

## JULIE HEFFERNAN

*Self Portrait Running Amok*, 2013  
Oil on canvas, 68 x 42 in



COLLECTION OF ROBERT KIRBY  
COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND P.P.O.W. GALLERY, NEW YORK

## SUSANA H. CASE

### What Is It About Women Who Like Snakes?

Each of them is a braless goddess.

It's Crete, 1600 BCE,

panther atop her head,

snake in each hand,

their curl, familiar,

solidly primal.

Astarte, lust demon

with dangling earrings.

Serpent girls, undulating,

praying.

Let the rain fall.

Let the crops thrive.

Let our nipples rise.

We are desire, continual

renewal. We are aligned

under the naked evening star.

**Susana H. Case's** newest book is *4 Rms w Vu* (Mayapple Press). She is the author of four full-length poetry collections and four chapbooks, including *The Scottish Café*, which was re-released in a Polish-English version, *Kawiarnia Szkocka*, by Opole University Press, Poland. Professor and program coordinator at the New York Institute of Technology, you can read about her at: [iris.nyit.edu/~shcase/](http://iris.nyit.edu/~shcase/).