

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Melody Allen: "A Clear and Present Danger"

I chose to respond to Elizabeth Kerlikowske's poem, *Birds in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, because it addresses my concern about the declining populations of songbirds. A major reason for the loss of birds is window collisions. Birds fly into windows because they see reflections of the sky, clouds or trees, or they see through the glass to potted plants or vegetation on the other side. At night, migrating birds crash into lighted windows because the lights are disorienting. Approximately one billion birds *per year* die from colliding with windows.