

*Write Upon Tablets*, by Laurie Doctor

Art selection and commentary by [Lil Copan](#) in the [September 26, 2018](#) issue



Kentucky-based artist Laurie Doctor teaches calligraphy, bookmaking, and painting around the globe. Her works often focus on a theme taken from a text—such as Rainer Maria Rilke’s line “Live the questions” from *Letters to a Young Poet* or Christian Wiman’s poem “Every Riven Thing.” Her work *Write Upon Tablets* alludes to the words of Habakkuk 2:2: “Write the vision: make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come.” Doctor notes that the art of calligraphy thrived in monasteries and nunneries in the Middle Ages and has been reinvigorated in the age of keyboard, because “nothing replaces the touch of a hand.”