
Finding aid for the "Beatitude" #32 publication records 6147

Sue Luftschein

USC Libraries Special Collections

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Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Title: "Beatitude" #32 publication records

creator: May, Nathan

creator: Blue, Janice, 1942-

creator: Cherkovski, Neeli

creator: Collins, Louis

creator: Corso, Gregory

creator: Doyle, Kirby

creator: Gach, Gary

creator: Harris, Latif, 1940-

creator: Hart, Howard, 1927-

creator: Hirschman, Jack

creator: Iverson, Roderick

creator: Kaufman, Bob

creator: Koch, Michael

creator: Landry, Paul, 1937-1993

creator: Legoff, Christine

creator: Maher, William Cody

creator: McDonough, Kaye, 1943-

creator: Micheline, Jack, 1929-1998

creator: Mueller, Jack

creator: Nicosia, Gerry

creator: Plumb, David, 1940-

creator: Polak, Bill

creator: Rogers, Bob

creator: Sauer, Ronald, 1963-

creator: Walden, Tisa

creator: Williamson, Bear

Identifier/Call Number: 6147

Physical Description: 1.79 Linear Feet 1 box

Date (inclusive): 1980-1982

Abstract: The "Beatitude" #32 publication records, 1980-1982, consists of typescripts, drawings, notes, and mockups for issue number 32 of "Beatitude", the San Francisco magazine of beat poetry. Drafts of poems by Janice Blue, Neeli Cherkovski, Louis Collins, Gregory Corso, Kirby Doyle, Gary Gach, Latif Harris, Howard Hart, Jack Hirschman, Roderick Iverson, Bob Kaufman, Michael Koch, Paul Landry, Christine Legoff, William Maher, Kaye McDonough, Jack Micheline, Jack Mueller, Gerry Nicosia, David Plumb, Bill Polak, Bob Rogers, Ronald Sauer, Tisa Walden, Bear Williamson, and 4 unidentified poems (not included in the issue) are included, many of them signed by the poet, with notes to the publisher, and/or with annotations by the poet. Also included are mock ups and printer's masking sheets, and a flyer for a benefit for the issue. "Beatitude" was a weekly magazine of poetry founded by Bob Kaufman, John Kelley, William Margolis, and Alan Ginsberg in San Francisco in 1959. The founders envisioned the magazine as a voice for new and unknown (as opposed to established) poets of the time, and it was successful in launching the careers of many young aspiring poets. Designed with simple formats, using mimeographed sheets stapled together with a front cover printed on construction paper, they sold for 20 or 30 cents per issue. The first 8 were published weekly at 14 Bannam Alley; the remainder were published monthly at the Bread and Wine Mission, 510 Greenwich Street.

Storage Unit: 1

Biographical / Historical

"Beatitude" was a weekly magazine of poetry founded by Bob Kaufman, John Kelley, William Margolis, and Alan Ginsberg in San Francisco in 1959. The founders envisioned the magazine as a voice for new and unknown (as opposed to established) poets of the time, and it was successful in launching the careers of many young aspiring poets. Designed with simple

formats, using mimeographed sheets stapled together with a front cover printed on construction paper, they sold for 20 or 30 cents per issue. The first 8 were published weekly at 14 Bannam Alley; the remainder were published monthly at the Bread and Wine Mission, 510 Greenwich Street. From *Beatitude* #1: "A weekly miscellany of poetry and other jazz designed to extol beauty and promote the beatific or poetic life among the various mendicants, neo existentialists, christ, poets, painters, musicians, and other inhabitants and observers of North Beach, San Francisco, California, United States of America."

Bob Kaufman, the primary inspiration behind *Beatitude*, was a jazz-inspired street poet working in an oral tradition. He rarely wrote his poetry down, instead choosing to recite his work in coffee houses and on the streets of San Francisco. The first publication of his work was done through Lawrence Ferlinghetti's City Lights Bookstore. Kaufman is generally credited with coining the term "beatnik", and his poetry made heavy use of jazz syncopation and meter; in fact he was often referred to as "The Original Bebop Man".

"*Beatitude*" #32 was edited and published by Nathan May. Included in the issue were poems by Janice Blue, Neeli Cherkovski, Louis Collins, Gregory Corso, Kirby Doyle, Gary Gach, Latif Harris, Howard Hart, Jack Hirschman, Roderick Iverson, Bob Kaufman, Michael Koch, Paul Landry, Christine LeGoff, William Maher, Kaye McDonough, Jack Micheline, Jack Mueller, Gerry Nicosia, David Plumb, Bill Polak, Bob Rogers, Ronald Sauer, Tisa Walden, and Bear Williamson. Some of the contributors were also represented by drawings.

[Sources: www.beatitudepoetry.com; The Poetry Foundation, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/bob-kaufman>]

Scope and Contents

The "*Beatitude*" #32 publication records, 1980-1982, consists of typescripts, drawings, notes, and mockups for issue number 32 of "*Beatitude*", the San Francisco magazine of beat poetry. Drafts of poems by Janice Blue, Neeli Cherkovski, Louis Collins, Gregory Corso, Kirby Doyle, Gary Gach, Latif Harris, Howard Hart, Jack Hirschman, Roderick Iverson, Bob Kaufman, Michael Koch, Paul Landry, Christine Legoff, William Maher, Kaye McDonough, Jack Micheline, Jack Mueller, Gerry Nicosia, David Plumb, Bill Polak, Bob Rogers, Ronald Sauer, Tisa Walden, Bear Williamson, and 4 unidentified poems (not included in the issue) are included, many of them signed by the poet, with notes to the publisher, and/or with annotations by the poet. Also included are mock ups and printer's masking sheets, and a flyer for a benefit for the issue.

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Preferred Citation

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Related Materials

Jack Hirschman papers, Collection no. 0158, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

Subjects and Indexing Terms

American poetry -- 20th century -- Archival resources

Poets, American -- 20th century -- Archival resources

San Francisco (Calif.) -- History -- Archival resources

Notes

Printers' proofs

Typescripts

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