

For Drum Hadley

Oh Drum
when we were hanging out
w/ Duncan, Creeley & Dorn
at the '65 Berkeley Poetry Conference
you exclaimed how you were
going to learn their disjunctive discourse
and fit yourself in to their
 quick talk-stream

In '68 the Fugs were on tour in Portland
& you showed up on a motorcycle
 experiencing being On the Road

In '91 we were having dinner
after an Olson Conference in Berkeley
 at the very auditorium
 where Olson delivered his famous '65 lecture

& you wept when
I described how I'd never gotten actually
to say goodbye to Charles
 it was so quick
 O in the hospital in NY
 then zoom, he was dead
 & some of us were
 carrying him out
 of the funeral home
on the way to Beechbrook Cemetery
so quick, no chance
—now weep

& then in a call about five years ago
you told me you had two years left
you lasted five
 o poesy pal Drum Hadley
 requiescat in pace

—Edward Sanders
December 6, 2015