

# A.I.R.

```
\\ Let's start with listening. It's an open call, so, although we first have to speak, the next step is to listen for resonances in response.
// We should take the two-folded nature of this seriously, as a form, as a representation of what we do every day--but also as a way of talking-with-listening.
\\ Is that where empathy begins?

// It's like the controversy we just discussed: I'm willing to listen to other opinions, but my gut still leads me in a certain direction. Am I supposed to somehow overcome this?
\\ But rather than talk about empathy as an idea, a word, or even a stance, aren't we interested in enacting it?
// That's perhaps how we get out of the rabbit hole of either "making" or "giving" space, the proprietary presumptions and power dynamics embedded in that. You turn it into a listening event.

\\ Right, the space is filled with soundwaves! Put the stethoscope to the wall.
// After all the gallery is called "A.I.R.," and what's in the air but invisible waves that turn into meaning once they reach our noses, ears, eyes. Our ears translate them by default. But how do we know what another creature hears?

\\ The way we try to communicate with future alien life follows that premise: the Voyager Golden Records are waves translated into material. But that mission seems more about broadcasting our own preformed ideas and biases.
// Let's try listening again.
```

## *Let's try listening again*

### 13th A.I.R. Biennial

Curated by Sarah Demeuse and Prem Krishnamurthy

January 9 - February 3, 2019

Opening Reception: Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 6-8pm

#### Participating artists:

Angeli, Angie Keefer, Anna Riley, Catalina Viejo López de Roda, Dulce Gómez, Fotini Vurgaropoulou, Hagen Verleger, Irene Mohedano, Jane Long, Johanna Unzueta, Julie Nagle, Karen Donnellan, Katie Hector, Katja Mater, Katy Mixon, Keren Benbenisty, Kyoung eun Kang, Library Stack, Lukas Eigler-Harding, Malin Abrahamsson, Maren Henson, Matthew Schrader, Olivia Baldwin, Romily Alice Walden, Sari Carel, Scaleno Collective, Shuyi Cao, Suzanne Mooney, Tselote Holley, and Zhenya Plechkina

Dear Visitor,

This biennial exhibition starts where its open call ended: with the sentence “Let’s try listening again.” Echoing a contemporary sentiment, this title voices an urge to stop the treadmill of self-same thought and perceive what is near, around, yet not always seen. It highlights a pause for respect and discovery that is necessary to imagine new, relevant relations—whether social, intellectual, emotional, or cosmic. The point being: we can’t know everything, but still we need to envision novel forms of communing.

Listening to the five hundred and forty-four voices that responded to our open call, we gradually selected a constellation of twenty-nine works that resonate with this theme. The exhibition brings together two performances, two distributed projects, and twenty-five works for the gallery by participating artists far and wide. The catalogue takes the form of a website that can produce encoded PDF communiqués around the thematics of this year’s biennial.

Gratitude to all applicants. This was hard.

S. & P.

A.I.R. Gallery is wheelchair accessible via ramp. There are accessible toilets in the venue. There is comfortable seating with backs. Free tap water is available.

The venue is nearest to the F train at York St (0.2 miles) and the A train at High St (0.5 miles). The nearest wheelchair accessible trains is the B, Q, R at Dekalb Av (1.1 miles) and the 2, 3 at Borough Hall (0.8 miles).

The roads immediately surrounding the gallery are cobblestone. The nearest accessible parking garage (for an hourly fee) is two blocks away at 100 Jay St. No ID necessary for entry. Please contact [info@airgallery.org](mailto:info@airgallery.org) for more information.

