

Tape 6-A

CC 158

- Side I New Jazz for Old; Trobar Magazine presents a reading of Medieval and early Renaissance poetry, read by various poets at Cafe Cino, April 26, 1960*
- 1-38 Musical introduction played by Armand Schwerner (clarinet), Jim Weekes (alto sax) John Balkin (bass); music composed by Jim Weekes.
- 38-51 Ubi Sount qui ante now fuerount; read by George Economou.
- 51-59 Annot and Johan; trans. and read by Robert Kelly.
- 59-65 Wen te turuf; read by George Economou.
- 68-79 Proprietates Mortis; read by Robert Kelly.
- 80-93 Marcabru; trans. and read by Paul Blackburn.
- 94-172 Ab l'alena del vent doussa; trans. and read by Blackburn.
- 172-183 Alysoun; read by George Economou and Robert Kelly.
- 183-232 Music
- 236-243 All Night By the Rose; read by George Economou.
- 243-283 Raimbaut de Vaqueiras; trans. and read by Blackburn.
- 283-305 Monologue of a Drunkard; read by George Economou.
- 305-333 De ramis cadunt folia; trans. and read by Robert Kelly
- 337-383 Guillem de Poitou; Ab lo dolchor del temps novel; trans. and read by Blackburn.
- 383-479 Francesco d'Assisi; Canticle for Brother Sun. trans. and read by Jerome Rothenberg.
- 479-end Session following readings by musicians.

Side II

- 1-611 Continuation of jam session above.

*Details of the poems read, translations, and poets are available on a ditto prepared for the reading which should be contained in the tape box or in the Blackburn Mss. collection in the Archive for New Poetry.

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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