Ellen Driscoll, 2004

I have chosen the following works from a very strong and diverse field of applications with an eye towards strength of form and materials, sensitivity to the complexity of program, economy of strategy coupled with risk and innovation, and above all, a sense of poetics.

With sites that range from waterworks to forensics laboratories, artists working in the public realm are asked to encapsulate an encyclopedia’s worth of information in singular gestures. The following works do so in ways that are inclusive, transparent, honest, and vital.

Glenn Harper, 2004

Public Art can be a “Civic Catalyst” by participating in the construction of a civic fabric or by provoking the kind of dialogue that makes a space public. Between those alternatives there is a range of approaches to the question of what makes public art work, or how art can be adapted for public space without losing its role as art. In making selections, I looked for a representative sample of the ways artists are working in the public art milieu, for arrange of styles, media, and for innovative or distinctive works of art.