

Tape: 65

CC 228

Side I            Robert Kelly reading at Le Metro,  
                  July 14, 1965.

1-27             Mudra II  
28-340           At the Foot of the Ladder  
341-463           Bad Poem  
464-539           Cold Canadian Air  
540-567           A Conversation  
568-584           For Phyllis Webb  
585-603           Things Get Names Out  
604-664           untitled  
665-677           Alba Brevis  
678-698           Document of My Family History  
699-789           What I Didn't See  
790-927           Friday the Measure  
928-1,001         Incense  
1,002-1,040       To Paul Blackburn for his Birthday  
1,041-1,076       HiFi in the Ear Doctor's Waiting Room  
1,078-1,179       Seven Propositions About Life  
1,180-1,236       untitled  
1,237-end         blank

Side II            Robert Kelly reading continued.

0- 434            selections from 150 Sections, April 7,  
                  1964--April 5, 1965.

## 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

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