

Robert Fitterman

Rob's Word Shop

This special edition artist's book contains ledgers and transcriptions documenting the exchanges that occurred at Rob's Word Shop, a project where Fitterman opened a storefront selling both letters and words. The shop was located at 308 Bowery for three weeks in May of 2010. As the sole proprietor of the store, Fitterman invited people to stop by for a conversation and to shop. The transcriptions of these conversations are followed by an essay by the store's Records Manager, Lawrence Giffin, and a sampling of materials collected for the store's archives.

// In *Rob's Word Shop*, a meta-banter unfolds: in the form of somewhat mysterious dialogues, interlocutors work together to make decisions about language. It's a book about what words we might give to our loved ones, the best way to phrase an invitation to the movies, and the effects of italics...

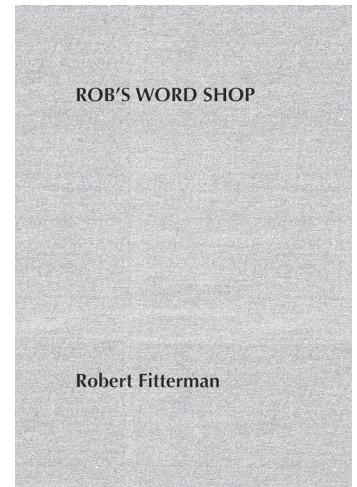
— DIANA HAMILTON

// I guess accounting books are frequently screens for the most personal expressions of human social life, but never yet in the history of art has a series of ledgers contained so much diverse information, from murmurings to legitimate gossip. I will tell you this, reader. I went into that Word Shop. And I left with more than I bargained for.

— BRANDON BROWN



Robert Fitterman is the author of 15 books of poetry including *This Window Makes Me Feel* (UDP), *Nevermind* (Wonder Books), *No Wait, Yep. Definitely Still Hate Myself* (UDP), and *Holocaust Museum* (Counterpath/Veer). He has collaborated with several visual artists, including Serkan Ozkaya, Nayland Blake, Fia Backström, Tim Davis and Klaus Killisch, and is the founding member of the international artists and writers collective, *Collective Task*. He teaches at New York University and is a member of the writing faculty of the Milton Avery School of the Arts at Bard College.



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Media contact: Daniel Owen • daniel@uglyducklingpresse.org

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