

Tape: 149

CC 314

Side I James Koller reading at St. Marks,
January 29, 1969

1-34 The Deer/ Out of the Trees/ Downhill
35-60 Lightning/ Come Home
61-80 We Came Out of that City Like We Meant
to Stay Out
81-106 I Crawled Over
107-153 Mars/ Opalescent Orange
154-184 We Change to Keep All Else the Same
185-343 Crow Song Nagasawa (Japanese--French--
English translation).
344-436 Variations on Sioux Indian songs.
709-837 Snow on Mt. St. Helena
838-890 Born at Night in Red-trim Blue Shoes
891-932 I Went to See My True Love
933-1,077 Sorry, Lady, the Train Just Left
1,078-1,151 Poem for Yellow Hair
1,152-1,170 So Early to Wake
1,171-end Well, if It Ain't Wolftit

Side II Koller reading continued.

1-38 Radio Poem
39-54 That Fool on the Bicycle
55-104 Brainard/ Washington St. Poems
105-182 After the Rain & Before the Sun
183-242 Gang Bang: A Group Showing
243-280 How Many Maggots
281-end 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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