

## NOT AN ANGRY WOMAN

i have been asked  
by all of creation  
all the trippers and preachers  
and wedding ring keepers  
why i erupt so  
why  
i curse and belch so  
why  
such edges and thorns  
so unbecoming of any real  
sense of womanhood  
the silent rose sitting  
on a bed of innocence and virginity

Let me like Moses  
clarify the confused:

We have never been virgins,  
our innocence  
crimson stained from birth.

We are not passive,  
do not mistaken strangulation  
for consent.

We are not sweetness,  
but rather the blood  
of a much bitten tongue.

The anger merely  
the wish  
that the blood  
sometimes  
be yours.

the bubbling over  
whether of tears  
or ire  
is a force  
like the earth's core  
bringing forth  
life

a wave  
crashing wetly  
into rock  
is not asked  
why

a lightening bolt  
hurled hotly  
from the sky  
is not asked  
why

but i  
am always asked  
why

## DOUG STEADMAN 1926-2018

*Editor's note:* The Esperanza expresses condolences upon hearing of Doug Steadman's passing on February 12th at the age of 91. Services will take place in early March. Call 210.228.0201.

Mr. Steadman inspired and led the Hays St. Restoration Group from its earliest days. No one worked longer, harder or more effectively on behalf of the Bridge. He spent more than half his professional life in a relentless effort to encourage the larger San Antonio

Community to recognize the significance of the Hays St. Bridge, long before it was closed to automobile traffic in 1982. He was President of W. E. Simpson Associates, one of the oldest and most distinguished engineering firms in Texas. It is not an exaggeration to say that he was considered the dean and senior statesman of the local professional engineering community.

His modesty and understatement concealed a fierce devotion to his faith, to Jurene and his family and to correcting injustice in his own way where he found it.

We can honor Mr. Steadman by working twice as hard to determine that the restored Bridge is not again diminished by the poor decisions of some of our City's leaders.

—Gary W. Houston



### SAVE THE DATE!

## 9th Paseo Por El Westside

SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH, 9AM-3PM

RINCONCITO de ESPERANZA • 816 S. Colorado

Traditional music, games, food and fun for the whole family.  
Preserving Westside culture while remembering our past.



**Música, food, teatro,  
games, films,  
plantitas, and more!**

### Not an Angry Women

by Yon Hui Bell

*Bio:* Yon Hui Bell is an educator, writer, and mother of three.

5 X 22 letterpressed posters of the poem by local artist Leo Lee are available for \$10. Proceeds benefit *Mujeres Marcharan* and the *International Women's Day March*. Contact: yonhuibell@gmail.com