

Nightfall in Luz

(Celebrating the Purification of Man with Sacrificial Side of Beef)

Salmon absent
Creek bed dry
Rocky plain with hushed reply
Darkness present
Moon on high
Come to Bethel
 Come and cry

Bones of death all scattered 'round
Friend coyote makes no sound
Absent now the quail and bread
Rain can't fall – it's all been said

Come to Bethel
Gilgal see
 Painful now the reverie

Tell me Mortal 'bout these bones
Tell me 'bout the grizzly's home
Tell me how you once were free
Show me now your destiny

Prophecy and speak to death
Powerless to give them breath
Watch and see Creation's power
Come to Bethel - keep the hour

Salmon jumping
Life restored
Teaming beauty joy adored
Halos present
Moon on high
Come to Bethel
 Rise and fly



"Man with Sacrificial Side of Beef,"
2006, 84" x 120" oil on unstretched canvas,
Sandy Roumagoux

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.

Ezekiel 37:1-6 NRSV

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