

Tape: 151

CC 316

Side I Paul Blackburn reading at Bard College,
December 6, 1968.

1-37	O Shake It Up Baby
38-46	Paris and Not Spring Either
47-62	What You Do is Pick 'em Up
63-98	The Expensive Meal
100-115	Off & Running
116-124	Facing South
125-130	Signals 3
131-186	Birds/Amsterdam
187-211	Gin
212-233	talk.
234-237	Train to Amensfoort
238-272	Paris/Toulouse Train
273-293	Musée des Augustins
294-306	Valencia: Winter
307-319	Fog
320-330	The Probability
331-337	Cutting the Mustard
338-354	Malaga: Port
355-377	Che's Death
378-395	The Quality
396-408	As It Ends
409-466	The Net of Place
467-513	Night Cappy
514-end	other poems.

Side II Blackburn reading continued.

1-65	Pre-Lenten Gestures
66-91	Ritual VII
92-99	She Holds His Hand
100-105	L'Orcus
106-135	Faces I
136-155	The Proposition
156-173	So Who Needs Legs, We Do
174-207	Poor Dog
208-330	two Provençal translations.
331-344	City Sunset
345-360	The Interview with F. Scott McNutt
361-402	The Tissues
403-776	other poems.

AN INDEX TO THE PAUL BLACKBURN TAPE COLLECTION

The Paul Blackburn Tape Collection represents one of the great resources to modern literary history. The poet, Paul Blackburn (1926-1971) was, in addition to his talents as poet, translator and editor, a great supporter of an ongoing oral tradition in poetry. He organized and attended poetry readings in New York City during the fifties and sixties at St. Marks, Le Metro, Deux Megots, Max's Kansas City and other bars and clubs. He organized his own poetry radio show, "Contemporary Poetry" on WBAI in New York. And he collected tapes from his friends and from these readings throughout his life, maintaining what is now recognized as one of the largest oral history collections in the country.

At his death in 1971, UCSD purchased Paul Blackburn's entire Archive, including poetry manuscripts, notebooks, letters and his tape collection. Paul Dressman and I have spent the past year listening to all of his tapes, annotating which poets read and which poems are read. We found that there are a wide variety of tapes which fit, more or less, into six categories: 1) whole tapes of Paul Blackburn reading in public and in private; 2) tapes of group readings or lectures in public; 3) recordings of conversations among Blackburn and his friends; 4) recordings made from the radio and television (such significant events as the first Sputnik orbit, the first Moon landing, presidential inaugural speeches, etc.); 5) taped "letters" from friends living in various parts of the world; 6) miscellaneous music and sounds. This latter category is interesting if only for locating the particular city ambiance in which Blackburn lived (and wrote poems) day-to-day.

Michael Davidson
June 23, 1975

Paul Blackburn Audio Collection

Digitized version made available by



Copyright: Under copyright

Use: This work is available from the UC San Diego Library. This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraints: This work is protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires written permission of the copyright holder(s). Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Library. Inquiries can be made to the UC San Diego Library program having custody of the work.

The UC San Diego Library makes effort to ensure that it has appropriate rights to provide access to content through the Digital Collections Website. If you are concerned about the rights or permissions, please review the Notice and Takedown Policy: <https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/p/takedown>.