by Traci Warkentin

scream

so Human
   They say
eerie
tugging at flesh
threatening to expose the palimpsest the
Body has become
written over with exclusivity
   Hierarchy
   separateness
yet only Superimposed
over what cannot be effaced
   entirely
   within
the body remembers
heeding the call of other bodies
responding fervently

heart galloping
breath sucking in
   sharp
   prickling skin
shuddering spine
   wince
piercing the denial

so Human
   They say?
They have it backwards
the body knows
bodies do not lie to one another
it is a corporeal contract

of visceral language
fragmented tongues of coherence
bleeding continuous flesh
flesh and sinew
   guttural and flailing
cries
ripped from throats
with the acrid fullness of Terror
pungent agony
assaulting nostrils
   flaring
stabbing ear drums
stinging flesh
piercing the denial
piercing the denial
of the latent animal
that is me embodied.