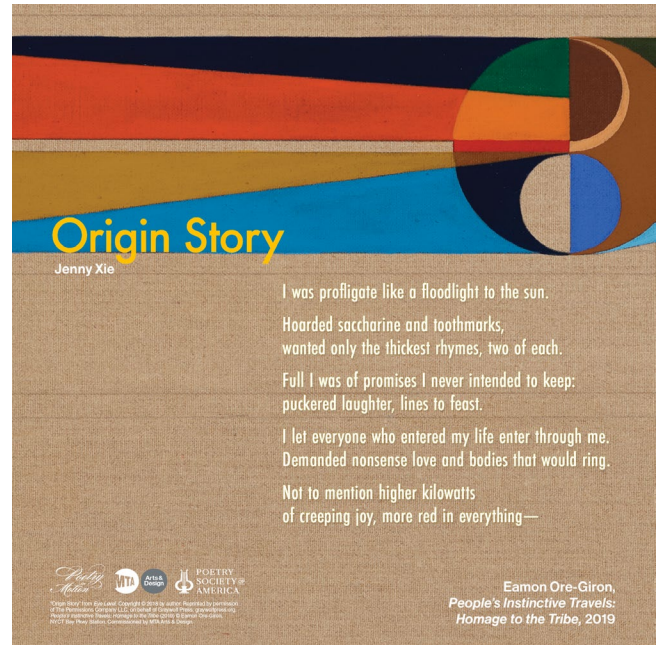
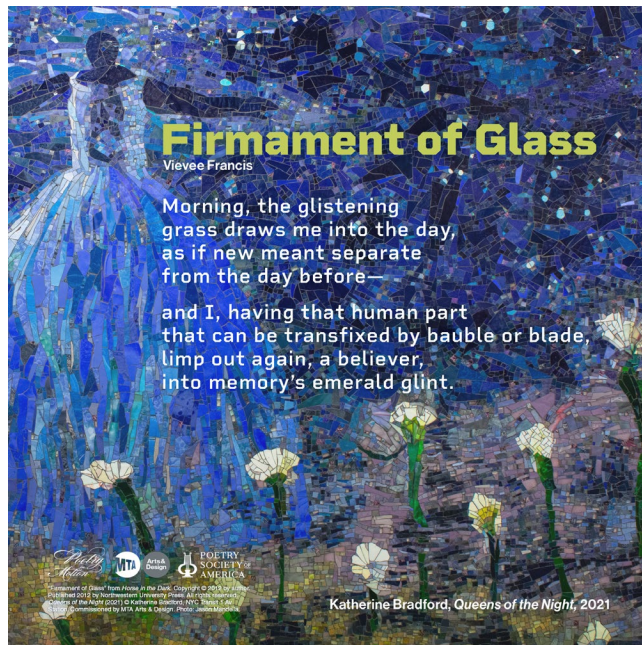




Arts &
Design

Media Announcement

Two New Poetry in Motion Selections Now on View



Left: “Firmament of Glass” from *Horse in the Dark*. Copyright © 2012 by author. Published 2012 by Northwestern University Press. All rights reserved. *Queens of the Night* (2021) © Katherine Bradford, NYC Transit 1 Av Station. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design. Photo by Jason Mandella.

Right: “Origin Story” from *Eye Level*. Copyright © 2018 by author. Reprinted by permission of The Permissions Company LLC, on behalf of Graywolf Press, graywolfpress.org. *People’s Instinctive Travels: Homage to the Tribe* (2019) © Eamon Ore-Giron, NYCT Bay Pkwy Station. Commissioned by MTA Arts & Design.

(NEW YORK, NY — June 12, 2025) MTA Arts & Design announces the release of two new poems for the Poetry in Motion program. Chosen in collaboration with the Poetry Society of America, the poems are paired with selections from MTA Arts & Design’s permanent artwork collection.

“Poetry in Motion offers riders a moment of respite,” said **Juliette Michaelson, Interim Director, MTA Arts & Design**. “The union of poetry and visual art has the power to uplift and offer a momentary escape from the day’s demands. It serves as a journey within the journey.”

“The poems of Vievee Francis and Jenny Xie, each in their own way, imagine joy, not as something to be hoped for, but as something to insist upon, a determined act of resilience, even extravagance, to embrace life’s “higher kilowatts,” “memory’s emerald glint.,” said **Matt Brogan, Executive Director, Poetry Society of America**.

The new additions: “Firmament of Glass” by **Vievee Francis** and “Origin Story” by **Jenny Xie**, are presented in print and on digital screens throughout the subway as well as commuter rail cars and Metro-North Railroad and Long Island Rail Road stations, including the main hall of Grand Central Terminal and Grand Central Madison. “Firmament of Glass” is paired with a detail from Katherine

Bradford's mosaic artwork *Queens of the Night* (2021) at NYC Transit 1 Av Station. In a scene speckled with starlight, a man in a flowing gown, twirls among a field of flowers. "Origin Story" is presented on the linen of an original painting by Eamon Ore-Giron, translated into the mosaic at NYCT Bay Pkwy Station. In this artwork, Ore-Giron traced items such as CDs and recording dubplates to create a visual language used to explore cultural connections and identity.

The following is text of "Firmament of Glass":

Morning, the glistening
grass draws me into the day,
as if new meant separate
from the day before—

and I, having that human part
that can be transfixed by bauble or blade,
limp out again, a believer,
into memory's emerald glint.

The following is text of "Origin Story":

I was profligate like a floodlight to the sun.

Hoarded saccharine and toothmarks,
wanted only the thickest rhymes, two of each.

Full I was of promises I never intended to keep:
puckered laughter, lines to feast.

I let everyone who entered my life enter through me.
Demanded nonsense love and bodies that would ring.

Not to mention higher kilowatts
of creeping joy, more red in everything—

About the Poets

Jenny Xie is the author of *Eye Level* and *The Rupture Tense*, both finalists for the National Book Award in Poetry. She teaches at Bard College and lives in New York City.

Vievee Francis is the author of four books of poetry: *The Shared World*; *Forest Primeval*, winner of the 2017 Kingsley Tufts Award and the Hurston Wright Legacy Award; *Horse in the Dark*, winner of the Cave Canem Northwestern University Press Poetry Prize; and *Blue-Tail Fly*. She is a Professor of English and Creative Writing at Dartmouth College.

About the Artists

Katherine Bradford lives and works in New York and Maine. Her works have been exhibited at the Modern Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas; MoMA PS1; the Brooklyn Museum; the Portland Museum of Art in Maine; the Addison Gallery of American Art; the Weatherspoon Gallery; and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She has been honored with an award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, a Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her work is in the permanent collections of several major institutions, including New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Brooklyn Museum; The Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris and the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington DC.

Eamon Ore-Giron is an artist whose practice explores the possibilities of transmutation, how concept and form morph and adapt as they move between languages, cultures, and geographies. Using a vocabulary that consists of geometric forms, Ore-Giron generates a pictorial language that both suggests and rejects representational imagery. Notably influenced by the Latin American traditions of Art Concrete, including but not limited to Kinetic Abstraction, Neo-Constructivism, and Constructivism, Ore-Giron explores the inherent flatness of pictorial space in compositions. He received his BFA at San Francisco Art Institute and MFA from University of California, Los Angeles. He has exhibited at the Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Ballroom Marfa, Texas; Prospect.3, New Orleans; and Pérez Art Museum Miami, among others.

About Poetry in Motion

MTA's Poetry in Motion program has produced more than 200 poems or excerpts since its inception in 1992. After a hiatus of four years, from 2008 through 2011, the popular program returned in March 2012 under the aegis of Arts & Design.

To learn more about this MTA Arts & Design program, visit <https://new.mta.info/agency/arts-design/poetry-in-motion>

To learn more about the Poetry Society of America, visit <https://poetrysociety.org/>

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