

THE POETRY PROJECT NEWSLETTER

No. 18

1 Oct. 1974

Bill Mac Kay, editor  
St. Mark's Church, 2nd Avenue  
& Tenth St., New York 10003

The ninth season of extraordinary activities at The Poetry Project begins with a series of Monday night open readings in the Parish Hall hosted by Ed Friedman. September 30th and October 7th will be open readings, the entire populace invited. Watch the Voice for announcements of subsequent performances.

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Wednesday night readings open, Oct. 2, with Bobbie Louise Hawkins (Creeley) and Lewis Warsh. Rumbblings in the cyclotron continue with Bernadette Mayer and Mona da Vinci (Oct. 9); Diane DiPrima, Grant Fisher, & family: Mini, Tara & Alex (Oct. 16); (tentatively) Robert Creeley (Oct. 23); Bill Knott and Aram Saroyan (Oct. 30), and (tentatively) William Everson (Nov. 6). Readings begin at 8:30 p.m. There is a contribution of one dollar.

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Latest addition to our humble planet earth is 8 lb. 10 ounce Edmund Joseph Berrigan. "Alice is fine. I am a lunatic.- Ted".

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Michael Benedikt and Ron Padgett provide the sustenance at the Paris Review reading, noon, Wednesday, October 16, at the downtown, repeat the downtown branch of the Whitney Museum, 55 Water Street.

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Robert Kelly, George Quasha, Jerome Rothenberg, Armand Schwerner, and Chuck Stein will participate in Mantra: A Series of Poetry Readings, on Saturday, September 28, 8 p.m. at the Dharmadhatu Loft, 78 Fifth Avenue. Other readings in the works include some blockbusters: Lewis Hyde, Galway Kinnell, Maureen Owen (Oct. 12); Diane Di Prima, Allen Ginsberg, John Wieners (Oct. 19); Russell Edson, Bill Knott, Rochelle Ratner, Charles Simic, James Tate (Oct. 25); Diane Wakoski, W. S. Merwin, Greg Orr (Nov. 10). For information on locations, times, etc., drop a card to Poetry Readings, Dharmadhatu, 331 West 20th Street, N.Y.C. 10011, or simply dial (212) 989-3981.

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A new round of free writing workshop begins at the Poetry Project during the first week in October: Mondays, 8 p.m. with Charles North; Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m. with Lewis Warsh; and a Thursday workshop at 8:30 p.m. to be conducted by a rotating group of poet/writers, the merry-go-round including Ed Friedman, Bernadette Mayer, Peter Stamos, Anne Waldman and others. All meetings are held in the workshop room, through the doors to the left of the main entrance to the church.

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Anyone wishing to sell Christmas trees part-time for two weeks should call Ron Padgett, 477-4472, afternoons or evenings.

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Anne Waldman and Charles Plymell will be featured in a Barnard College reading, Sept. 26. Other poets scheduled by Michael Andre include William Burroughs and John Giorno (Oct.3); Erica Jong (Oct.10); Robert Creeley (Oct.24); Ruth Whitman and (tentatively) Aram Saroyan (Oct.31); and David Shapiro and Tony Towle (Nov.7). An open reading is slated Oct. 17. All readings held Thursdays, 8 p.m., at Barnard Hall, 117th & Broadway. Take an IRT #1 to 116th St. A dollar contribution.

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Disconnected: The Dial-A-Poem Poets, a two-record set, produced and directed by Giorno Poetry Systems, is available for \$6.98 from Giorno, 222 Bowery, N.Y.C. 10012. No amateur hour, this; appearances by Amirkhanian, Ashbery, Baraka, Berkson, Blackburn, Brainard, Brownstein, Burroughs, Cage, Carroll, Clark, Coolidge, Corso, Creeley, DiPrima, Dorn, Fagin, Ginsberg, Giorno, Lima, McClure, Malanga, Mayer, O'Hara, Olson, Orlovsky, Owen, Padgett, Perreault, Plymell, Sanders, Spicer, Thomas, Rinpoche, Wakoski, Waldman, Whalen, Wieners.

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Yvonne Jacquette will show hand-colored prints, opening October 16 at Brooke Alexander, 26 E. 78th Street, N.Y.C.

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Anyone wishing to contribute articles on teaching poetry-writing should send them to Bill Zavatsky, 456 Riverside Drive, New York City 10027, for possible publication in The Whole Word Catalogue 2, which will be brought out by Teachers & Writers Collaborative.

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Books enjoyed, recommended by Clark Coolidge: Tangier Buzzless Flies by John Hopkins (Atheneum); Pentimento by Lillian Hellman (Little Brown); The Great Dirigibles: Their Triumphs & Disasters by John Toland (Dover); The Johnstown Flood by David G. McCullough (Simon & Schuster); The Vertical World of Yosemite, edited by Galen A. Rowell (Wilderness Press); and Things Stirring Together or Far Away by Larry Eigner (Black Sparrow).

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Unmuzzled Ox 8/9 will be a Japanese notebook by Gregory Corso called Earth Egg, consisting of eight short poems and an unfolding drawing. Yours for \$2.50 from Unmuzzled Ox, Box 374, N.Y.C. 10024. Ready late October.

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Adventures in Poetry 11 is ready now, features long works by Ebbe Borregaard, Bruce Boyd, Joe Ceravolo, Clark Coolidge, Fielding Dawson, Michael McClure, Ron Padgett, James Schuyler, Tony Towle, Anne Waldman, Jon Wieners, and Padgett's translation of Guillaume Apollinaire's "Zone". A cover by Rory McEwen. Two dollars, fifty cents from Larry Fagin, 437 East 12th Street, N.Y.C. 10009. A new catalogue

available on request.

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The Bookstore Press, Lenox, Mass., has published The Street, an autobiographical novel by Aram Saroyan. Cover by Gailyn. Two dollars and fifty cents.

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Ron Padgett and Peter Schjeldahl will read at The Poetry Center at San Francisco State College, 12:30 p.m., Halloween. Sure.

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Early in 1975, The Ferry Press will publish Charles Reznikoff's Testimony: The United States 1891-1910. Readers of the sister volume, the astonishing Testimony: The United States 1885-1890 will want to subscribe to a limited signed edition of this 260 page work. Those able to should send fifteen dollars or five pounds to The Ferry Press, 177 Green Lane, London SE9.

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Larry Fagin, who never uses the word "brat", is Poet-in-Residence this month at the Alfred I. DuPont School District in Wilmington, Delaware. He will teach reading, writing, and teaching.

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Hotels, written by John Wieners and graced by a Gordon Baldwin cover is purchasable at many bookshops or from Angel Hair, Box 257, Peter Stuyvesant Station, N.Y.C. 10009.

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The Cold Spring Journal No.2 is available for a dollar bill from Cherry Valley Editions, Box 303, Cherry Valley, N.Y. 13320. Edited by Charles & Pam Plymell and Joshua Norton, the little brown magazine features pieces by Maureen Owen, Lyn Lifshin, Janine Pommy-Vega, Claude Pelieu, Anne Waldman, John Giorno, Bill Bathurst and others. Also offered are West 29th Street by Joshua Norton, a Barbara Holland Pamphlet and a reprint of Roxie Powell's amazing & till now almost invisible Dreams of Straws. Also a dollar.

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A series of lectures organized by Bernadette Mayer will begin later this month. Anyone with bright ideas for lectures/lecturers should contact Bernadette, c/o The Poetry Project, or call 674-0910.

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Stan Brakhage responding to his clogged mailbox: "What is now needed IS some lit. mag. editor who'll soon be recognized as most snob/meanest sonsza- and/or bitch this side of the Pecos beCAUSE he/she'll print only what they'd (hopefully more'n one) be willing to carve on their own tombstones. (Historical punt intended)"

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The Bolinas Book by Aram Saroyan is expected soon from Other Publications, c/o Davies, 68 Downer Ave., Dorchester, Mass. 02125. Meanwhile, the first issue of Occulist Witnesses, with work by Jonathan Cott, Gerard Malanga, Lewis MacAdams, Larry Fagin, John Wieners, Bill Corbett, John Yau, Richard Dillon, Lewis Warsh, Aram Saroyan, and editor Alan Davies, is available for \$1.50 from the same address.

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John Ashbery is teaching at Brooklyn College.

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George Schneeman broke three fingers on his left hand and fractured his right elbow in a bicycle accident.

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Larry Fagin tore every (other) muscle fibre in his right calf while frolicking in the surf at Southampton.

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Clark Coolidge came down with a severe sore throat and had to cancel his reading at San Francisco's Intersection.

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Pitcher Scipio Spinks is nursing a groin injury.

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Ron Padgett suggests the bilingual Selected Poems by Fernando Pessoa, tr. by Peter Rickard, (U. Texas, \$2.25).

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Gerard Malanga is now acquisitions editor at Freeway Press. Among his first acquisitions are Ali: Fighter\*Poet\*Prophet by Bockris-Wylie and Dracula Lives! by Andrei Codrescu. His upcoming list also includes American Indian Witchcraft Tales, an anthology edited by Gerald Hausman, and Rod McKuen, an intimate profile by Aram Saroyan. Each book is designed as a mass-market paperpack and printed in an edition of 100,000 copies.

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The final 1974 issue of the unspeakable visions of the individual will be a massive (8 1/2 x 11, 200 pp.) Beat Book. Editors Art & Glee Knight have gathered original work from Ginsberg, Burroughs, Holmes, Corso, Whalen, Orlovsky, Snyder, Solomon, McClure, Kerouac, Carolyn Cassady, and even more. Not to mention interviews, 75 pp. of visuals (new McDarrah and Dorfman photos, for instance), and travel logs and letters. An act of theft at the \$5.00 pre-publication price. P.O. Box 439, California, Pennsylvania 15419.

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Broadway Boogie No.2 (Spring-Summer 1974) subtitled itself Ploughing on Sunday, features extracts from Gauguin, Captain John Smith, Francis Parkman, works by Rochelle Owens, Harry Lewis, Toby Olson, Paul Metcalf, George Economou, Armand Schwerner, editor Mark Weiss, and others. A dollar fifty from Weiss, 2680 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025.

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Recent Black Sparrow releases include Tom Clark's Blue (\$3.00) with a title poem & cover photo of Vida, everyone's favorite pitcher; Thirty Things (\$3.00) by Robert Creeley, with monoprints by Bobbie; Charles Bukowski's Burning in Water Drowning in Flame (\$4.00), selected poems from fifteen years, and Tight Corners & What's Around Them: Prose & Poems (\$4.00) by David Bromige. Traceable to many bookstores or from Black Sparrow Press, P.O. Box 25603, Los Angeles, California 90025.

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Sixpack 7/8 is a "Paul Blackburn Issue" with poems or tributes by Abrams, Corman, Dawson, Eshleman, Ginsberg, Hollo, Kelly, MacLow, Mottram, Oppenheimer, Owens, Quasha, Rothenberg, Sorrentino, Waldman, Williams, to name a few of the forty contributors. Most impressive though are the previously uncollected works by Blackburn himself, particularly his translations from the Provencal of Marcabru. This issue, four dollars. Stateside address: Box 158, Lake Toxaway, North Carolina 28747. Yonder: 19 Deal Road, London, S.W. 17 9JW, U.K.

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There will be an exhibit of photographs of poets and writers by Gerard Malanga opening Monday, Oct. 21st thru Saturday, November 23rd at the Gotham Book Mart Gallery, 41 West 47th St. Each photograph will be in a limited, signed edition of ten prints.

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Michael Brownstein's first novel, Country Cousins, a Venture Book published by George Braziller & Co., will be out by November 4. The cover is by Red Grooms. Cloth, \$7.95.

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Readers of the Newsletter are encouraged to contribute brief reviews of books, poetry readings, art exhibits, movies, plays, vaudeville comedy, records, concerts, ethnic restaurants, etc. Also consumer reports, political insights, recipes, jokes, lists, insults, recommendations of your favorite whatever. Letters to the editor are welcome. Free classified ads (especially those pertaining to apartments and exchanges of services) will be accepted as space permits. Preference will be given to the most timely, useful, and kinky items.

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This month's Prescience Award to Benjamin Disraeli: "Some grimy ruffians had thrown themselves with disdainful delight on the satin couches and the state beds: others rifled the cabinets with an idea that they must be full of money, and finding little in their way, had strewn their contents, papers and books, and

works of art, over the floors of the apartments; sometimes a band who had escaped from below with booty came up to consummate their orgies in the magnificence of the dwelling-rooms. Among these were Nixon and his friends, who stared at the pictures and stood before the tall mirrors with still greater astonishment. Indeed, many of them had never seen an ordinary looking-glass in their lives....Many of these last grew frantic and finished their debauch by the destruction of everything around them." --Sybil, 1845.

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Depression, phlebitis, my foot. He doesn't want to even mingle with the truth.

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Bobbie Louise Hawkins shows monoprints at Gotham Book Mart, 41 W. 47 St., September 30 through October 19.

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David Meltzer's latest collection is Blue Rags from Oyez (Berkeley) @ \$1.50.

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The Second Hurricane: A Play for High School Performance with music by Aaron Copland and a libretto by Edwin Denby is available on Columbia Special Products-Stereo MS 6181, Leonard Bernstein, New York Phil., with the Chorus of High School of Music and Art in New York City. (Dayton's, 12th & Broadway, reports a sudden rush on their \$1.79 copies.)

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Stooge #11 showcases pieces by Tom Clark, Kenward Elmslie, Opal L. Nations, Lyn Lifshin, Gus Blaisdell, Bill McCord, Douglas Blazek, Rochelle Owens and Christine Zawadiwsky. Editors Geoffrey Young and Laura Chester charge a dollar fifty for their wares, or (better yet) \$6 for a four issue subscription. Mailing address is 4063 Petit Road, Oconomowoc Lake, Wisconsin 53066.

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When Rebecca Brown returned from Jane DeLynn's "Hoosick Falls", she exclaimed, "Her beautiful languid ladies, energetic whore and celebrity, hetero and homo sexual men were superficial people juggling profundities or profound people juggling profundities or profound people juggling tinsel." Then she continued, "This is the first modern romantic musical comedy. Jane realizes both the dazzle and the darkness of the people who are escaping from the sixties right now back toward the memories of some gentler age with total cynicism, away from boring intensity and intense bores." No one disagreed.

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Among recent Big Sky publications number Tales of Virtue and Transformation (\$1.50) by Jim Gustafson, with a cover by Greg Iron; David Anderson's The Spade in the Sensorium (\$1.50), with a Philip Guston cover; The Life (\$1.50) by Ted Greenwald, with a Richard Nonas cover and Crazy Compositions (\$2.00) by Ron Padgett,

fronted by a George Schneeman drawing. Big Sky 8 is already overdue, so I won't tempt you now with a list of its myriad contributors. Big Sky walks the streets as Bill Berkson and can receive missives at Box 272, Bolinas, California.

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Cassette tapes are available of the following poets: Ed English, Tommy Trantino, Jack Micheline, Neeli Cherry, and Irving Stettner, each reading from his own work. The tapes run 30-60 minutes. \$7.50 @ (postage included) from Travelling Voices, 72 Thompson St., N.Y.C. 10013.

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Anne Waldman spent some of the summer teaching "Spiritual Poetics" at the Naropa Institute in Boulder, sharing a duplex w/swimming pool, hot running water with roommate-fellow instructor Allen Ginsberg. As course highlights, Anne mentions Allen reading Kerouac's Mexico City Blues choruses "with great glee", Diane DiPrima reminiscing, leading her brood in a family reading, but neglects to note her own thunder-striking rendition of "Fast Speaking Woman".

Between such peaks were lively discussions with ninety students, a seminar enhanced by tapes of Stein, Stevens, Williams, Whalen, Sanders, etc. Among other poets visiting Naropa were George Quasha, Jackson MacLow and Armand Schwerner, Jack Collum (who lives there) and Lewis MacAdams.

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The editor recommends The Annals of the Cakchiquels - Title of the Lords of Totonicapan (U. of Oklahoma, \$2.95), translated by Adrian Recinos and Delia Goetz.

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C'mon, kids, the jig's up. We need your crisp greenback if you want to continue receiving the Newsletter. The Post Office demands it. I demand it. Send those loaves & fishes c/o The Project with you name, address and zip code.

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a man of letters une poeme moderne purred back his young American friend  
am sure control machine gives you pain lighted length of time hysterical re  
actions for he had a mouth injury one ugly story related pretty baby please  
the countess inert and repulsive approached some entrail throw latterly in  
exorable down spiral modest obscene old man of letters placebo tablet the  
druggist pushed into the electric psychiatrist fierce as the desert vulture  
sniffed the cocaine up viciosos something of an ancient cave painting with  
human blood has been found interesting theory from the shop keeper he purred  
out eyes narrowed to grey slits why that's deadlier than cocaine suck  
riches from phosphorescent stumps a good claret yes sir oui oui Beaujolais  
on the darkened dance floor flickering closer with the knife people die  
believe it very long and before that most of them do how the recipe discreetly  
seasoned fell into our hands I don't know Japanese person sometimes le comte  
emitted a sharp cold bray of laughter died when their batteries an inch from  
the wall he enjoys quality job you're fired gave out a son malheur his foot  
men stepped closer pretty little blue eyed teen ager pass it on craps last  
house mountain lake the Spack around and maybe boy holds up a string of trout



William S. Burroughs

THE POETRY PROJECT  
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TO Philip Whelan  
Zen Center  
300 Page Street  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

First Class Mail