

## JANE ROSEN

*White Kite Hovering*, 2010  
Korean Watercolor and Beeswax  
on Japanese Paper, 16 x 28 in



COURTESY WINFIELD GALLERY

## ALLYSON LIMA Birdwoman

Birdwoman of many feathers  
Rowdy crow descending  
on the unsuspecting crowd

Flapping your blue-black wings at duller creatures  
attracted to the scuffle of survival—teasing nervous squirrels  
strutting and squawking just for the pleasure of stirring up a little trouble—  
a showy funny scene.

Bird-mom  
Not mothering with coos  
doling out the worms

Too bad if you're too little—  
"Speak up—squawk or die, chicklings."

Rustling in the nest  
flap and clatter of wings

A bird mother knows when feathers are ready  
knows to nudge  
knows when the time comes  
for her own flight

understands the sky belongs to her, too.

**Allyson Lima** teaches Spanish at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland. In 2013, she served as a Smithsonian Fellow in Washington, D.C. She has translated a book of poems by Salvadoran writer and artist Mario Bencaastro, which will be published in 2016. She grew up in Humboldt County, California.