

Tape: 131

cc 294

Side I Fielding Dawson and Ross Feld reading at
St. Marks, February 1, 1967.

1-125 1st Story
1260225 from The Book of Letters
226-362 The Cabbages
363-569 from An Emotional Memoir of Franz Kline

Feld
575-623 To Linnaeus
624-650 A Christmas Poem for Cory
651-704 The War in Winter
705-735 Envy
736-766 For Joe
767-826 Fortune
827-877 A Chill Misery
878-949 A New Year's Ode
950-1,017 A History of the Middle Ages

Side II Fielding Dawson continued.

1-122 At the Bar
123-175 The Panel
176-186 The Hat
187-209 Comic Strips
210-237 The Fire
238-270 Jackson's Death
271-440 Bradley Tomlin's Wake
441-907 Philip Guston's Opening
910-end further reading from Kline book.

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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