

Tape: 126

CC 290

Side I Clayton Eshleman reading at St. Marks,
December 14, 1966.

1-148 Chestnuts
149-211 The Fox Hunt
212-556 from Walks
557-644 Sensing Duncan
645-803 Eulogy for Bud Powell
804-928 The Supremes
930-1,011 Martha and the Vandellas

Side II Eshleman reading continued; pop music.

1-53 Bull
54-100 Friends
101-122 Rembrandt's Family
123-262 The Dreyer St. Joan
263-314 Lines for Barbara Baddoe
315-340 Mate
341-348 Ancient Idol
349-362 Prayer
363-373 After Issa
374-399 The Burden
400-410 Slowly We Learn
411-520 Holding Duncan's Hand
521-547 Transmutation
548-569 The Night in the Okamura House
570-604 A Woman Whose Open Eyes
605-693 X Lacrame Mateo
694-700 Red Armor Plated Chakra #'s 6 & 9

701-end pop music.

x Lachrymae

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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