**Reptilian Brain**

Cracking stone, the Ancients

already had found traces

of avian serpents writhing there

likewise flinging them back

into the mists to snort clouds

born of fire and of rain

eggs clutched in their talons

as they soared like kites.

All earthly children

thrill to these remains

still coiled in their deepest brains

eyes glittering back at themselves.

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Valérie C. Kaelin is an award-winning interdisciplinary artist, researcher, and educator who writes poems and film scripts, academic and cultural articles.  She was a listed translator for The Malahat Review (2014) and Exile’s Gwendolyn MacEwen Poetry Competition (2014). Caught between cultures, her writing frets holistic histories, perception and spatiality, artistry and ecology.