

Call Number: 02-00-23

Archives Program Series – John Haines: Modern Languages Auditorium, University of Arizona in Tucson,
Date is somewhere around March in the 1960's.

Summary created by: Jacob Metoxen

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Notes: Original on 5 inch reel. Master copy on CD.

The next events of the Reeves Divine Poetry Center are next Tuesday March 11th, a reading of eulogies. The following week of Friday March 21st a program will be sponsored with the Black Student Union, a program of Black Poetry at the Campus Christian Center at 8:30. John Haines is a guest. Mr. Haines was an art student in Washington D.C. and New York, has lived entirely in Alaska since 1954 on a farm where he built his own house. He is the author of "Winter News" in 1966. In 1965 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for poetry and in 1968 a grant from the National Council of the Arts.

Haines is welcomed with applause.

Haines reads a section from "Winter News." He says he doesn't like talking about these poems because he talks about them so much.

"Poem of the Forgotten" is read.

"The Mole" is read.

"The House of the Injured" is read.

"Foreboding" is read.

"And When the Green Man Comes" is read.

"The Moosehead" is read.

"Victims" is read.

"The Field of the Caribou" is partially read.

"Book of the Jungle" is partially read.

"Divided, the Man is Dreaming" is partially read.

"Deserted Cabin" is partially read.

"Prayer to the Snowy Owl" is partially read.

"The next poems are a number of poems he has written about dreams. The next poem is a result of two dreams, one he had himself and one another person had.

"The Dream of February" is read.

"The Traveler" is read.

"Poem for a Cold Journey" is partially read.

"The Tree" is partially read.

"Poem", the poem, is partially read.

"The End of the Summer" is partially read.

"Watching the Fire" is read.

"Listening in October" is read.

"On the Road" is read.

"The Gardener" is read.

"What is Life?" is read.

"The Tundra" is read.

The following poems have all been written since "Winter News" was published with the exception of one. Some of them he hopes to put in another book. A few of them will be in a book to be published in England.

"The Stone Harp" is read. He had an idea for several years where something would be there when he noticed several times when the temperature is below 0. Telephone wires hum very loudly and they always gave him an idea they were something he could use to make into a poem.

The following is a kind of poem he doesn't write very often. Only two people have liked it. "Certain Load People" [?] is read.

"The Flight" is read.

"Moons" is read.

A poem he wrote last winter, a subject that has been popular lately. "Guevara" is read.

"Choosing a Stone" is read.

"The Middle Ages" is read.

"The Cauliflower" is read.

Haines stops and people clap for him.

“The End of the Street” is read.

“The Color” is read.

Another poem that came from a dream. “The Basket of Flowers” is read.

“The Great Society” is read.

This is an older poem. He still likes it and enjoys reading it. “The Hermitage” is read.

“On Banner Dome” is read. On Banner Dome is a hill or mountain not far from where he lives. The poem is about an imaginary climb to the dome.

The next is a poem he doesn't care for. One of the two people he does care for likes it though. “The Dreamer” is read.

There are a few poems he sometimes reads depending on how he feels about it. Incomplete poems but he sometimes reads them.

“It Must All Be Done Over” is read.

“The Sweater of Vladimir Ussachevsky” is read.

At 49:40 he asks if anyone has anything to say. Someone mentions the poem “Awakening Forever.” He says he was at a college in the Los Angeles area last week and he read it to a small group. Before he read it he talked about it and explained it but he doesn't think it did any help. “Into the Glacier” is read.

A question is asked but it is inaudible. Haines says “You mean the one I read about the last one?” The person in the group must have asked why he didn't like the poems he said he didn't. Haines says something needs to be done to the poems. A person asks if he can read “Fairbanks...”, he reads it.