

Search:

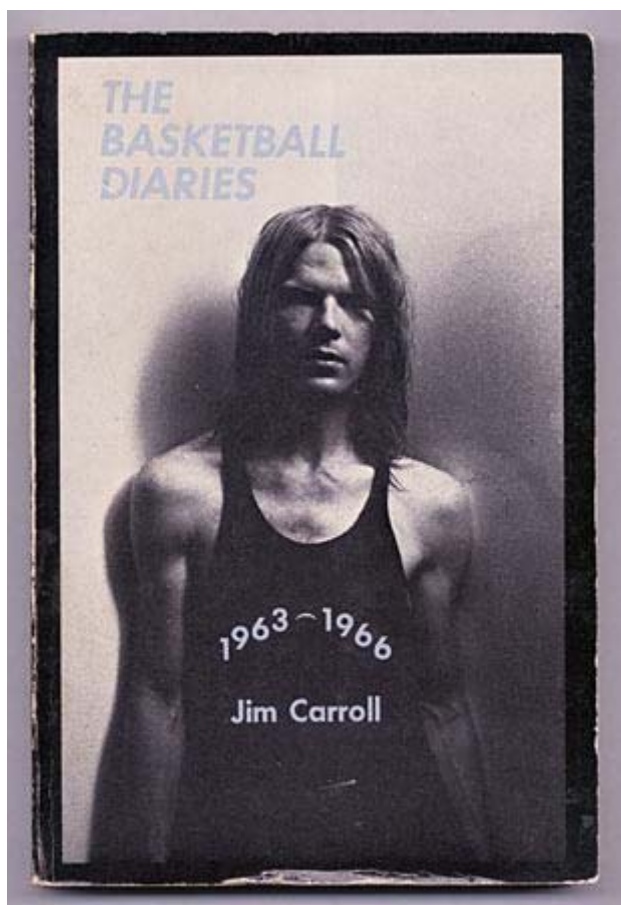
Chris Weige

esoexo | old favorites new roots and top ten blondes

- [Archives](#)
- [Reckon](#)
- [Tumblr](#)
- [Gallery](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Feed](#)

Remembering Jim Carroll

September 21st, 2009 [Comments](#)



From guardian.co.uk | [ben myers](#):

With the [death of Jim Carroll last week](#), [America](#) has lost one of its singular and most under-rated poetic voices. As depicted in his most popular work [The Basketball Diaries](#), Carroll grew up on New York's Lower East Side, the son of three generations of Irish-American bartenders, with the fair Irish looks to match. He

was also an unlikely [poetry](#) prodigy and a man of contrasts: at the age of 12 he started keeping a diary that documented his dual teenage existence as an-all star basketball player at an elite private school, and his emerging heroin addiction and the street life that surrounded the junkie scene.

Inspired by the likes of Rimbaud and [Frank O'Hara](#), in 1965 he began attending workshops at St Mark's Place and published his debut [Organic Trains](#) a year later at the age of 16. Extracts from The Basketball Diaries appeared in the Paris Review – a huge achievement for a 16-year-old, especially one who was also occasionally working as a Times Square rent boy and mugger to finance his heroin addiction.

It was poet [Ted Berrigan](#) who took Carroll under his wing, introducing him to the likes of Burroughs and Kerouac, who remarked that “at 13 years of age, Jim Carroll writes better prose than 89% of the novelists working today.” Carroll's ascension coincided with a cultural explosion centred on downtown [Manhattan](#) in the late 60s/early 70s, an era that spawned [Andy Warhol](#), Velvet Underground, [Robert Mapplethorpe](#) and [Patti Smith](#).

Continue reading: [Guardian | Ben Myers](#)

Related articles

- [NYT: Jim Carroll, Poet and Punk Rocker, Dead at 60](#) (abcnews.go.com)
- [Punk poet Jim Carroll dies at 60](#) (news.bbc.co.uk)
- [Poet Jim Carroll Remembered](#) (rizzo | courant.com)
- [Jim Carroll and the Punk Pulitzer](#) (pastemagazine.com)
- [Timothy Greenfield-Sanders: Jim Carroll, RIP](#) (huffingtonpost.com)



Tagged: [Music](#), [Poetry](#)



[close](#) *Reblog this comment*

Powered by [Disqus](#) · [Learn more](#)

[blog comments powered by Disqus](#)

What's this?

You are currently reading **Remembering Jim Carroll** at [Chris Weige](#).

meta

- **Author:** Reckon
- **Comments:** [Comments](#)
- **Categories:** [Literature](#), [Music](#), [Poetry](#)

[Oulipo](#) by [Mignolo](#)

Powered by [WordPress](#)