WORDS ON WALLS

is presented in the Del Paso Design District by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission and the Del Paso Boulevard Partnership.
Del Paso Boulevard Art Scene

A painting sprouted legs on Del Paso. It popped in to Mama Kim’s for a bite to eat. “I like your scene,” the server said.

“Thanks!” said the painting: “River, light rail, sycamores, sun…”

Then the painting wanted to see the world. “Go ahead,” said the Boulevard:

“It’s spring: All the stoplights have turned green!” So the painting caught light rail at Del Paso and Arden. “Where to?” asked the driver:

“Round trip,” the painting said.
The Mud Dauber Wasp

She speaks to me about the mud dauber wasp,
reciting all that she learned from Encyclopedia Britannica 1970,
the way it flies across the patio,
moving bits of earth larger than one would imagine.
She watches it build a nest beneath the eaves,
beneath the eaves, a thing of beauty, shining in her eyes.

After We’ve Gone,
Del Paso Boulevard

Here, we know how to resurrect
What others throw away
And hardware lives next to drama.

Our steps ricochet
Down its spine, light stones
Skipping across the grand flow.
The smoke of voices
Lifts from the muddy glint.

The boulevard wants our thoughts
To fall like rain, to rinse
And soothe the dry pain
Of compressed gravel and tar.

Wants our words to drop like petals.
So it can feel their soft sweep
Over pavement, savor the sweet residue
After we’ve gone.
In Scarcity, We Bare the Teeth
In scarcity, we bare the teeth
selling them off one by one
appetites in search of the highest price
no longer able to smile at or chew on
what it means to live the good life.

Boulevard, Del Paso
You silver spark the sapphire-bouquet mind
You fire-forth weeds of stars from asphalt cracks
Opening art’s tender heart, sparkling arks
See your bones rise those orange-iron, air paths
unveiled in October, 2013, was created to fuse the written word and design in a public setting. Poets collaborated with designers to create word-centric art on the blank sides of buildings along Del Paso Boulevard between Arden Way and El Camino Blvd. in Sacramento. The goal of the project is to encourage poets to engage in making art in the public realm and to showcase local graphic artists. “Words on Walls” was also created to realize the goals and vision for creating a district for design and a distinct destination neighborhood.