

Hecatomb ten

This

mine *secret*
vocation; her

paintings' secret
titles... Certain

lives do better
in confidence. Ok,

not in secret, let 'em be
open, private enough,

solitary, a share due
only the privileged:

would you own
it, take it home,

you may then
know, if you

choose. Or
not. Know

us.

Hecatomb twelve

In my coffin (closed)
I shall repose. Casual
cream shirt, clean jeans,
moccasins. In my hands
(clasped), belemnite,
minié ball, one silver
dirham from the desert,
dad's recaptured yantra,
"The Completion of the
Work." Blue
eyes will not shine,
nor the happy babble
of my voice be heard.
Touchstones going
under, as they must.
Scent of wax, lilies, dust.
Everything in good taste.
All else remains much
as was, could you only
tell. *Never*
a grave but conceals
a treasure, though all
have not the art to
discover
it.

Guy Birchard's Broadsides:

- "Anne walks on snow..." (Montreal: The Word Bookstore, 1977)
- Grandmother's Middle Name Was America (Venice, Calif.: Beyond Baroque Foundation, 1979)
- Counting Coups (San Francisco: self, 1980)
- Mask and Ivy (Montreal: LL Editions, 1980)
- Ware (London: Northern Lights Publishers, 1984)
- Reinheitsgebot (London: Northern Lights Publishers, 1986)
- Rude Health (London: Northern Lights Publishers, 1989)
- Wallace Berman (London: Kater Murr's Press, 1998)
- Angel's Landing (Crystal City, Manitoba: self, 1998)
- Tom Farr (Cobourg, Ontario: Fine Line, 1999)
- The Selected Poems of Guy Birchard (London: Kater Murr's Press, 2000)
- Tom Farr and First Distance (London: Kater Murr's Press, 2003)
- Counting Crows (London: Kater Murr's Press, 2006)
- Early to Heaven; A. *Gold at the Salish Sea-side* (Sebastopol, Calif.: Ideal Cafe Editions, 2011)

HECATOMB

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