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The Arts

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To Behold

The focus will be on the eye when Monday arrives at the World Financial Center Winter Garden, at West Street on the Hudson River. Through Jan. 19, on the floor of the Winter Garden, artists led by Kristin Jones and Andrew Ginzel, winners of the Rome Prize of the American Academy, will be assembling "Oculus," a 20-by-40-foot 800,000piece oval glass and stone mosaic. Working with a Roman mosaicist, Rinaldo Pira, they intend to create a map of New York City intertwined with the continents, swirling around a central eye - symbolizing New York as a microcosm of the world's diverse cultures. In late January the "Oculus" is to be permanently installed in the Park Place IRT subway station, which is already decorated with hundreds of mosaic eyes.

LAWRENCE VAN GELDER