



In response to Jennifer Pretzeus
Empty Skies

Shedding Our Biases

You criticize me for wearing coral.
You admonish me for wearing a turtle shell,
Beaded and hung with buckskin around my neck.

So let me make this point clear.

This is my religion,

To be close to Mother Earth,

Symbolic images worn to remind us,

To respect our kinship.

We do not take and take more.

Just a reminder of our interconnectedness,

With all living things,

And to treat Mother Earth with care.

Environmentalists making themselves right,

Not truly seeing,

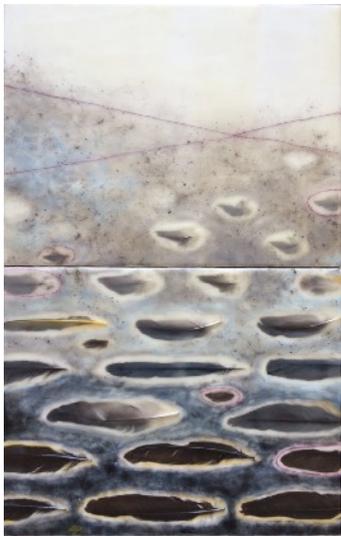
Not truly sensing,

The feeling of kinship,

That we might walk lightly and in beauty.

Can't we come together?

Susan Guyette (Métis Micmac Indian and Acadian French)
Roaming Writers



Jennifer Pretzeus, *Empty Skies*, encaustic, feathers, ash, charcoal, pastel, oil paint, on cradle board, 11 x 14 inches