

Tape: 155

CC 318

Side I Berkeley Benefit at St. Marks, May 29, 1969,
with Diane Di Prima, Gerard Malanga, Paul
Blackburn, Lewis Warsh, Michael Brownstein,
Larry Fagin, Bill Berkson, Joel Oppenheimer.

Di Prima
1-15 Geography, U.S.A.
16-20 from Revolutionary Letters.
21-30 Who is He?
31-65 from Revolutionary Letters.

Malanga
67-90 Strike Me a Match, Girl
91-100 Photos of an Artist as a Young Man
101-120 Information for Catholic Travellers
121-145 Poem for an Epigraph

Blackburn
146-166 untitled.
167-174 Combing Her Hair
175-178 untitled.
179-183 Rome is Not a Sad Drunk
184-345 from the Journals.

Warsh
346-360 Flowers
361-392 To Spring

Brownstein
393-395 People
396-398 Rainbow Room
399-416 The Booklets
417-513 others.

Fagin
514-527 Self-Pity, East River
528-540 Dream
541-550 untitled.
551-564 Bolinas
565-605 Last Poem

Berkson
606-609 I Feel Free (collaboration w/ Padgett &
Brownstein).
610-621 Enigma Variations
622-633 In the Glaze
634-660 The Bicycle Thief
661-686 A Turn of the Wheel
687-690 A Simple Weight

Paul Blackburn Tape Collection

Tape: 155 (cont.)

691-737	Oppenheimer
738-785	For My Kids
786-870	A Poem for Children
871-end	thunderstorm sounds.
	Blackburn reading untitled poems with thunder in background.
Side II	Blank.

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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