

THE BOOK OF HOURS, WRIT LARGE

For the last four summers, the Morgan Library & Museum has installed contemporary sculptures in its soaring glass atrium, from large steel works by Mark di Suvero to hundreds of carved and painted Chinese characters spelling out the word "bird" by Xu Bing. Now, Spencer Finch, the Brooklyn artist whose [commission](#) for the National September 11 Memorial & Museum recently went on view, is creating a site-specific installation inspired by the Morgan's renowned collection of medieval Books of Hours.

The hand-painted Books of Hours served as prayer books for different times of the day and periods of the year. Mr. Finch, whose work often incorporates light, color and memory, said he plans to apply films of color in groupings to the atrium's windows, with each palette corresponding to a time of year. He is effectively creating a kind of calendar based on the movement of the sun. He will also hang clear panes in the center of the atrium to increase the reflectivity of his colored light.

Isabelle Dervaux, the Morgan's curator of modern and contemporary drawings, said she invited Mr. Finch to the museum after viewing photographs of [an installation](#) he did at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. "When he saw the medieval Book of Hours, he got the idea of using 365 squares of color," she said.

The installation, on view from June 20 through Jan. 11, 2015, will also be visible from the street.