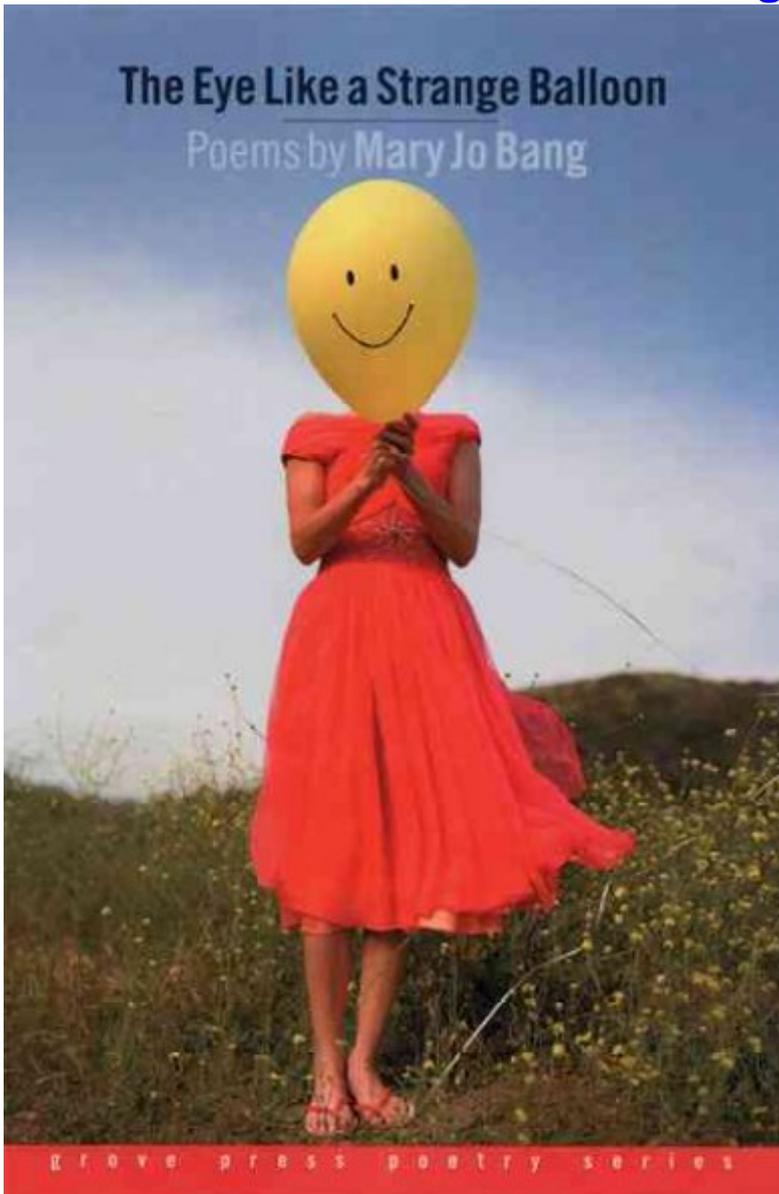


## Art

### [A Conversation about Art: Writing Ekphrastic Poems](#)



[view in catalog](#)

**ISBN:**

0802141579

We're in the closing days of National Poetry Month, and this Sunday if you'd like to compose a poem of your own, we're offering a program about writing ekphrastic poetry in partnership with The Writers Guild at Bloomington. It's at 2 p.m. this Sunday in Room 2B. Call 349-3228 to register. The word *ekphrasis* comes from the Greek and simply means description. The original Greek root *phrazein* meant to point out or explain. An added meaning was to name an

inanimate thing.

Many of the Romantic poets celebrated art including John Keats in his "Ode to a Grecian Urn." The list of modern poets who have worked in the form include W.H. Auden, William Carlos Williams, Anne Sexton, Muriel Rukeyser, Greg Pape, and former poet laureate, Kay Ryan, among many others.

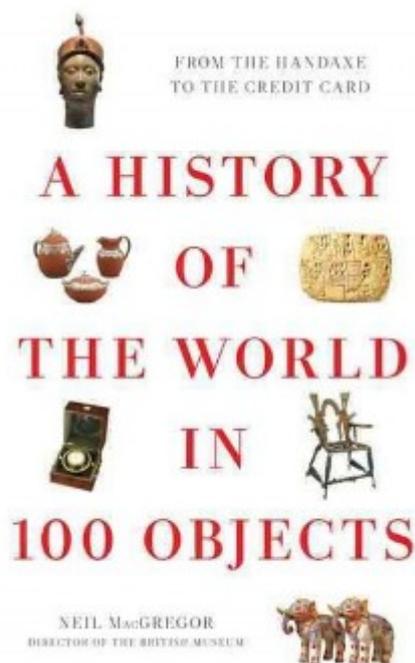
You can write about any art form in ekphrastic poetry: sculpture, paintings, ceramics, prints, and photographs. Some poets describe the work in vivid detail; others just use the art piece for a jumping off point. This is especially true when an abstract painting is the subject of the poem as in the example I've included below. [Read more »](#)

[For the Love of Reading Information, Answers & Reviews Art Poetry Writing Program This Sunday](#)

Posted by Dory L. on Apr 25, 2013 [Dory L.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

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## [A History of the World in 100 Objects](#)



What a cool idea for a book. Telling the history of the world by looking at museum artifacts. To make it even more interesting, these descriptive reports of jewelry, mummies, pottery, coins, art, textiles, etc. were written by experts for radio. Luckily, for us we get to view the pictures also, hundreds of them.

[A History of the World in 100 Objects](#) is no coffee table book but a book to be read end to end. The entries for each of the objects (that range in date from 2,000,000 B.C. to 2010 A.D.) describe not only the artifacts themselves but what they teach us about history and about humanity. For example of silver bowl full of coins from around the year 927? shows that already England was well on its way to becoming a monarchy. Inscribed on one coin is *Athelstan Rex totius Britanniae* or Athelstan, King of All Britain.

Other items found in this same buried stash were arm bracelets from Ireland, Viking coins, and others from as far away as Afghanistan. A Viking stash of coins showed that they were

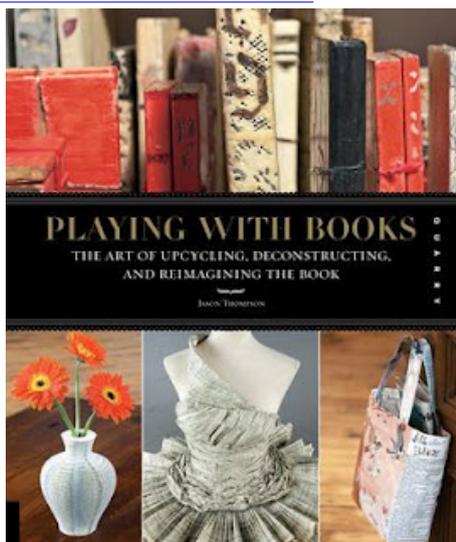
becoming Christian?engraved on several was St. Peter?s name (Petri), but also inscribed was the hammer from Thor, the old Norse god. [Read more »](#)

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Posted by Dory L. on Feb 10, 2012 [Dory L.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

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## [Altered Books](#)



Amazon's blog [Omnivoracious](#) is a great read to keep up with not only what is happening at Amazon, but also generally in the publishing world, complete with reviews of reviews, author interviews, and other literary minded topics. [Today's post](#) was exceptionally astonishing and beautiful. Profiled is Chicago based artist, [Brian Dettmer](#), who sculpts old books into amazing works of art. Check out both the blog entry and his website to see the images. I don't want to generally advocate cutting up books, but his end result is truly extraordinary.

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Posted by Sarah B. on Mar 2, 2011 [Sarah B.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

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