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Writers & Books' Fall Artist in Residence Exhibition Launches September 2022 *Poet Kathy Engel and Artist Ellen Driscoll Present "Eyechart"*

Rochester, NY - Writers & Books, Rochester's home for the literary arts, launches *Eyechart*, a cross-genre exhibition on display September 9 - November 5, 2022. . Showcasing text by poet **Kathy Engel** and paintings by visual artist **Ellen Driscoll**, *Eyechart* is an accordion-book style sculpture that presents questions, reflections, and imagery for viewers to read, interpret, and reflect on through their own lens. Special events include a gallery talk with Ellen Driscoll on October 7, 6:30 pm, and a poetry reading with Kathy Engel on November 4, 6:30 pm. The public is invited to reserve tickets, priced Free to \$20, at wab.org.

Joanne McFarland, Artistic Director of *Artpoetica*, writes of *Eyechart*, "At this historic moment, Engel and Driscoll's sensibilities are distilled down to their purest essence. Their finely wrought salute to the creative process elucidates how much we gain when we face what is most fraught within us. At our most fragile we can choose to be most open, and perhaps discover new ways to measure the breadth of our existences."

Kathy Engel is a poet and essayist who has worked for many years at the nexus between social justice movements and art/imagination. Her published books include *Ruth's Skirts; We Begin Here: Poems for Palestine and Lebanon*, co-edited with Kamal Boullata; *The Kitchen*, with art by German Perez; and the chapbook *Banish The Tentative*. Her most recent collection is *The Lost Brother Alphabet*, (Get Fresh Books, 2020). A Pushcart Prize nominee, with the writer Alexis De Veaux, she co-founded the project Lyrical Democracies She serves as Associate Arts Professor in NYU's Tisch School of the Arts' [Department of Art and Public Policy](#), and Master's Program in Arts Politics.

Ellen Driscoll's work encompasses sculpture, drawing, and public art installation. Recent large scale

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installations include “CartOURgraphy” for Middle College High School and the International High School in Queens, NY; “Bower” at ArtPark in Lewiston, NY, with Joyce Hwang and Matt Hume; and “Night to Day, Here and Away” for the Sarasota National Cemetery. She has been awarded fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Bunting Institute at Harvard University, and the New York Foundation for the Arts; and is the recipient of a Fine Arts Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Her work is included in major public and private collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of Art. She is Professor of Sculpture at Bard College.

Writers & Books is one of the oldest and largest community-based literary centers in the nation and the only one of its kind in the eight-county Greater Rochester, NY, area. Incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit in 1981, the organization engages youth and adults with the literary arts through writing workshops, readings, presentations, and intersectional activities. Writers & Books owns and operates [Ampersand Books](#), an in-house independent bookshop, and Gell: A Finger Lakes Creative Retreat, sited on 24 acres in Naples, NY. Visit www.wab.org for more information and ways to support.

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