

THE POETRY PROJECT NEWSLETTER

No. 14

1 April 1974

Bill MacKay, editor

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

Michael McClure roared & whispered. Allen Ginsberg vibrated from crown of head to sole of foot with tender evocative 20th Century blakean incantation. Un-scheduled, Gregory Corso simply undressed, streaked. The March 13th benefit at St. Mark's was unrepeatable, a success in every way. With the Church rafters-deep in people, \$450 graced the Poetry Project poor box.

And, not least of all, our sound system worked.

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Apparently, neither McClure nor Ginsberg know the meaning of the phrase, "resting on one's laurels", either poetic or otherwise. New Directions has just published McClure's September Blackberries (\$3.25), while Black Sparrow offers his Rare Angel (\$4.00). Ginsberg, with three or four books brewing, finds time to defend Daniel Berrigan on television, praise Lennon & ono in Changes & keep his eyes peeled for the ghost of John Foster Dulles. In addition, Grey Fox Press of Bolinas presents his no-holds-barred Gay Sunshine Interview (\$1.95).

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William Burroughs, and John Giorno with an appearance programed for April 24, tops the list of upcoming readers at the Church. Also on the agenda are Jerome Rothenberg with the New Kabbalah Blues Band (April 3); Kathy Fraser & Lorenzo Thomas (April 10); and Glen Baxter & Richard Snow (April 17). Joanne Kyger & Tony Towle will be the May Day readers, followed a week later (May 8) by Simon Schuchat & Rebecca Brown.

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The December issue of the Newsletter carried a birth announcement that was, at best, offensive. To the parents in question, Aram & Gailyn Saroyan, I offer my sincere, overdue apologies.

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Milk Quarterly #6 is the best ever, filled with pleasing things from saints & strangers: Gerard Malanga, John Wieners, Bob Rosenthal, Tom Veitch, Aram Saroyan, Eugene Wildman, Bill Knott, Peter Kostakis, etc. Not to mention the results of the Frank Sinatra-look-alike contest. One dollar or (better yet) four dollars for a year's subscription from 7724 N. Marshfield, Chicago, Ill. 60626.

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Anne Waldman flashing, unfurling through Great Britain. Sightings reported at Poetry Society, Hull U., Cambridge Tech., Essex U., Newcastle, Glasgow Arts Council, B.B.C., elsewhere. In between readings, writings, geographical arithmetic, Anne

The  
exotic ti  
Rejuvenat  
Moore's tr

visits the 3 1/2 Berrigans at Wivenhoe, Essex. Her whirlwind tour ends any day now

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The Dr. Generosity's Poetry Pub calendar lists Eleanor Keats, William Talen, and Virginia Terris (April 6); an open reading (April 13); Milton Kessler and Ed Ochester (April 20); and on April 27th, the Bard bard, Robert Kelly. Recent readers have included Paul Violi, Diane Wakoski, and Jack Gilbert. These Saturday afternoon affairs begin at 3 p.m. Second Avenue, corner 73rd Street. Dress, informal.

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Karma Circuit (Panjandrum, \$2.00) pinpoints Harold Norse's talents as a seismologist. Panjandrum Press, by the way, is at 99 Sanchez St., San Francisco, California 94114.

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Red Grooms is in Caracas.

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Morris Golde is in South America.

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The Robert Dash show at Far Gallery (746 Madison Ave., 734-7287) is nearly over, so hurry. Characteristically varied. Until April 6.

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"A Festival of Women's Poetry", sponsored by the Manhattan Theatre Club (321 E. 73), continues Sunday, April 7, with Diane Di Prima, June Jordan, and Marge Piercy. Suzanne Benton, Kathleen Fraser and Martha Shelley perform April 14. On the 21st, Naomi Lazard, Audre Lorde, and Judith Johnson Sherwin will be featured. The bar opens at 7:30, the show starts at 8. For information or reservations, call 288-2500.

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Visitors to Space City should check out the Monday night poetry series at The Public Works (2009 Grant St., Houston, Texas 77004).

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Rochelle Owens will be reading her poetry April 20 at The Women's Interart Center, 549 W. 52, at 8 p.m.

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Publishers of little magazines & other lilliputian works should send sample copies to Cronopios Bookstore (27 N. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002), from all reports an excellent bookshop despite its small budget.

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Y day NOW  
The Menard Press (A.B. Rudolf, 1 Primrose Gardens, London, NW3 4UJ) offers such exotic tidbits as the first English translation of Kabbalist Carlo Suares' Genesis Rejuvenated; Chapter 42 & The Goldfinch by Nadezhda & Osip Mandelstam; and Nicholas Moore's translation of Baudelaire's Spleen. Each, \$3.50.

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Out There #3 spotlights work by Ted Berrigan, Tom Veitch, John Wieners, Bernadette Mayer, Simon Schuchat, Barry Schechter, Andrei Codrescu, and others. Sandwiched between baby blue covers by Rochelle Kraut. One dollar in bookstores or train stations everywhere, or from editor Neil Hackman, 6711 N. Sheridan, Chicago, Ill, 60626.

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The Tuesday noon poetry series at the School of Visual Arts continues under John Perreault's auspices. Michael Benedikt & Jack Anderson will perform April 2. After a week's recess, Anne Waldman & Michael Brownstein will appear April 16, followed by Bernadette Mayer & Jackson MacLow (April 23), and Frank Lima & Joe Ceravolo (April 30). In the Amphitheater; bring a Christian.

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People interested in the words & misdeeds of the San Clemente Kid should consult The Offenses of Richard M. Nixon (Quadrangle/N.Y. Times, \$3.00), virtually a lawyer's brief for the impeachment or indictment of our beloved President.

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Just out, The Ant's Forefoot 12 is Rebecca Wright's Brief Lives, a collection of long poems. Compelling. Also still available are The Ant's Forefoot 10 (Desnos' Night of Loveless Nights, tr. by Lewis Warsh) and 11 (David Rosenberg's The Necessity of Poetry). Two dollars apiece at the usual bookstores, or from editor Rosenberg, 29 St. Mark's Place, N.Y.C. 10003.

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Jim Brodey, Barbara Baracks, Bruce Andrews, and Opal L. Nations are just a few of the contributors to Keith Abbott's lighthearted Blue Suede Shoes (\$1.00). Abbott is also responsible for the two-faced Face by Michael-Sean Lazarchuk/ Chocolate Winter? by Michael Sowl, titles subtly joined by three tiny staples. Two dollars everywhere, including 1146 Sutter, Berkeley, California 94707.

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The Poetry Project offers three free workshops each week. These are orchestrated by John Godfrey (Monday, 7:00 p.m.), Bernadette Mayer (Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.) and Lewis Warsh (Thursday, 8:30 p.m.). For information, in Manhattan, call 674-0910.

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In addition, Ms. Mayer conducts a Friday night lecture, this month starring Tristan Tzara (April 5), and Charles Morrow (April 19). 8 p.m.

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Ed Friedman organizes performances, held Monday evenings at 8:15 p.m. in the parish hall. This month's line-up: Nancy Ancrum, Rochelle Bijou, and Susan Howe (April 8); Charlotte Hastings, Alfonso Pafaza, Ronna Page, and John Burnette Payne (April 15); Barbara & Dennis Tedlock (April 22); not to forget Howard Sage, Edward Lopez, and Doug Unger (April 29). The first Monday of each month is consumed with an open reading.

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The latest issue of Fervent Valley (#3) delivers. Editors Larry Goodell & Gus Blaisdell have gathered work from Steve Rodefer, Charlie Vermont, Fielding Dawson, Li Shang-yin, Tom Raworth, and others. All yours for a buck fifty from Duende Press, Box 571, Placitas, New Mexico 87043.

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Io/19, subtitled "Mind, Memory, Psyche", is bunches of fun. Among the contributors number Charles Olson, Kathy Acker, Robert Duncan, Gerard Malanga, Robert Bertholf, Anselm Hollo, Ed Dorn, and others. Four dollars & fifty cents from RFD #2, Box 135, Plainfield, Vermont 05667, or at reputable bookshops everywhere. (Parenthetically, editor Richard Grossinger is still diving for material for the Vermont issue, as well as additional work specifically on dreams for the Dream Issue. Take heed.)

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Bernadette Mayer reads to Steve Katz's class at Queens College, Monday, April 22, 8 p.m. Take the F train.

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A major event in the world of poetry will take place in Chicago on April 22 when Bill Knott (1940-1966) and Tom Raworth read at the Body Politic. Free at any price.

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Stooge #9 showcases the wares of Anselm Hollo, Laura Chester, Clayton Eshleman, Michael Brownstein, Lyn Lifshin, Kenward Elmslie, Tom Clark, Russell Edson, Joe Brainard, Howard McCord, Geoffrey Young, and others. One dollar & one half. Fanmail to 4063 Petit Road, Oconomowoc Lake, Wisconsin 53066.

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When in Vancouver attend the Monday night readings at the Western Front (303 E. 8). Poets in residence this month include Fred Wah, David Cull, George Bowering, Frank Davey, and Lionel Kearns.

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Geronimo Press (126 Washington Place, N.Y.C.) offers Erje Ayden's novel of New York, The People of Imprisoned City (\$5.00).

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p.m. in  
and Susan  
ohn Burnette  
Howard Sage

Michael Brownstein, Larry Fagin and Tony Towle will read poems & answer personal questions at the Museum of Modern Art April 14. Others sharing the somewhat crowded stage will be Ted Greenwald, Peter Schjeldahl and Paul Violi (April 11); and John Ashbery, Dick Gallup and Ron Padgett (April 18). In the Founder's Room. No additional charge, whatever that means.

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Horsemeat by Jeff Weiss is currently in rehearsal at Theatre Genesis. Synopsis: Earl Butz, an American billionaire, swallows a diseased nickel, faces death, finds love, suffers a broken heart, goes on a journey, undergoes transformations, including an audience with God. Need I say more? The play opens April 11 and runs Thursday thru Sunday till May 5. Reservations, 533-4650, Wednesday thru Sunday 3-7.

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The inaptly titled Rhymes of a Jerk by Larry Fagin will be published April 29 by the Kulchur Foundation. A pleasure in mss. Cover by Edward Ruscha.

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Among participants at City Lights Conference in Grand Forks, North Dakota, were unknowns Snyder, Ginsberg, Ferlinghetti, McClure, Orlovsky, Corso, Rexroth, etc. Miriam Patchen read from the work of her late husband, many of whose paintings were on exhibit.

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"Smilin' through. When Julie broke her toe a couple of years ago, she refused to let it dampen her spirit. She's always ready to go to bat for Dad, no matter how trivial the the task---like autographing balloons, for instance." Courtesy, New York Daily News.

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FIRST POETRY STREAK

GREGORY CORSO

your naked

torso

is not a bore.

so

here you are

streaking

(cont.)

at St. Marx!

(You're even in good shape.)

We're larks

of prestige.

We're grapes

speeding past

at 50,000 miles per hour

with our noses

in the press!

The stars forget to dress

and they run naked

as an ape

or cherub

through all the old

cathedrals.

Death to doldrums,

there goes mooning,

beamy

Corso!

- - Michael McClure - -

THE POETRY PROJECT  
St. Mark's Church  
Second Ave. & Tenth St.  
NY, NY 10003



TO

Phil Whalen!

c/o Zen Center

300 Page Street

SAN FRANCISCO CALIF

FIRST CLASS MAIL