dance floor anthems. Her latest album, Future Politics (Domino), is a call to arms that rages against complacency in the face of the apocalypse. The band's mechanical precision imbues each song with feelings of floating propelled by natural kinetic energy. On "Utopia," Stelmanis' voice slices and dices over disco-laden beats as she sings, "There's nothing I wouldn't do, there's nothing I wouldn't do."