THE POETRY PROJECT NEWSLETTER No. 1 December 1972

Ron Padgett, Editor St. Mark's Church, 2nd Avenue & Tenth St., New York 10003

Next month Grove Press, under the Zebra Books imprint, will issue the remarkably wonderful pornographic novel **Two Suspicious Girls** by Katie Mitchell (Katie Schneeman and Tessie Mitchell), a book which Edwin Denby has called "one of the masterpieces of English and American literature."

Fits Editions (c/o Hilton Obenzinger, 3617 23rd St., San Francisco 94110) recently issued a sort of tiny Classic Comic newspaper, The Attic Sentinel, whose headline reads, "Prometheus Bound Over." It is the work of David Anderson, a very talented, interesting and almost completely unpublished young prose writer. "Prometheus Bound Over" has funny illustrations by Nancy Senauke. It sells for 10¢ plus 10¢ postage.

Johnny Stanton's Siamese Banana Press, after a brilliant underground publishing history, has apparently bit the dust, or, as Stanton puts it, "It got bruised and deep rot set in." The bruise was financial. In addition to the delightful Siamese Banana, the newsletter of the Rhinelander Boys' Club, where Stanton is athletic supervisor, the Press issued the following titles, which are still available for \$1 each from Stanton at 325 E. 89, New York City: The Banana Book by Joe Brainard, The Cigarette Book by Joe Brainard, The Friendly Way by Joe Brainard, Lord Scum's Hotel by Don Weingarten, Mouse Works by Rebecca Brown, Under Western Eyes by David Anderson, and self Portrait by Anne Waldman and Joe Brainard. Now out of print are Death College by Tom Veitch and Madness in Literature by Keith Cohen. The final title, A Little Anthology of Surrealist Poems (Breton, Eluard, Char, Peret, Tzara, Artaud, Soupault, Desnos, Aragon and Arp), edited and translated by Paul Auster and with a cover by George Schneeman, has just appeared.

Stanton, Anderson, Cohen and Veitch are, among others, prose writers who merit greater attention than they have been getting.

Coach House Press, 401 Huron St. (rear), Toronto 181, Ontario, Canada, whew, has just published Lewis Warsh's very beautiful book Part of My History. Price \$4.

Horizon Press will soon publish Edwin Denby's novel Mrs. W's Last Sandwich. This entertaining book, with the astonishing flair for style and strength that characterizes Denby's dance criticism, was written in the 1930's and originally entitled Scream in a Cave. Poet Ted Berrigan unearthed it and it was then read in manuscript by many of Denby's poet-friends, who urged him to publish it.

George Schneeman is having two exhibitions this season. The first, of small Pentel landscapes and barnyard views, will open on December 9 (2-6 pm) and continue through December 23 (hours uncertain at this writing), at Holly Solomon's 98 Greene St. Loft, New York City. Loft phone 966-7673. On December 21 at 9 pm Ted Berrigan, Michael Brownstein, Steve Katz, Maureen Owen, Ron Padgett, Dick Gallup, Anne Waldman, Lewis Warsh, Larry Fagin and Peter Schjeldahl will give a reading at the Loft in honor of the exhibition, a reading of Nature Poems. Schneeman's second show, at the Fischbach Gallery, 29 W. 57, New York City, is scheduled for the spring of 1973.

Kenward Elmslie is completing the book and lyrics for his musical adaptation of Chekov's play *The Seagull*, the premiere of which will take place in the fall of 1973.

The Poetry Project will publish a new issue of *The World* magazine in late January. In the meantime free writing workshops are being held at the St. Mark's Church, Tuesdays with Bernadette Mayer, Thursdays with Steve Malmude, Fridays with Lorenzo Thomas, all at 8:30 pm. in the workshop room, which has been totally cleaned out, painted white and polished by a volunteer gang of fastidious poets.

The Poetry Project also sponsors Open Readings in the Parish Hall of the Church every Monday evening at 7:30. Jayne Nodland is mistress of ceremonies.

The 8:30 Wednesday night readings are continuing in the nave of the Church. Here is a tentative schedule of forthcoming readings (for confirmation see the back page of *The Village Voice* or phone the Poetry Project office): December 6: Charles Reznikoff. December 13: Nicanor Parra (bilingual reading). December 20: Sonia Sanchez. December 27: no reading. January 3: Robert Kelley.

The office of the Poetry Project (phone 674-0910) is open from 1-4 pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and at other random times.

The Poetry Project Newsletter, of which this is the first issue, will appear monthly. Readers are invited to contribute information interesting, relevant or useful to poets and friends of poetry.

The first issue of L magazine, handsomely printed, priced at \$2, edited by Curtis Faville, with poems by Philip Whalen, James Schuyler, Dave Morice, Barrett Watten, James Koller and Donald Justice, among others, has just appeared. Address: 2835 Prince St., Berkeley, Calif. \$4705.

The winner of the 1972 Frank O'Hara Award for Poetry is John Koethe. His book will be published by Columbia University Press for the O'Hara Foundation in the spring or fall of 1973.